

OSC 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023

## F&HDC Ukraine Response Update

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# Homes for Ukraine Scheme

**Scheme opened on 18 March 2022**

**Current numbers: 73 Hosts and 173 Guests (26th Jan 2023)**

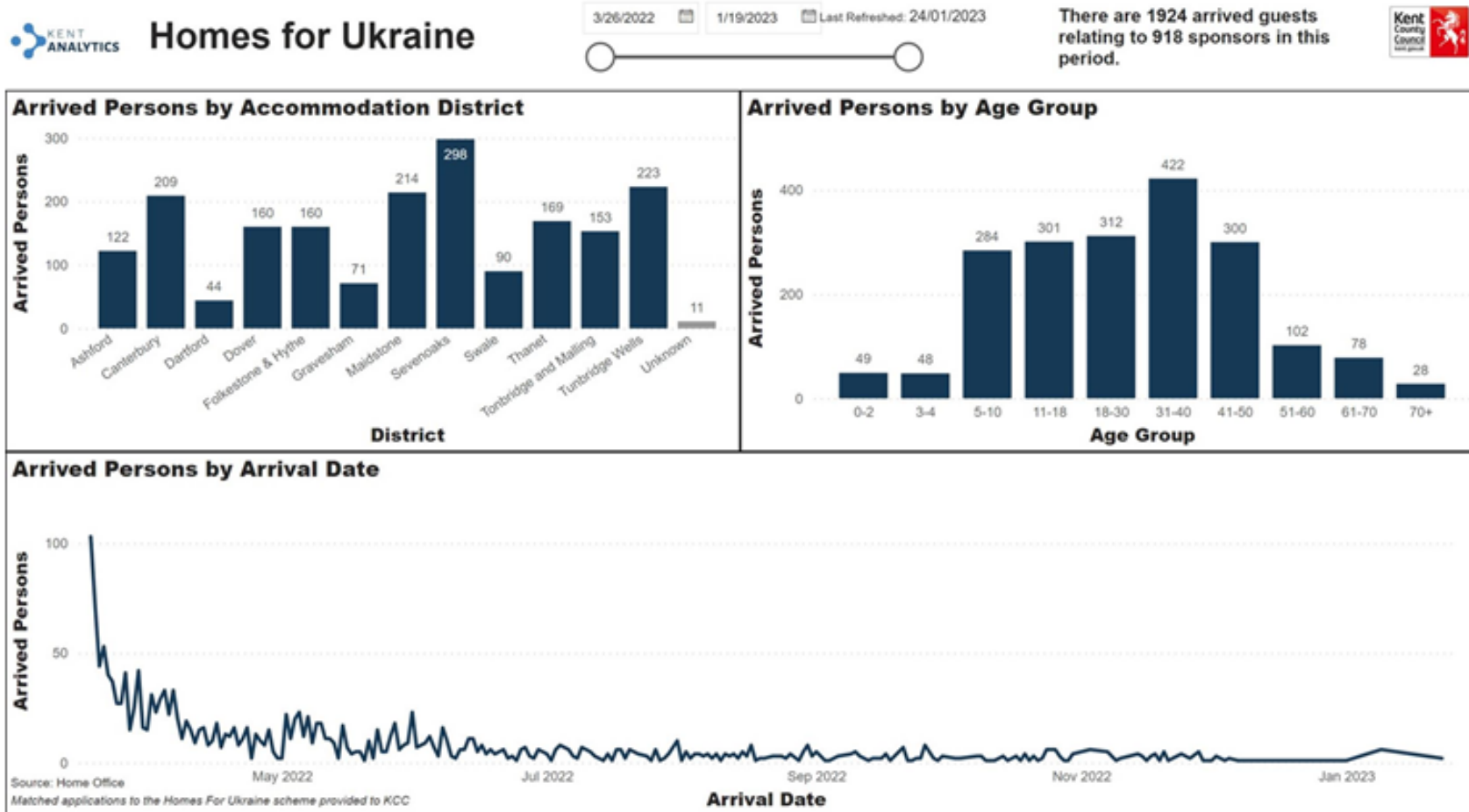
**Initial activity included:**

- **Humanitarian response (donations and community compassion)**
- **Setting up UCSN and National/Regional networks (DLUCH / VPCC)**
- **Secondment role for Refugee Resettlement Coordinator**
- **Information dissemination (Websites / translated documents)**
- **Data exchange (Foundry system)**
- **Dedicated inbox for enquiries**
- **Receipt of host information**
- **Property & Safeguarding checks**
- **Managing Host/Guest relationships and onward activity**

# Current Demographics

Number of hosts in the District: 73

Number of guests (with granted visa status): 173



# Settling in the Ukraine Community

## Managing Host/Guest relationship

- Host/Guest payments, relationship breakdowns (very few).

## Cultural orientation including:

- Free tickets / entry to National Trust sites, Leas Cliff Hall & Howletts and Port Lympne.
- Free sim cards and mobile devices.
- Welcome Ukraine Event at Quarterhouse on 1 September 22
- Ongoing drop-ins at Community Hubs / Churches
- Community Events including two charity events in Hythe
- Celebrating Ukraine culture

## Integrating into the community:

- ESOL / other English classes
- Work readiness support (SEK Group)

# 2023 Priorities

- **Support Ukrainians adapt to life in the UK with:**
  - **Help to access private rental accommodation.**
  - **Employability support.**
  - **Ongoing welfare.**
- **Support current and prospective H4U Hosts and Guests by:**
  - **Providing ongoing support.**
  - **Continuing local drop-in sessions within the community.**
  - **Remaining informative (Ukraine Newsletter and Website)**
- **Establish long-term requirement for Refugee Resettlement Coordinator role.**

# Local Authority Housing Fund

- **10 properties**
- **Short-term tenancy (held within housing revenue account)**
- **Specifically for Ukrainian and Afghan settlement cases**
- **Covers 40% cost of purchase and 50% for larger properties**
- **20k per property additionally to get property into habitable condition**
- **Do not provide white goods, carpets etc**
- **DLUCH has already made a provisional allocation to the Council of £1.2million**
- **DLUCH evaluating submissions and will come back by 14th Feb**
- **New build and acquisitions alongside this funding stream from Central Government**
- **Deadline is March 2024**

# Any Questions