



## September Host Bulletin

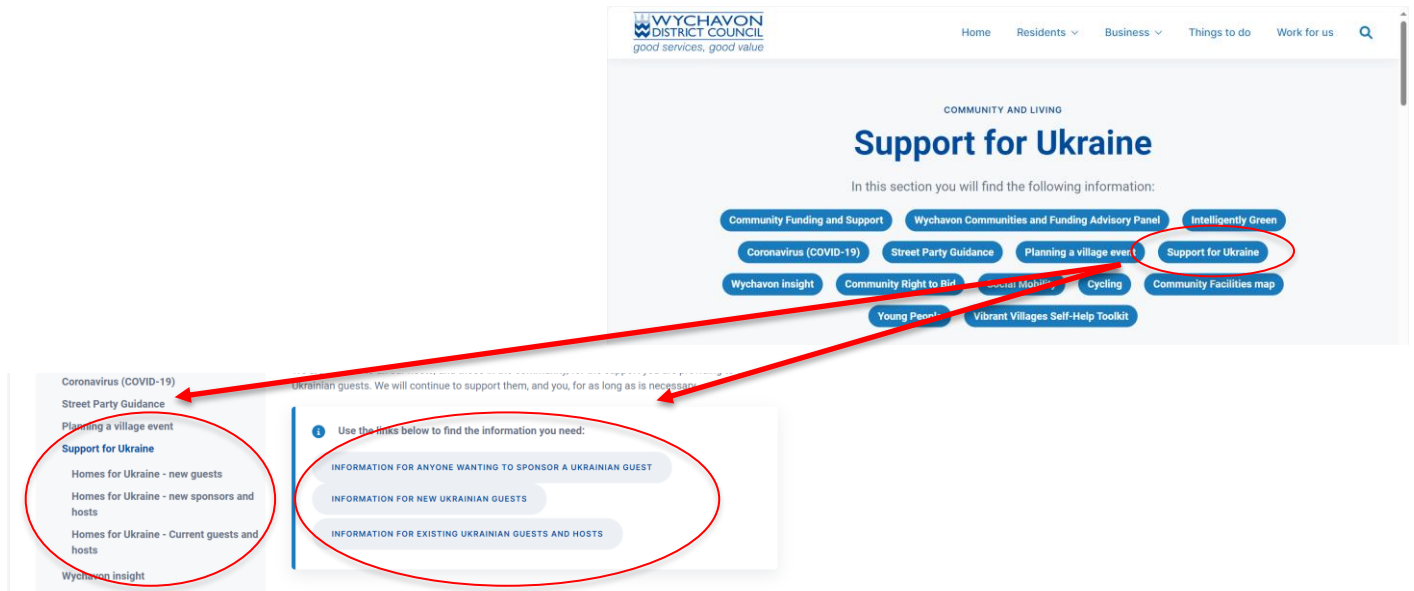
Welcome to our September Host Bulletin for Wychavon. These bulletins will be released on a monthly basis and will hopefully give you additional information to support you as a host.

If you have not already, please make the most of your free membership to Hold for Hosts, a service designed to support you to succeed in your important role as a Host. This will provide you with access to a fantastic bank of resources and wide range of services including advice lines, podcasts, discounts, health and well-being app and much more. It will also enable you link up with other hosts across the UK. Please contact [homesforukraine@wychavon.gov.uk](mailto:homesforukraine@wychavon.gov.uk) and we can send you more information about logging in.

## New Website

We have recently launched our new Wychavon District Council website with a dedicated Homes for Ukraine section. Here you can find lots of information relevant to yourselves regarding hosting your guest, but also an array of information for your guests too. There is guidance on health, education and housing, both in English and Ukrainian, which we hope will help your guests their life in the UK more easily.

### [Support for Ukraine - Wychavon District Council - Wychavon District Council](#)



We hope you will find the information on the website helpful, please get in touch if there is anything else you would like to see on it.

## Adult Learning

We mentioned in the previous bulletin that DLUHC is now funding new resources to support our guests to improve their English. STEP Ukraine is an English language and employment support programme for up to 10,000 Ukrainians across the UK. Enrolment to the programme is on a rolling basis, those interested are encouraged to register as soon as possible to secure a place in the programme.

The aim of STEP Ukraine is to help Ukrainians improve their English language skills and gain new employment or employment more in line with their skill level through the provision of English language training and employment support. The STEP Ukraine programme is delivered by World Jewish Relief in partnership with the British Council. Guests can sign up or you can make a referral. <https://www.worldjewishrelief.org/stepukraine/>

Other government resources for learning English: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/learn-to-speak-read-and-write-english-homes-for-ukraine>

We also produced a guide for guests with further tips on improving their English, it is on the website and found here: [HfU Taking English further \(wychavon.gov.uk\)](https://www.wychavon.gov.uk/hfu-taking-english-further)

## Careers and employability

Further to the adult learning opportunities for English, as a team we have been working hard on supporting guests with employability and potential career options. There have been several events in Worcestershire from the NHS and the County Council, offering advice, training and jobs. More information on the calendar of events can be found here: [What's On - Careers Worcestershire \(careersworcs.co.uk\)](https://www.careersworcs.co.uk/whats-on)

In November we will be holding an event specifically for our Ukrainian guests. The event will take place in Evesham Town Hall, 17:30-19:30, 07/11/23. There will be representatives from local colleges and organisations who support those looking for work or looking for a new career. Guests will receive advice on CV writing and interview prep; can talk to an organisation who focus on translating international qualifications and also have the opportunity to book a 1-2-1 careers advice session.

We hope you will encourage your guests to attend. In the meantime, if your guest has any questions or a particular career path they are interested in, please get in touch and we may be able to signpost them on.

## School starting and school-leavers

With the new academic year in full swing, your guests may have questions about their child's education and the different stages they may be at. We have a bank of information sheets which hosts and guests can refer to regarding this. They can be found on our website under the 'School and Education' heading, here: [Homes for Ukraine - Current guests and hosts - Wychavon District Council](https://www.wychavon.gov.uk/homes-for-ukraine-current-guests-and-hosts-wychavon-district-council)

Many of our guests are also reaching the age where they will be thinking about what's next, whether that be secondary school, college, or university. We have been sending out the dates of relevant open days and events which guests and parents/carers may want to attend- you might also want to support your guests with transport to these.

There is an event organised by Careers Worcestershire, 16:00- 20:00, 05/10/23 at Sixways Stadium which will be all about options for 15-24 year olds. There will be representatives from different colleges and universities, alongside apprenticeship providers and organisations offering advice. More information here: [Careers & Apprenticeship Roadshows - Careers Worcestershire \(careersworcs.co.uk\)](https://www.careersworcs.co.uk/careers-apprenticeship-roadshows)



## Dates for the diary:

**05/10/23:** Worcestershire Careers and Apprenticeship Roadshow, 16:00-20:00, Sixways Stadium (see information above)

**07/11/23:** Wychavon District Council, Homes for Ukraine Team Career and Employability event, 17:30-19:30, Evesham Town Hall (see information above)

**19/12/23:** Wychavon District Council, Homes for Ukraine Team Christmas Celebration event, times TBC, Evesham Town Hall (more information to come)

## Next Steps

Your guests may be thinking about their next steps in the UK, many of our district's guests have already moved into private accommodation or social housing. If you can no longer host, we also have many other hosts who guests can be re-matched with, please get in touch and we can arrange this.

Guests can find private rental properties by contacting local letting agents or looking at sites such as [Rightmove.co.uk](https://www.rightmove.co.uk) or [spareroom.co.uk](https://www.spareroom.co.uk). We may be able to offer support with deposits for guests. If your guests are thinking about renting privately then encourage them to get in touch with our housing options team who can offer them advice.

Guests can also rent a home from a social landlord. This is usually a housing association which offers homes to people that meet the qualifying criteria at a reduced monthly rent. The two main housing associations in Wychavon are Platform and Rooftop Housing.

There is a lot of demand for social housing so guests will have to bid for properties against other people. Our housing team can help explain to them how the process works in more detail. Ukrainian guests are considered a high priority which will increase their chances of getting a social home to rent but we cannot guarantee they will be successful.

If your guests are thinking of renting a social home in Wychavon then they will need to apply to join our social housing register. You can support them to do this by visiting [www.housingforyou.co.uk](https://www.housingforyou.co.uk)

We recommend that guests register as soon as possible if they are interested in social housing.

If your guests need help finding new accommodation then please email [housing.needs@wychavon.gov.uk](mailto:housing.needs@wychavon.gov.uk) or call our housing options team on 01386 565000 (option 5).

**Please update us as soon as possible if there are any changes with your guest's accommodation- in particular, if they are moving to social housing or private accommodation, we need to be informed of the move out date.**