

Urgent Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Making the Decision

Alison Simmons, Head of Strategic and Private Sector Housing

Recommendation

The provision of £100.00 in cash (not expected to be re-paid) to a Ukrainian family who arrived in the UK from Ukraine through the Family Visa Scheme.

Having fled the conflict in Ukraine and moved to the UK, the family were asked to leave their sponsor's accommodation and they presented to the Council as homeless on 31st May 2022. The family had no income or access to any funds.


Reason

To ensure the family had access to some cash to enable them to purchase food and in case of emergency over the upcoming double bank holiday during which many public services would be closed.

Authority for Decision

Under the Constitution, officers with delegated authority are able to take such action as may in his or her opinion be necessary or appropriate in connection with all operational management matters for those functions and service areas for which he or she has responsibility.

Decision and Date



31st may 2022

Alison Simmons
Head of Strategic and Private Sector Housing

Background

The Ukraine Family Scheme allows applicants to join family members in the UK for up to 3 years.

Family members in the UK are expected to provide accommodation and support for their family fleeing Ukraine. People arriving under the Scheme are eligible to live and work in the UK and are eligible for benefits.

Where there is a breakdown in the provision of accommodation, people arriving through the Scheme are eligible for housing support through the Local Authority.

Financial Implications

The funds have been paid from the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme budget which is fully funded by the Home Office at no cost to the Council.

Risk Management

The risk to the family had they been unable to access cash or food over the double bank holiday would have been moderate, as would the potential reputational damage to the Council that a homeless family fleeing the Ukrainian conflict had no access to money.

Key Decision: No

Background Papers: None