

Freedom of Information Team
Oxford City Council
Email: freedomofinformation@oxford.gov.uk

www.oxford.gov.uk



9 January 2025

Freedom of Information Request, Oxford City Council – Reference: **FOI2024/01362**

Further to our acknowledgement, we can confirm that Oxford City Council can advise as follows in response to your Freedom of Information Request received on 9 December:

Request

Dear Oxford City Council,

1a) Please let me know if the council has ever leased any properties from third parties on behalf of refugees?

1b) Please let me know how many the council leased in financial years 2022/2023 & 2023/2024, and how many it currently leases as of picking up this request.

2a) Has the council ever been granted funds from any government schemes in order to assist refugees? (For example; UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS), Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS), Ukraine Family Scheme, Homes for Ukraine, and/or any other). Please name any and all schemes.

2b) Please let me know how much the council has received from such government schemes year-by-year since the financial year beginning April 2021.

3) Please let me know how much was spent through the council assisting refugees with housing, in the the financial years 2022/2023 & 2023/2024.

...

By housing/properties, we mean any form of accommodation organised for refugees.

By refugees, we mean the types that have recourse to public funds, those who have the following statuses:

- Indefinite leave to enter or remain (unless they are granted indefinite leave as an adult dependent relative)
- Right of abode
- Refugee status
- Humanitarian protection
- Leave to remain granted under the Ukraine Scheme

- Leave to remain granted under the family or private life rules, when they have been accepted by the Home Office as being destitute or at risk of imminent destitution
- Leave to remain granted to a person who has received a conclusive grounds decision that they are a victim of trafficking or modern day slavery
- Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Child (UASC) leave

Response

Response

1a - None

1b - None

2a - Yes. Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (SVPRS) / United Kingdom Resettlement Scheme (UKRS) (supersedes SVPRS), Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS), Afghan Relocation Assistance Policy (ARAP). Homes for Ukraine (HfU)

2b & 3 see table attached:

Resettlement/Vi sa Scheme	Year (Financial Year)	2b - Amount of income received in grant funding (£)	3** - Housing related expenditure (£)
SVPRS	2021 – 22	139,620 (Home Office)	0
ARAP/ACRS	2021 – 22	182,975 (Home Office)	0
SVPRS	2022 - 23	44,200 (Home Office)	19,198
UKRS	2022 – 23	200,983 (Home Office)	86,496
ARAP/ACRS	2022 – 23	335,530 (Home Office)	74,191
HfU	2022 – 23	1,371,000 (MHCLG*)	5071
SVPRS	2023 – 24	14,000 (Home Office)	5,380
UKRS	2023 – 24	156,426 (Home Office)	56,288
ARAP/ACRS	2023 – 24	245,728 (Home Office)	71,316
HfU	2023 – 24	167,340 (MHCLG)	101,019

*Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

** All refugee families under SVPRS, ARAP/ACRS and UKRS are placed in private rented accommodation upon arrival. The Council has supported individuals on HfU scheme move on into private rented accommodation under the Council's statutory duties. Expenditure includes rent top ups, DHP, Housing setup costs (deposits, rent in advance, void costs, finders fees, rent bonds, furnishings) and excludes selective licensing & staff costs.

N.B. Resettlement Scheme funding is awarded to local authorities who provide integration and housing support to new refugees who are being resettled under a government backed scheme. Further Information can be found here: <https://homeofficemedia.blog.gov.uk/2023/08/24/safe-and-legal-routes-factsheet-august-2023/>

The Homes for Ukraine tariff funding provides financial support to local authorities to support Ukrainian refugees living in the local area integrate and find housing. Further Information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/funding-for-councils-homes-for-ukraine>

If you disagree with any part of the response to your request, you are entitled to ask the Council for an internal review of the decision(s) made. You may do this by writing to the Monitoring Officer, by either email monitoringofficer@oxford.gov.uk – or by post to Monitoring Officer, Oxford City Council, Town Hall, St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1BX. After the result of the internal review, if you remain dissatisfied, you may ask the Information Commissioner to intervene on your behalf. You

may do this by writing to the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Officer

| Freedom of Information Team | Law & Governance | Oxford City Council | Town Hall | St Aldate's
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