

Ukrainian Community in the UK Survey



October 2022



Survey Findings

1.

20% of people still do not know what their housing will be in the next months

July survey results highlighted the size of the housing problem in the community and particularly - flagged the size of the group (40% of respondents) who weren't yet sure how they will solve the housing challenge. This group could benefit information and support in their housing search. In the October results, 20% of respondents still report not knowing what to do next wrt housing.

The July findings supported opening of Opora - Housing advice channel (https://t.me/Opora_housing) now providing daily hands-on support 7.000+ to Ukrainians looking for housing in the UK and collecting inventory of successful housing stories for community to access real-time market information.

2.

Share of Ukrainians planning to stay at the sponsor accommodation (for free) for the foreseeable – went up from 8% in July to 13% in October.

Conversations have likely taken place since July between sponsors and guests, as per guidance, some with positive outcomes

Absolute majority of the original sponsor/host arrangements have approached or are close to approaching 6 month mark by October/November, 13% (even if seen together with 6% planning to stay with sponsor at cost - through either Rent a Room scheme or independent accommodation) is significantly lower than the share of sponsors (in last ONS Survey, July 2022 Experiences of Homes for Ukraine scheme sponsors, UK - Office for National Statistics) who were planning to provide accommodation for longer than 6 months - 61%.

Survey Findings



3.

Rental market has a high entry bar

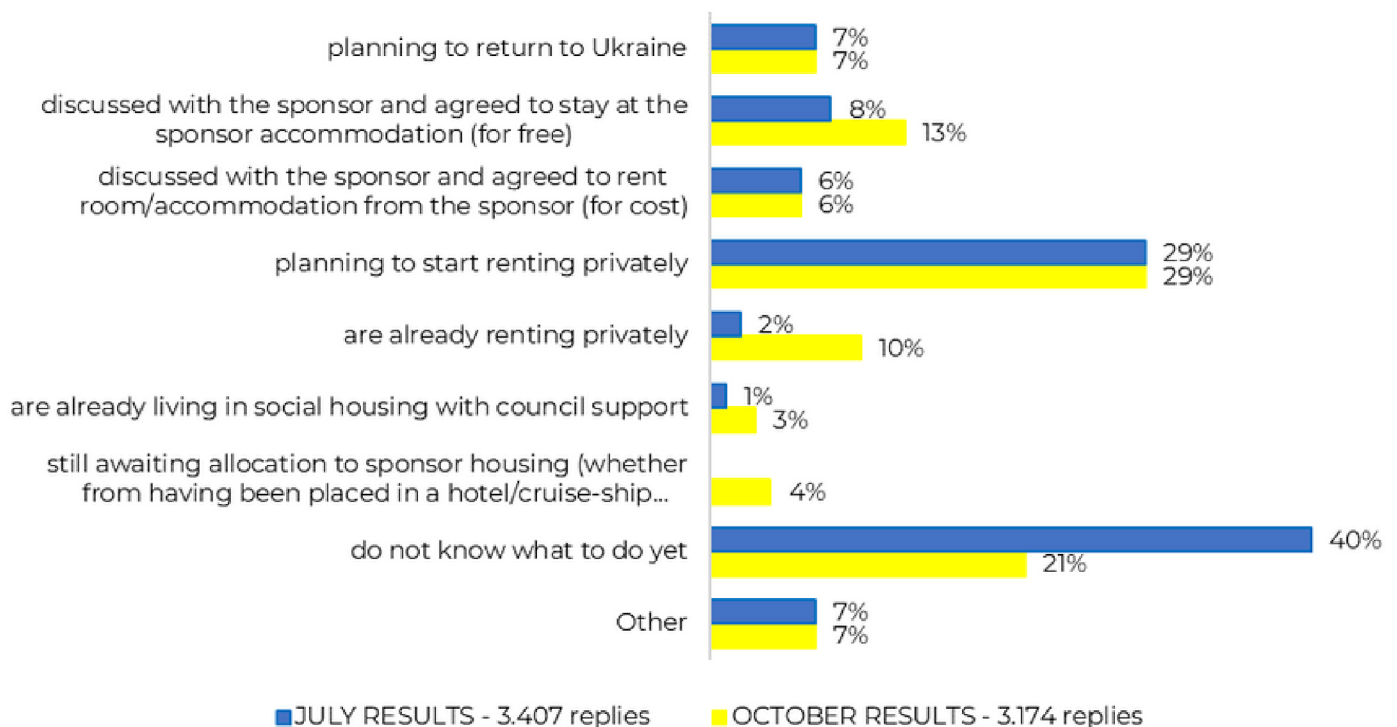
Few Ukrainian families have moved on to private accommodation in the intervening 3 months. (From 2% already renting privately in July to 10% reporting to be renting privately in October)

4.

Of those refugees who had to move accommodation since arrival, 1 out of 5 experienced disruptions to their healthcare, 1 out of 5 had to move kids to a different school

1 out of 6 respondents had to change jobs or look for a new support network. ("Other" option was reflected in text comments, mostly as "did not experience any of the above").

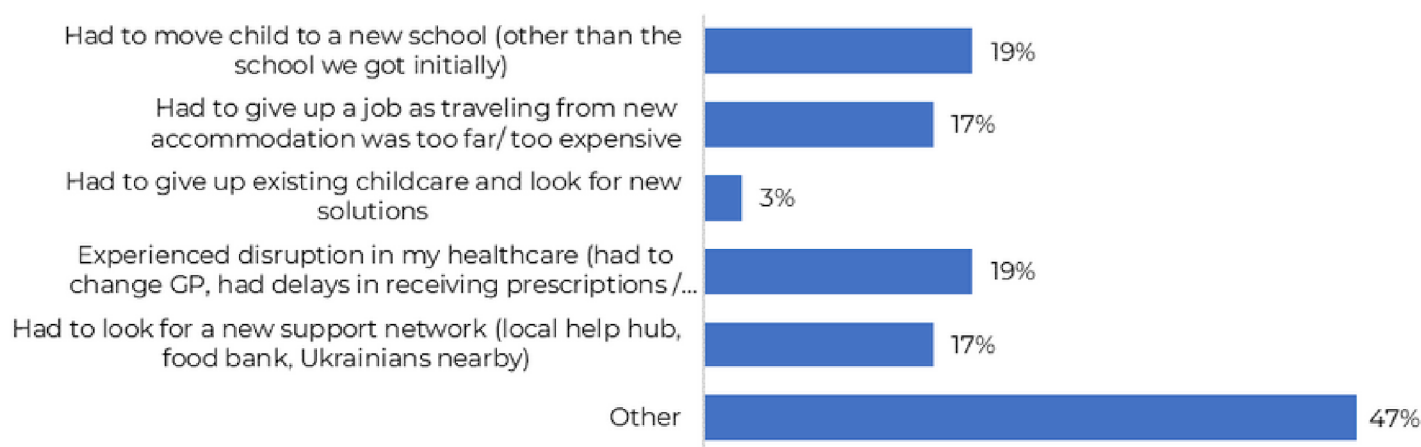
Question 1. If you are in the UK on HfU sponsorship visa, what is at this point your plan wrt to housing after sponsor housing time ends?



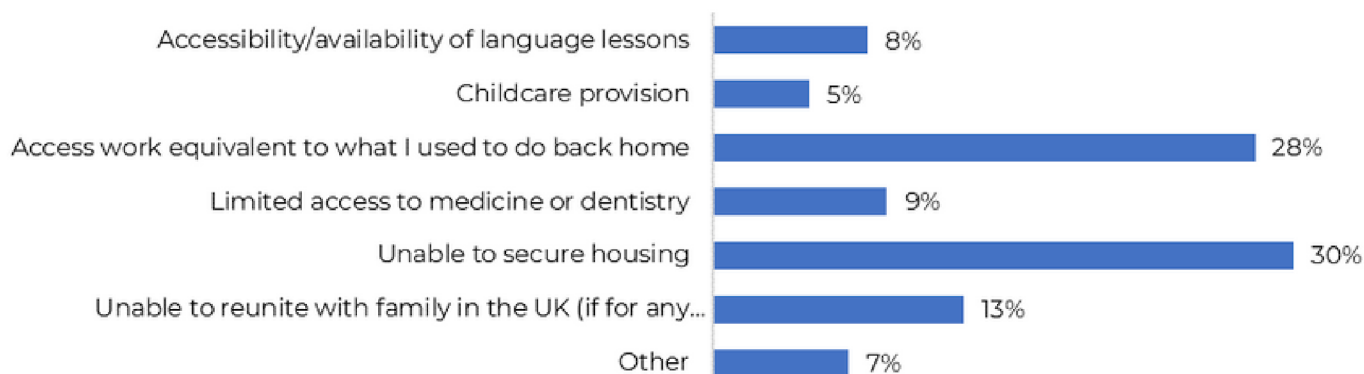
Survey Findings



Question 2: if since you have arrived in the UK you had had to move one or more times, have you experienced the following as a result (multiple answers possible) – 1.355 replies



Question 3: (regardless of the scheme you are on - Family, Homes for Ukraine or Extension) - if you want to stay in the UK whether it is for short or long time, what is the main barrier to your leading successful, sustainable, integrated life in the UK –



Survey Findings



5.

The percentage of people planning to return to Ukraine has stayed steady at 7%

7% is a relatively low number indicating the need for sustainable long-term resourcing and clarity about what happens after the end of the 3-year visa term

6.

Housing availability and ability to find employment comparable to that left at home are the main obstacles to adjusting to life in the UK

The biggest obstacles to building a life (temporary or long term) in the UK are the inability to secure housing (30%) and access to work equivalent in level to what they used to do at home (28%). These are both critical issues that must be addressed for Ukrainian refugees in the UK to fully benefit from the access and flexibility provided by the Ukrainian Visas and lead independent, sustainable lives in the UK.

7.

Those refugees who have had to move more than once since arrival in the UK have experienced a variety of other challenges

Most commonly mentioned were having to move kids to a new school (19%), disruption to healthcare (19%), giving up a job (17%), and having to look for a new support network (17%)

Survey Methodology

- Poll (3 questions) run on Telegram, through Opora community announcement channel in mid-October.
- Opora channel <https://t.me/oporauk> had at that point ~20.000 subscribers
- Previous version of the poll, with only one question, was run on the same channel in mid-July 2022.
- Question 1 and 3 are single-answer, question two had multiple answers possible.
- No demographic data is available on respondents
- Survey language – Ukrainian
- Number of replies per question:
Question 1 – 3.174 replies
Question 2 – 1.355 replies
Question 3 – 3.077 replies