

FACT SHEET

PREPARING FOR A HOUSING CHECK

ABOUT THIS FACT SHEET

This factsheet is for Sponsors (aka Hosts) who have applied under the Homes for Ukraine scheme to host a Ukrainian family or individual. It details some key facts and things to be ready for a housing check. For updates/latest info go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-scheme-frequently-asked-questions#sponsors>

1 NUMBER 1 PRIORITY IS YOUR HOME MUST BE "SAFE"

In simple terms you should ensure your home is free from serious health and safety hazards such as electrical hazards, damp, poor sanitation.

2 ROOM SHARING HAS SOME GUIDANCE/RESTRICTIONS

Room sharing (2 max) should only happen if the guests are: a parent and child; two siblings of the same gender if aged over 10; two siblings regardless of gender if under 10.

3 SPONSORS SHOULD NOT OFFER A SHARED ROOM TO 2 STRANGERS

Individuals who did not know each other should not be offered a shared room, and even if they are known to each other they must agree to sharing a room.

4 A GAS SAFETY CHECK IS REQUIRED

The home must have safe gas appliances, fittings and flues and have undertaken a Gas Safety check within the last year (see [more information](#))

5 FIRE SAFETY IS ESSENTIAL

Minimally there should be smoke detectors on every floor and a way to evacuate safely if there is a fire. For more: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/gas/domestic/faqlandlord.htm>

6 HYGIENE AND CLEANLINESS WILL BE EVALUATED

The home should be clean and in a reasonable state of repair, there should also be no sign of damp or mould in the rooms offered or any common areas

7 THERE NEEDS TO BE ENOUGH TOILET AND KITCHEN CAPACITY

While there is no specifics, a home will be checked to make sure that there is sufficient toilet and kitchen capacity for existing house members and any Ukrainian Guests.

8 HOME CHECKS ONLY HAPPEN ONCE A MATCH HAS BEEN MADE

If you apply to be on the Homes for Ukraine scheme your home will only be checked once you have informed Herts Country Council of a Guest match. It will then happen ASAP.

9 THE ROOM NEEDS TO BE TOTALLY PRIVATE

The room offered should be empty and private (with the ability to lock the door from the inside) . A sofa bed in a shared space (e.g. living room) is not suitable.

10 SPONSORS MUST BE ABLE TO COMPLY FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS

The minimum period of accommodation is 6 months during which all the above is applicable (e.g. room privacy, cleanliness etc.) A mid point check/inspection may take place.

