

London Borough of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale NW9 4EW
26 May 2022
Our ref: 8234211

Thank you for your request received on 21 April 2022, for the following information:

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. My request relates to the Homes for Ukraine scheme; I am sending this request to you as an Upper Tier local authority that has, according to the latest government data, issued over 100 visas under the scheme and is among the top 40 authorities that have issued the most visas under the scheme. My request is as follows:

Please provide a table with a breakdown of the ages and genders of hosts and refugees that have been paired up, with ages in the following brackets: minors, 18-30; 30-50; 50+

How many single men/men living alone (sponsors/hosts) have been matched with refugee women or refugee women and children under the scheme?

How many host/sponsor applications have not passed safeguarding/suitability checks carried out by the council and therefore been denied host status?

Please state as a number and a percentage of all applications made

For those that did not pass safeguarding/suitability checks, please detail the reasons (or most common 5 reasons if multiple) for why hosts/sponsors did not pass these checks.

How many refugees have requested to change or move host families, after they have either lived with or been matched with (please state which) that family for a period of time. Please expand on the reasons for doing so.

In addition, if there is any further information you wish to add, perhaps on the way that the council carries out safeguarding checks on host applicants, I would be keen to have any further information. And if a substantive response is not possible within the time frame, please provide as much information as possible, for example focusing on the questions where information is most readily available. If you record the information in a different way, or would like me to clarify any parts of the request or further refine the questions, please be in contact.

I look forward to receiving your response within 20 days.

We have processed this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Response

The council holds the information requested and the answers to your questions are below

Please provide a table with a breakdown of the ages and genders of hosts and refugees that have been paired up, with ages in the following brackets: minors, 18-30; 30-50;50+

	Host Gender(s)	Refugee Gender(s)
Minors	NA	106*
18-30	Host 20 Males Host 11 Females	198*
30-50	Host 101 Males Host 80 Females	360*
50+	Host 89 Males Host 93 Females	174*

* the way the government portal works is that it is not possible to report the gender breakdown of refugees unless you go into each of their records individually. See Refusal Notice below (Exceeds cost limit) as this data may be held by the Home Office and advise you to contact them direct – see Further Information Section below.

How many single men/men living alone (sponsors/hosts) have been matched with refugee women or refugee women and children under the scheme?

We do not hold this information as we only receive details on the lead sponsor.

How many host/sponsor applications have not passed safeguarding/suitability checks carried out by the council and therefore been denied host status?

None

Please state as a number and a percentage of all applications made

N/A

For those that did not pass safeguarding/suitability checks, please detail the reasons (or most common 5 reasons if multiple) for why hosts/sponsors did not pass these checks.

There has been no sponsor who has failed a safeguarding visit as yet

How many refugees have requested to change or move host families, after they have either lived with or been matched with (please state which) that family for a period of time. Please expand on the reasons for doing so.

3 Homes for Ukraine breakdowns, one family moved out of the area of their own volition, 2 made homelessness applications.

In addition, if there is any further information you wish to add, perhaps on the way that the council carries out safeguarding checks on host applicants, I would be keen to have any further information.

Safeguarding checks are done in line with government guidance. Every sponsor receives a home visit to check the safety and suitability of their property. If they are hosting a group of guests that includes under-18s they also receive a welfare visit from a qualified social worker.

More information can be found on the Homes for Ukraine scheme here [Homes for Ukraine | Barnet Council](#)

Refusal Notice

S 12 Exceeds Cost Limits

We are refusing your request under section 12 because we estimate that compliance with your request will exceed the “appropriate limit” under section 12. The appropriate limit is £450 which is equivalent to 18 hours at £25 per hour. The per hour figure is set by Regulations rather than actual salary paid to any officers handling requests. The appropriate limit includes the time it will take the council to discover if it holds the information requested, to locate it, extract it and collate it as well as putting it into any particular format requested by the requester.

We have calculated that it will take approx. **42 hours** to comply with your request.

Our calculation is as follows:

To look up 838 details of Ukrainian and we estimate it will take 3 minutes per file which totals 42 hours

Advice and Assistance

Unfortunately, we are unable to suggest a way in which the request could be narrowed to bring it into scope of 18 hours.

Further information

If you would like to make a request to the public authority who holds the information (details of how to do so can be found at the foot of their website [Home Office - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#))

If you are interested in the data that the council holds you may wish to visit Open Barnet, the council's data portal. This brings together all our published datasets and

other information of interest on one searchable database for anyone, anywhere to access. <http://open.barnet.gov.uk/>

Advice and Assistance : Direct Marketing

If you are a company that intends to use the names and contact details of council officers (or other officers) provided in this response for direct marketing, you need to be registered with the Information Commissioner to process personal data for this purpose. You must also check that the individual (whom you wish to contact for direct marketing purposes) is not registered with one of the Preference Services to prevent Direct Marketing. If they are you must adhere to this preference.

You must also ensure you comply with the Privacy Electronic and Communications Regulations (PECR). For more information follow this Link www.ico.org.uk

For the avoidance of doubt the provision of council (and other) officer names and contact details under FOI does not give consent to receive direct marketing via any media and expressly does not constitute a 'soft opt-in' under PECR.

Your rights

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review within the next 40 working days by writing to the Information Management Team at: foi@barnet.gov.uk. Or by post to Records & Information Management Service, Assurance Group, London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

If, having exhausted our review procedure, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you will have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (telephone: 0303 123 1113; website www.ico.org.uk). There is no charge for making an appeal.