

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Thursday, 23 June 2022.

PRESENT: Mr R W Gough (Chairman), Mrs C Bell, Mr D L Brazier, Miss S J Carey, Mrs S Chandler, Mr P J Oakford and Mrs S Prendergast

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

1. Apologies and Substitutes

(Item 1)

Apologies were received from Mr Hill. Mrs Hohler was in attendance. Mr Murphy attended virtually.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2022

(Item 3)

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2022 were a correct record and that they be signed by the Chair.

3. Cabinet Member Updates

(Item 4)

1) Mrs Bell said there was less live data to review on Covid-19 but the Coronavirus was still circulating in Kent.

There was to be a heatwave in Kent and residents were asked to: keep cool, stay hydrated and be prepared. Kent's residents were urged to stay indoors when it was very hot, avoid direct sunlight, stay in the shade, keep one's room or house cool by drawing the blinds when the sun was coming in, or when it was cooler outside to open windows and doors. It was important to stay hydrated and drink plenty of fluids. It was important to be prepared and to avoid travelling when it was really hot. If travel was necessary, residents were asked to take common sense precautions.

KCC was seeking for health and social care professionals to identify people they cared for who were at high risk, make plans to support them and to check on them regularly during hot weather. Care home managers and staff identified people they were caring for at high risk and were making changes as necessary, using the Beat the Heat checklist. Advice was available on the KCC website regarding keeping cool in hot weather.

It was Carers Week between 6 and 12 June. This was an annual awareness campaign to celebrate and recognise the vital contribution made by the UK's 6.5 million carers. It aimed to highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognised the contribution made to families and communities throughout the UK. It also helped people who did not think of themselves as having caring responsibilities to identify as carers and access much-needed support.

The campaign was brought to life by thousands of individuals and organisations who came together to provide support for carers, run activities, to highlight the vital role carers play in our communities and draw attention to just how important caring was. There had been numerous drop-in information sessions and coffee drop-ins across the county.

KCC urged everyone to recognise Kent's carers and support them in getting the practical, financial and emotional help needed. Any carers not currently receiving help were encouraged to contact KCC for a care assessment so that they could be provided with all the support available to assist them to continue caring and to ensure their wellbeing. Anyone could ask for a carer assessment, even if the person being cared for was not receiving support from the council.

2) Mrs Chandler said that over the previous six years, HeadStart Kent had been an ambitious, county-wide programme, working to support the resilience and emotional wellbeing of young people in Kent through a variety of ways. The HeadStart Learning and Celebration Event on 8 June included hearing from young people involved in the programme, as well as from schools, organisations, The National Lottery Community Fund, and the HeadStart team, to share key learning, celebrate the many achievements and demonstrate how the programme's elements were to be sustained and developed across the county.

The event was attended by 130 participants and Mrs Chandler presented three Community Awards to the following organisations : The Prince of Wales Youth Club in Canterbury, The Young Lives Foundation and the Pavillion Youth and Community Café in Broadstairs. The award recognised and celebrated everything community organisations did to champion resilience and wellbeing, whether through their staff or volunteers, working with parents and carers, or through sessions and activities for children, young people and the wider community. Mrs Chandler was to attend a ceremony later in June to present the Canterbury Neighbourhood and Community Centres team with their award who unfortunately were unable to attend the event on the day.

Mrs Chandler highlighted the success of the programme which was attributed to over 2000 young people who had helped design, deliver and evaluate the programme, and thanks were given to all involved, including partners , who had worked tirelessly to support over 50,000 young people. The HeadStart programme would leave a lasting legacy thanks to the wealth and evidence of learning which was embedded in the county's mental health provision.

Further information on the legacy and sustainability of HeadStart was to come to County Council on 14 July and to the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee on 19 July.

Members were reminded that the Kent Fostering Service's annual Foster Carer Award Ceremony was to take place on Friday, 4 November. The awards were to recognise the outstanding work carried out by Kent foster carers and staff within Kent Children's Services. Nominations could be made by KCC staff members, partner agencies, foster carers and young people, to show their appreciation for the hard work and dedication to our children and young people in their care. The closing date for nominations was Friday 30 September 2022.

As part of its recruitment and workforce strategy the Children, Young People and Education Directorate recruited on average 55 to 60 newly qualified social workers (NQSW) each year. This was a significant part of KCC's strategy to recruit social workers through a dedicated recruitment campaign in the spring and autumn months. KCC had successfully recruited 60 newly qualified social workers and were anticipating further confirmations.

All newly qualified social workers were enrolled onto the Assessed Year in Education (ASYE) programme, which was a 12 month employment-based programme of support, development and assessment.

As part of that support and development work, all new social workers were offered:

- a mentor identified within the districts who was to support with cases and work alongside the newly qualified social worker to enable them to develop the learning they had already had on student placements
- 2 AYSE supervisors in Learning and Development
- 1 AYSE Co-ordinator who set up initial on-boarding meetings with newly qualified social workers and steered them and their manager through the programme
- Registration on the ASYE Skills For Care portal and associated support
- Co-ordination of ASYE Assessors per newly qualified social worker including the provision of the ASYE Assessor training courses and refreshers

All NQSW's joined frontline social work teams across the range of children and families provision. NQSW's were expected to have a 10% reduction in caseload during their time completing the ASYE and each of the 4 areas had an Area NQSW Supervisor that was a dedicated role providing group and individual tailored support to NQSW colleagues within their area.

KCC's newly qualified social workers were congratulated and were wished all the best as they navigated their way through their assessment year and gained the confidence and knowledge required to support them in the employment environment.

3) Mrs Prendergast said the Department for Education (DfE) had long sought to reduce the significant variations in school funding across the country. This was initially consulted on back in 2016 with the aim of establishing greater predictability in schools financial planning and supporting the system to make best use of resources.

In 2018/19, the introduction of a soft national funding formula for mainstream schools was calculated on an allocation for each school based on pupil numbers and characteristics from the school census. The government then aggregated this amount for all the schools in each local authority to create a total allocation for that area. Local authorities, in conjunction with the Schools Funding Forum then set their own local formula to distribute their total allocation between all the schools in their area.

Fair school funding for all, the DfE consultation in 2021 focused on implementation of a directly applied National Funding Formula and the transition from the current system to achieve this. The government had confirmed the approach to transitioning to a direct NFF, requiring local authorities to use all NFF factors, and bring their factor values 10% closer to the NFF.

Before the summer of 2022, there was to be a second stage consultation detailing how the direct NFF was to be implemented. The measure would mean that the Secretary of State in relation to England was to determine funding for all mainstream schools through a single, national funding formula.

Local authorities were to continue to have a local education budget to deliver their education responsibilities including high needs, early years, and central school services and could continue 'de-delegation' deducting funding from maintained schools' budgets to fund central services for those schools – with Schools Forums retaining some responsibilities around local education spending, but not core schools funding.

Mrs Prendergast had been invited to take part in a podcast produced by pupils at East Peckham Primary School, an initiative that had gained national acclaim and followed in the footsteps of celebrities such as Rick Astley, Michael Ball and Josh Widdicombe who had featured in previous podcasts.

The school had won Best Primary School Radio Station of the Year in the Young Audio Awards 2022, after impressing the judges with their regular podcast, involving all the children and edited by Year 6 students and set up just after the first lockdown in 2020.

Mrs Prendergast was interviewed about her role as the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and she was thoroughly impressed with the quality of their questioning and their professionalism. The pupils were a true reflection of the schools values and she was delighted that their initiative had been recognised through the award. Mrs Wickens, the headteacher, was retiring shortly after 13 years at the school. Mrs Wickens was a huge fan of Rod Stewart and the children said they were endeavouring to secure Mr Stewart as their next interviewee. Congratulations were given to all the staff and pupils at East Peckham Primary school.

4) Mr Brazier said the Department for Transport (DfT) response to KCC's Bus Service Improvement Plan bid for £220 million was an allocation of £35.1 million, two thirds of this in capital. There had been a number of meetings with the DfT and there had been a round table with the Minister, Baroness Vere to discuss how we secure the funding. The emphasis was to be on highways schemes to improve bus priority on the highway network and ticketing and fares initiatives to encourage bus use. The money could not be used to support current services, so KCC was not able to mitigate our proposed cuts in support for routes or alleviate the increase in the cost of the standard Kent Travel Saver.

It was understood that KCC would not be able to reduce the extent of discretionary support for buses for the three-year period of the grant.

The government's introduction of Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) was in 2017. The intention was to make cycling and walking the natural choices for shorter journeys and in Kent, LCWIPs had been created by the district councils. Several of these had started to develop plans, but several had yet to develop plans. LCWIPs were to be incorporated in local transport plans and were to be integrated into the transport system in an area.

Mr Brazier attended a seminar in Cambridge, arranged by Sustrans and Cambridgeshire County Council. This consisted of a number of presentations by the

County Council, Cambridge University and Sustrans. Cambridge was growing and there was a good deal of expansion in the scientific sector and the growth of housing and satellite developments to the city. Very prominent in the planning was the provision of facilities for cycling, walking and public transport. During the afternoon, there was a cycling tour of the city to share how much had been achieved.

Mr Brazier intended to encourage the development and growth of LCWIPs in Kent, giving rise to modal shift, active travel and improved health for residents. New developments in Ashford already demonstrated how this was to be achieved.

Mr Brazier cut the ribbon at the opening of the new bus station in Gravesend. The new bus hub had provided Gravesend with canopies, seating, toilets and real time information. The real time information made it very clear for users where and from where the buses would be departing. The fast-track service served Gravesend. The £2.5 million facility was funded in large part by SELEP with contributions from KCC and Gravesham Borough Council. The scheme completed the revival of the entire area of the town surrounding the railway station.

KCC had been informed by Baroness Vere, Minister for Roads, Buses and Places that the application for powers under Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act had been successful and that she had signed a designation order that would allow KCC to enforce moving traffic offences in the county. This meant with the use of camera technology, KCC would be able to verify offences such as stopping in yellow boxes, prohibited right turns or a range of offences prescribed by the legislation. Emphasis was being put on improving traffic flow in our towns and not on the increased income.

5) Miss Carey said there had been a visit from members of the Plan Bee group and others to Moat Farm in Shadowhurst near Ashford to see the wildflower meadows, which supported a great variety of insect life, plants and birds. They also saw one of the natural flood management projects that KCC had supported. There had not been a substantial test to the new arrangement yet but it was expected that it would provide some relief to Yalding. There was scope for more such projects which were considerably cheaper than building concrete dams and they also improved biodiversity by providing a wet landscape, attracting different types of plants and wildlife. Together, the natural flood management projects had multiple benefits in that they helped with adaptation to the weather, were good for nature and beautiful visually.

6) Mr Murphy said the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce and Your Business Awards were being launched and companies across the county were able to enter the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce Annual Business Awards and pitch themselves as being one of the best companies in the county. Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce had launched the 2022 Awards to help showcase the business community, and this year the contest was run in association and closely with Kent County Council. Across Kent, businesses were leaders in their respective industries and were making a positive contribution to the county's economy and the communities in which they worked. KCC was to co-host the Awards and companies who are interested in entering were able to find the applications forms on the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce lead webpage.

BT had announced that they were to upgrade landlines to digital technology at the end of 2025. This meant in practice that all landline calls were to be delivered over digital technology, using a broadband connection. The Broadband Team were working closely across KCC directorates and with partners to ensure that KCC was prepared for the switchover and that appropriate measures were in place to ensure communications continued with withdrawal of the copper network.

On 19 May, Mr Murphy and officers were pleased to input into the Affordable Housing Select Committee and the final report was awaited. In addition, input was provided into the short-focused inquiry into Section 106 developer contributions within the county and again, the results and recommendations from that committee were awaited.

Ebbsfleet Development Corporation were celebrating the formal completion of 300 houses within the Ebbsfleet city development. This was a huge achievement contributing to the much-needed housing in the county. Officers had been working closely with districts to assist with the Levelling Up funding bids that the various districts were putting to central government and thanks were given to Lee Burchill for his contributions to this work. Close work was ongoing with district councils in order to help and facilitate the construction of their bids and it was hoped they would be successful in the Levelling Up process.

It was also announced that the Chamber of Commerce had been awarded a £500,000 grant from central government for their Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) projects and that was very welcome news. Work was also ongoing with colleagues at Essex County Council, helping them with their application to join the Straits Committee, which it was hoped would go forward in early 2023.

Meetings and discussions had continued with UK Power Networks to ensure that the county's power infrastructure grid was suitable and reliable for what would be needed going forward into the future.

7) Mrs Hohler said that she and Mr Hill had attended the KCF Needs in Kent Conference on 15 June which was very well organised and a wonderful event. The theme of the conference was looking at the county's priority needs, on a district-by-district basis. The aim was to launch research and provide an opportunity to discuss the collective ambitions for Kent and its future needs and how to focus funding and connections to meet need in the county. Delegates at the conference were from the voluntary sector. There were keynote speakers, question and answer sessions as well as breakout discussions.

8) Mr Sweetland said KCC's new recruitment website had been launched. In an increasingly competitive market, it was more important than ever that KCC's recruitment site gave applicants easy access to the available jobs and a good feel for what it was like to work at KCC. KCC's reputation as a good employer was an important factor in attracting good people to apply for the job and career opportunities across the broad range of services.

KCC had won the Charity, Education, Public Sector category for this year with The Job Crowd for the second year running. KCC had also moved into the top 30 graduate employers across all sectors. The Job Crowd was the leading ranking of graduate and apprentice employers based exclusively on anonymous feedback from graduates. The graduate program had been in place since 2019 and there were 10

streams running with 10 current graduates. Getting this recognition from The Job Crowd would help KCC to continue to attract graduates to join KCC as an employer of choice.

KCC had been highly commended at the Kent Employer Awards 2022 for our Kickstart Programme. The award recognised the valuable opportunities KCC had provided for individuals to join that programme to enhance their skills and build confidence enabling them to be competitive in the labour market.

Like The Job Crowd award, this had not been something KCC had nominated itself for, this was done by the Department of Work and Pensions. The Kickstart Scheme had a positive impact on the lives of 122 people who had accessed a placement with KCC so far.

KCC had launched a search amongst Kent residents for volunteers to join the Digital Champion Network. Those volunteering were to have opportunities to support and improve the digital skills of Kent's communities. Anyone with patience and a willingness to learn was asked to get in touch with a view to being trained to provide support to people across a range of things, including accessing public services online, online GP booking services and more general advice about internet shopping and Zoom meetings. Information was available on the Digital Champions Network page on Kent.gov.uk.

The Kent County Show was on 8, 9, and 10 July and was to feature the Reconnect Programme.

9) Mr Oakford updated regarding the Information Technology Group and improvements made in recent months. Thanks were given to Lisa Gannon, Director of Technology, who acknowledged when she joined KCC that there were challenges with IT provision, the relationship with Cantium and service being received. In March 2022, the Technology Team initiated a service improvement project with a focus on 3 key areas. The first area was cyber security, which was of the utmost importance. The others related to laptops and the IT ServiceDesk.

The improvement project with KCC and Cantium took a collaborative approach working towards joint objectives. Each team completed a detailed review of their area and these fed into joint action plan. The action plan looked at the areas of most benefit to KCC, in particular to Officers and Members. Feedback from staff working on the teams had been positive. The joint plan was being actioned and the benefits and improvements were starting to be seen.

Many officers had experienced performance and stability issues with their laptops and laptop health check clinics. During the health checks, engineers were to do a health check of laptops, update software and hardware where needed. The pilot was very successful and the clinics were being rolled out across the council.

The Technology Team had implemented a new streamlining process for repairs so that disruption to work was minimised. The Team had also improved the soft management process, meaning that KCC was insulated from the ongoing worldwide supply issues. There had also been improvements to the Helpdesk function. The work on improving services had just started but after a short period of time, a difference had already been made. Thanks were given to all those involved with this work.

10) The Leader said that together with Mrs Chandler, Mrs Bell, Richard Smith and Anjan Ghosh, he had attended and chaired an opening shadow meeting of the Integrated Care Partnership. This brought local authorities and the health organisations together as part of the new structures. It had been a positive start and these meeting would be webcast in future. The new structure was to start on 1 July 2022.

4. Provisional Revenue and Capital Budget Outturn Report 2021-22 *(Item 5)*

John Betts, Interim Corporate Director (Finance) was in attendance for this item

1) Mr Oakford said the report outlined the provisional outturn for 2021-22 and it was the 22nd year that KCC was able to demonstrate sound financial management. This was a considerable accomplishment considering the forecast position experienced throughout the year. The last reported position showed an overspend of £13.9 million. In the last quarter, KCC had managed this down to a slight underspend of £500,000. This was primarily due to proactive management, additional unexpected grant income, re-phasing of tenders and a review of expenditure that could be legitimately charged to various grants. Within the overall outturn position, there was significant overspend in Children's Services totalling £8 million. This had been offset with underspends elsewhere. The provisional outturn was an underspend of £7.6 million, with 'roll forward' requests of £7.1 million, bringing the net position to an underspend of £0.5 million.

The Covid related spending had been closely managed and monitored throughout the year. The Covid related spending charged to the Covid-19 Emergency Grant reserve amounted to £17.9 million, leaving a balance of £53 million in the reserve. There were a number of commitments against the reserve going forward into 2022/2023.

KCC's earmarked and general reserves had increased by £15.3 million to £408.1 million. The largest item was the emergency contribution to the General Fund of £14 million. This brought the general reserve to 5% of the revenue budget.

The capital outturn position was an underspend of £172 million with the vast majority of this related to re-phasing and a £2 million real underspend.

The Schools' delegated budgets had reported an overspend of £41 million which reflected the increased number of children requiring an Education, Health and Care Plan. The needs of children had become more complex and with the complexity came more expense. The Dedicated Schools Grant deficit was £97.6 million. However, KCC had been invited by the Department for Education to take part in the second round of the Safety Valve Programme discussions to support the development of a sustainable plan for recovery.

2) Mr Betts said it was a remarkable achievement to demonstrate sound financial management and achieve an underspend given the pressures. There had been a consistent focus on good financial management. There was to be a considerable amount of financial challenge in the coming year but KCC was in a robust position.

3) RESOLVED to agree the recommendations set out in the report.

5. Quarterly Performance Report

(Item 6)

Rachel Kennard, Chief Analyst was in attendance for this item.

1) Rachel Kennard outlined the report for Quarter 4, reporting full year results for 2021-22 as well as proposed indicators and targets for the coming year. Overall, the position was positive. 24 of the KPIs were 'RAG' rated as green, 6 rated as amber and 3 performing below target rated as red.

2) The 3 areas that had been 'RAG' rated as red were:

- 77% of complaints had been responded to within timescale which was below the floor standard of 80% but this was an improvement to the previous quarter. Work was ongoing to improve this area.
- The KPI relating to Section 106 developer contributions had been affected by one large site in Thanet. Work was being undertaken to rectify the situation.
- There had been an improvement throughout the year for the KPI under Children, Young People and Education, 'ECHPs issued within 20 weeks'. This KPI was expected to continue to improve.

3) It was noted that only 5 KPIs had shown deterioration.

4) It was also noted during discussion of the Quarterly Performance Monitoring Report:

- The KPIs demonstrated a resilient operating environment and how well KCC stood up against pressures.

5) Resolved that the Quarterly Performance Report – Quarter 4 be noted.

6. Economic Strategy

(Item 7)

David Smith, Director of Economic Development and Ross Gill, Associate Director at SQW were in attendance for this item.

1) Mr Murphy introduced the report.

2) Mr Smith outlined the report and advised that work had been ongoing to make a document which was to be supported across Kent and Medway and would form the basis of an 8-year framework for specific actions. The strategy was completely aligned with the KCC Strategic Statement.

3) Mr Gill said a draft of the document had been considered at a meeting of Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee (GEDC CC) on 10 May and it was also shared with county partnerships. Comments had been incorporated into the revised Strategic Framework draft. Members of GEDC CC were

keen to have a greater 'line of sight' over evidence so this had been built into the document. The evidence, in many cases, was historical and reflected gradual, incremental changes and it was considered how to reflect the changes in context within the draft Strategy.

There would need to be a consensus on the strategic as while KCC was a driver in the work, support was needed from the districts and Medway. There would need to be a balance in the longer term between flexibility and a certain amount of abstraction and grounding actions.

Some actions had already been taken forward in the multi-agency context.

4) Further to questions and comments, it was noted:

- It was considered there was a huge opportunity in improving access through the Port of Dover. The strategy built on the strength of Dover and one of the actions already being worked on was a 'green route' through to the continent.
- There was a huge movement where people had gone from working in offices in London to working where they lived in Kent and where people were spending money in their communities. However, it was important to press for more investment in Kent's transport network, in particular the train and highway networks. Kent's proximity to London was also a strength.
- Alignment with existing strategy around education and the skills base was important. It was queried how the Strategy was being linked with business and how to strengthen links in Kent. The next stage would involve publicly engaging with partners such as universities, FE colleges and places like Discovery Park. They would be crucial in delivering the strategy alongside districts.

5) RESOLVED to note the draft Strategic Framework.

7. Ukraine Update

(Item 8)

Rebecca Spore, Director of Infrastructure was in attendance for this item.

1) Ms Spore outlined the presentation (attached).

2) In response to questions and comments, it was noted:

- The expectation was the government would reimburse local authorities for costs such as school transport. The DFE guidance had still not been received so there was a risk the cost would not be met.
- Some groups were going back to Ukraine but the majority of people were securing places to work and for children to go to school in the community.
- Concerns were raised about housing issues due to placement breakdown. Homelessness was recognised as key risk and the longer placements go on, the more likely there could be breakdowns. There will be challenges around accommodation for when the 6-9 months of placement ends and capacity moving forward.

3) RESOLVED to note the update.

8. South East Migration

(Item 9)

Sarah Hammond, Interim Corporate Director for CYPE; Louise Fisher, Assistant Director (Front Door); Chris Grosskopf, Refugee Resettlement Programme Manager; and Roy Millard, Head of Partnership (South East Strategic partnership for Migration) were in attendance for this item.

- 1) Ms Hammond outlined the presentation (attached).
- 2) Ms Fisher outlined the section of the presentation relating to UASC.
- 3) Mr Millard and Ms Grosskopf outlined the presentation regarding South East Strategic Partnership for Migration (attached).
- 4) Further to comments and questions from Members, it was noted:
 - Thanks were given to the Area Education Officers for their assistance with young people coming from Afghanistan.
 - There were 53 female UASCs between January and June with the majority in 15-17 age group.
 - It was reported that 80% of claims for asylum were successful last year on the first hearing and the figure rose on appeal. It was high in comparison to 'normal' years, where the percentage was around 60% and it was not clear how much the pandemic affected this. Negative decisions were not being served during the pandemic. Once granted, there was not the same system to track where people had gone to settle down. However, it was important when considering the modelling for full dispersal.
 - Most Ukrainians were not claiming asylum but some were as they had 'fallen between the schemes', as was the case for Syrians a few years ago.
- 5) RESOLVED to note the report.

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Cabinet Ukraine Update

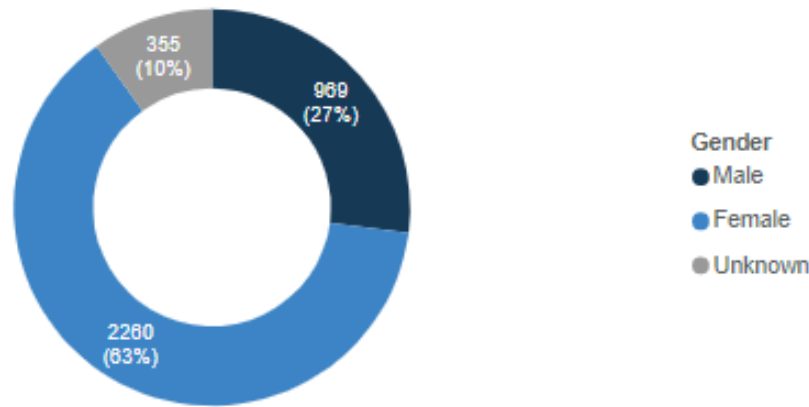
23rd June 2022

Rebecca Spore
Director of Infrastructure – Kent County Council

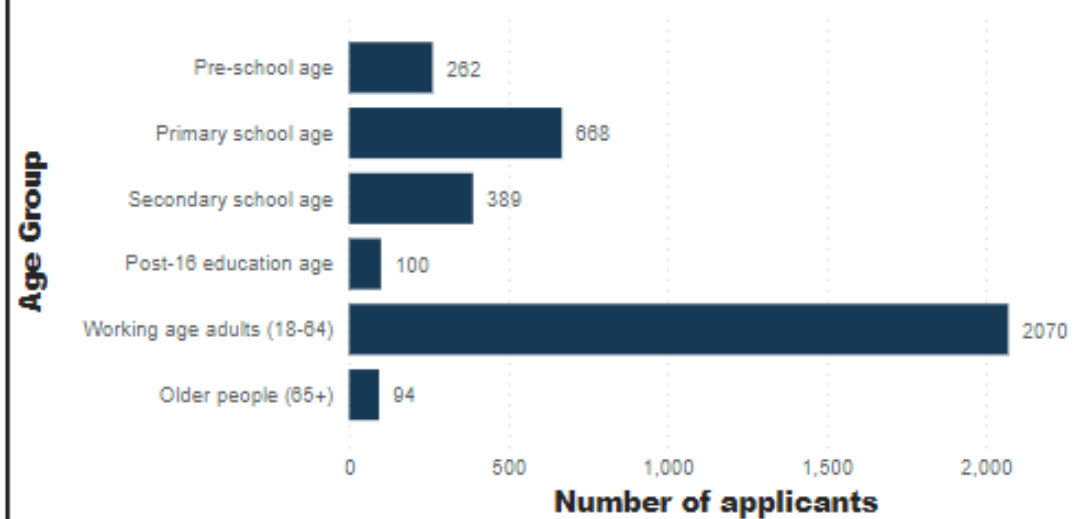
Homes for Ukraine Applicant Dashboard

23.06.22

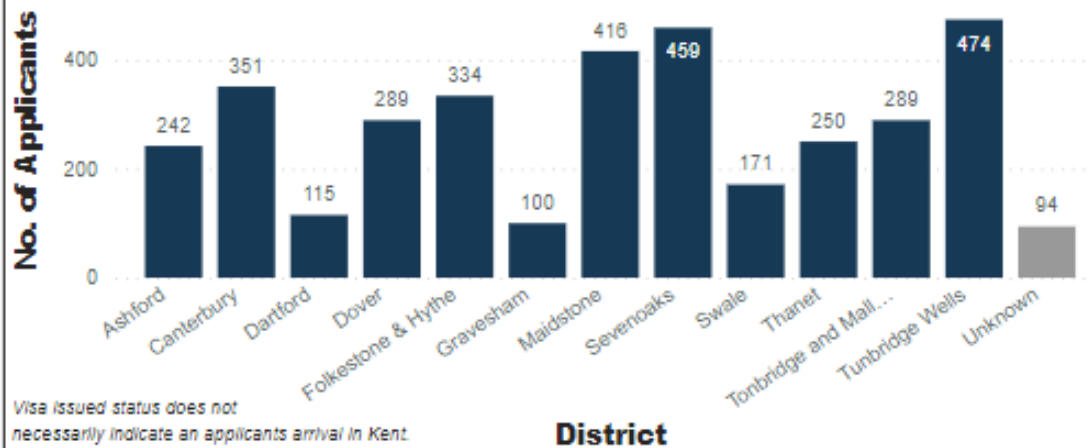
Matched Applicants by Gender



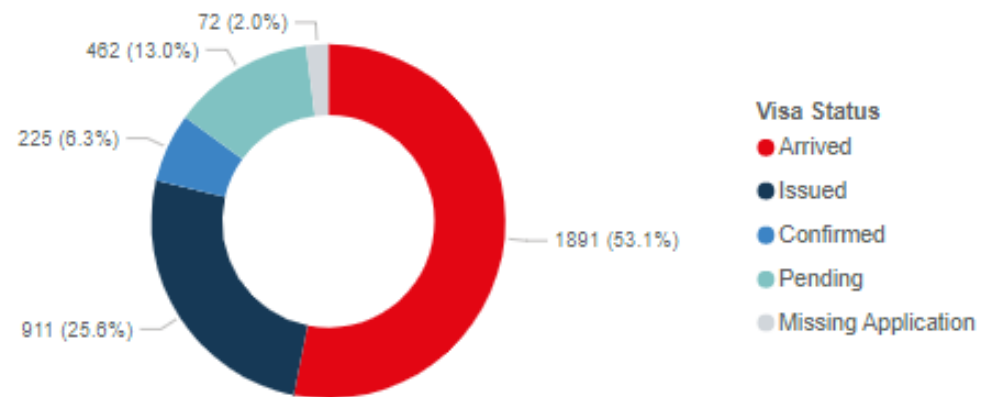
Matched Applicants by Age Group



Matched Applicants by Accommodation District



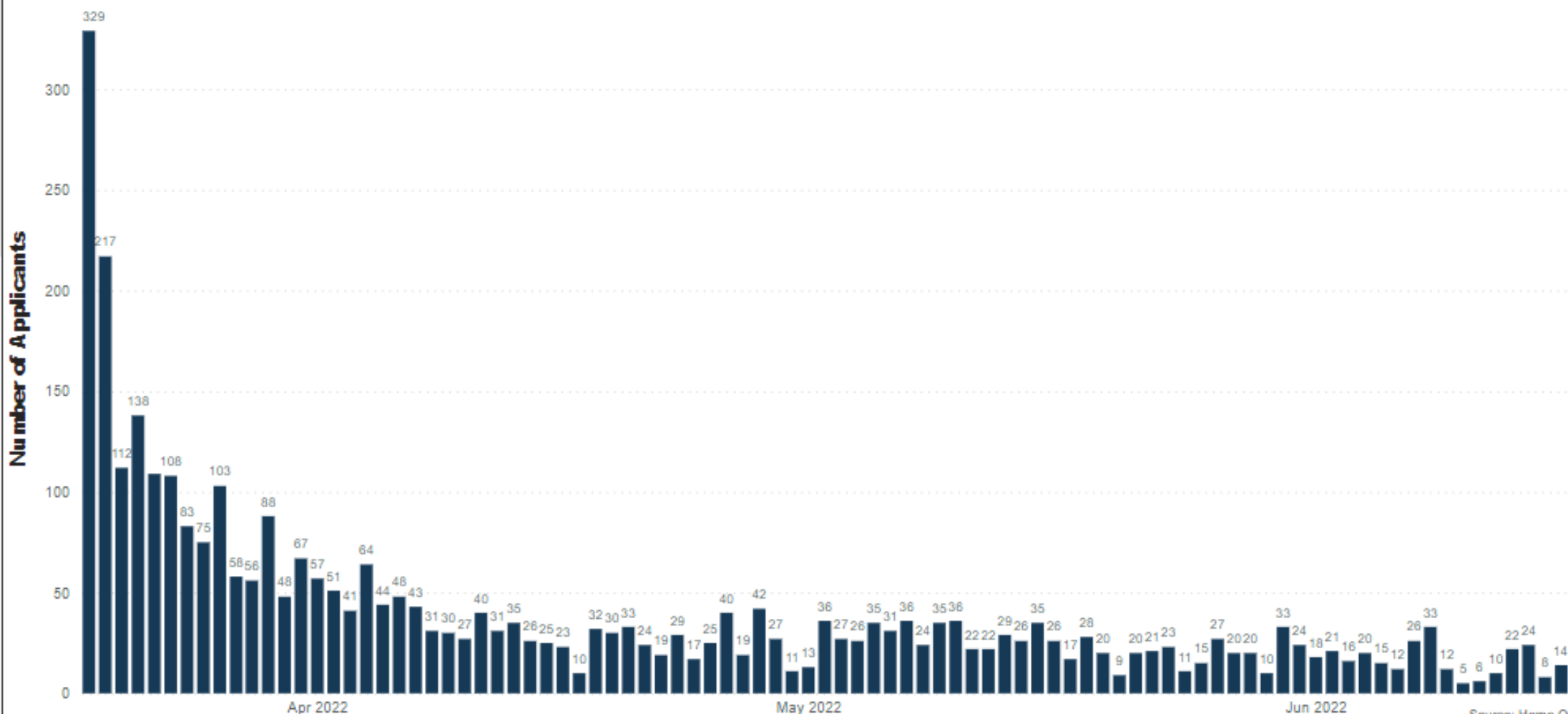
Visa Status of Matched Applicants



Source: Home Office
Matched applications to the Homes For Ukraine scheme provided to KCC.

There have been 3584 matched applications relating to 1459 sponsors in this period.

Number of Matched Applicants Over Time



Data shows applicants, Visa issued status does not necessarily indicate an applicants arrival in Kent.

Source: Home Office

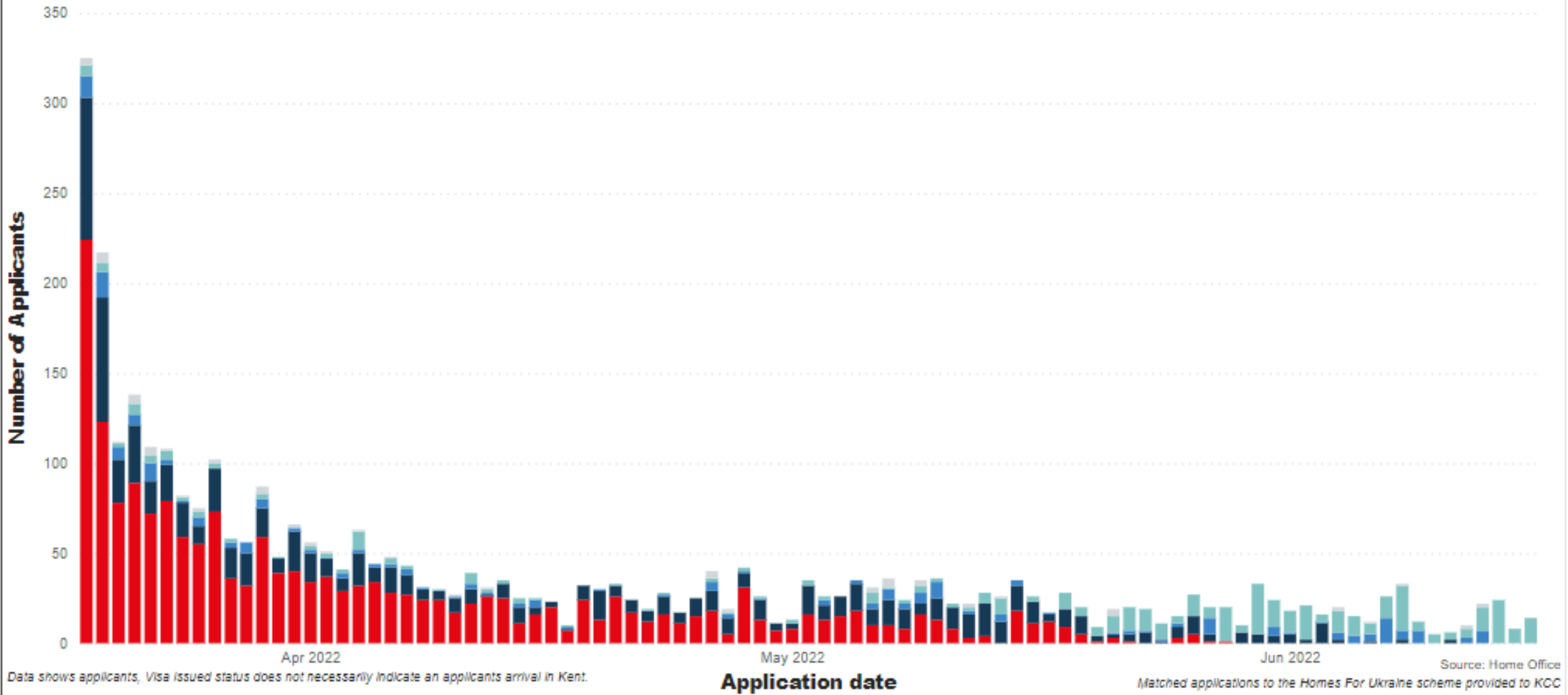
Matched applications to the Homes For Ukraine scheme provided to KCC

Application date

There have been 3584 matched applications relating to 1459 sponsors in this period.

Number of Matched Applicants Over Time: By Visa Status

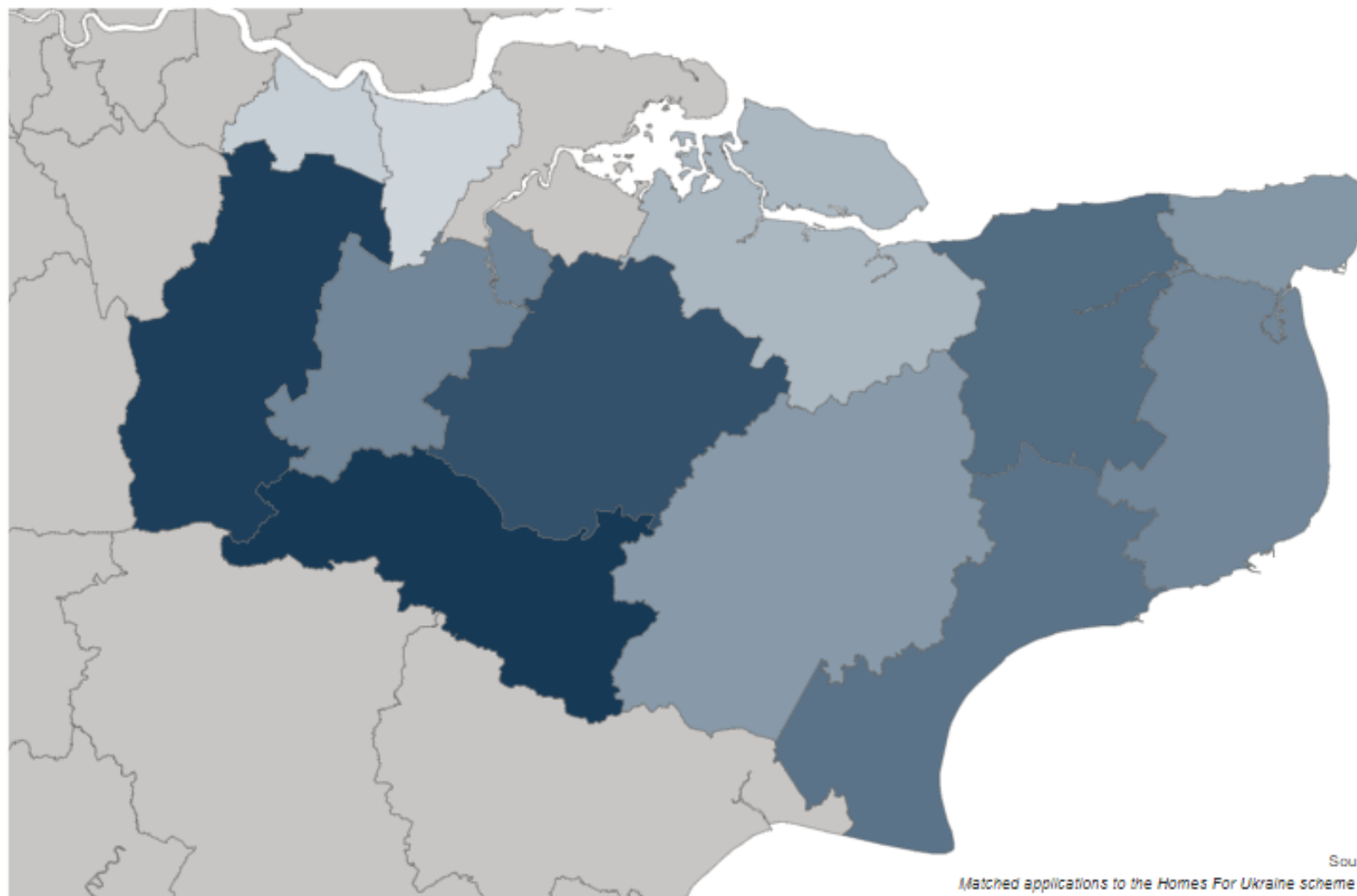
Visa Status ● Arrived ● Issued ● Confirmed ● Pending ● Missing Application



There have been 3584 matched applications relating to 1459 sponsors in this period.

Number of Applicants per District

District	Applicants in District
Ashford	242
Canterbury	351
Dartford	115
Dover	289
Folkestone & Hythe	334
Gravesham	100
Maidstone	416
Sevenoaks	459
Swale	171
Thanet	250
Tonbridge and Malling	289
Tunbridge Wells	474
Unknown	94
Total	3584

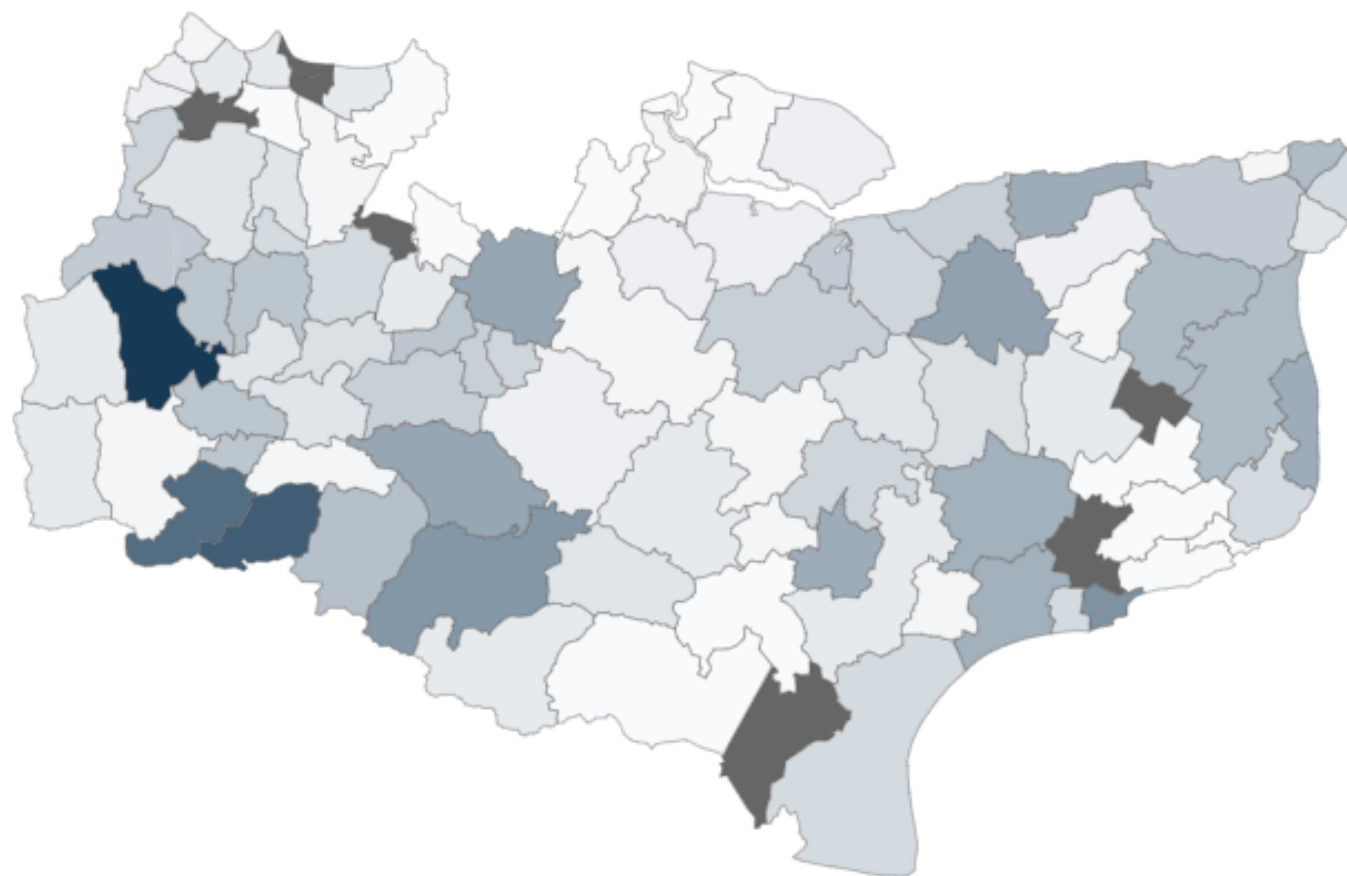


Source: Home Office
Matched applications to the Homes For Ukraine scheme provided to KCC



Primary planning area name	Primary Age Pupils
Sevenoaks	38
Tunbridge Wells East	31
Tunbridge Wells West	28
Folkestone East	21
Cranbrook and Goudhurst	20
Unknown	19
Canterbury City	18
Maidstone North	17
Marden and Staplehurst	17
Ashford East	16
Deal	16
Herne Bay	16
Folkestone Rural North	15
Hythe	15
Ash and Wingham	13
Margate	13
Sandwich and Eastry	13
Brenchley, Horsmonden and Lamberhurst	12
Borough Green and Wrotham	11
Maidstone West	11
Sevenoaks East	11
Tonbridge North and Hildenborough	11
Tonbridge South	11
Birchington and Thanet Villages	10
Faversham	10
Sevenoaks Northern Villages	10
Coxheath	9
Faversham Rural South	9
Maidstone Central and South	9
Whitstable	9
Ashford North	8
Faversham Rural East	8
Total	668

Primary Age Pupils: by Primary Planning Area Name



3/14/2022

6/16/2022

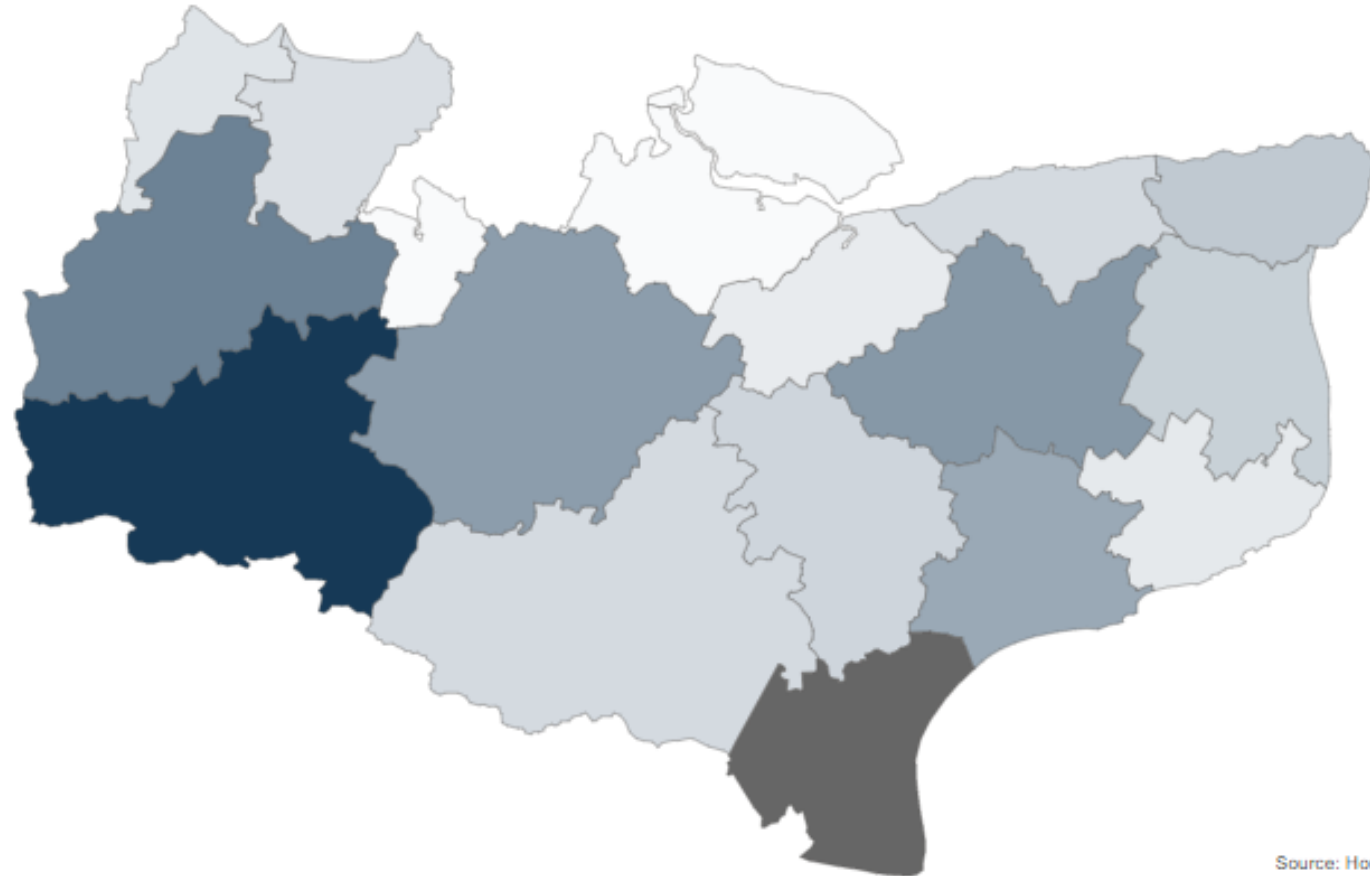
Last Refreshed: 17/06/2022



There have been 3584 matched applications relating to 1459 sponsors in this period.

Secondary Age Pupils: by NS Secondary Planning Area Name

Secondary NS planning area name	Secondary Age Pupils
Secondary NS Ashford North	17
Secondary NS Ashford South and Cranbrook	15
Secondary NS Canterbury City	42
Secondary NS Canterbury Coastal	15
Secondary NS Dartford and Swanley	11
Secondary NS Deal and Sandwich	19
Secondary NS Dover	9
Secondary NS Faversham	8
Secondary NS Folkestone and Hythe	35
Secondary NS Gravesham and Longfield	13
Secondary NS Isle of Sheppey	2
Secondary NS Maidstone District	40
Secondary NS Malling	2
Secondary NS Sevenoaks and Borough Green	51
Secondary NS Sittingbourne	2
Secondary NS Thanet District	22
Secondary NS Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells	81
Unknown	5
Total	389



3/14/2022

6/16/2022

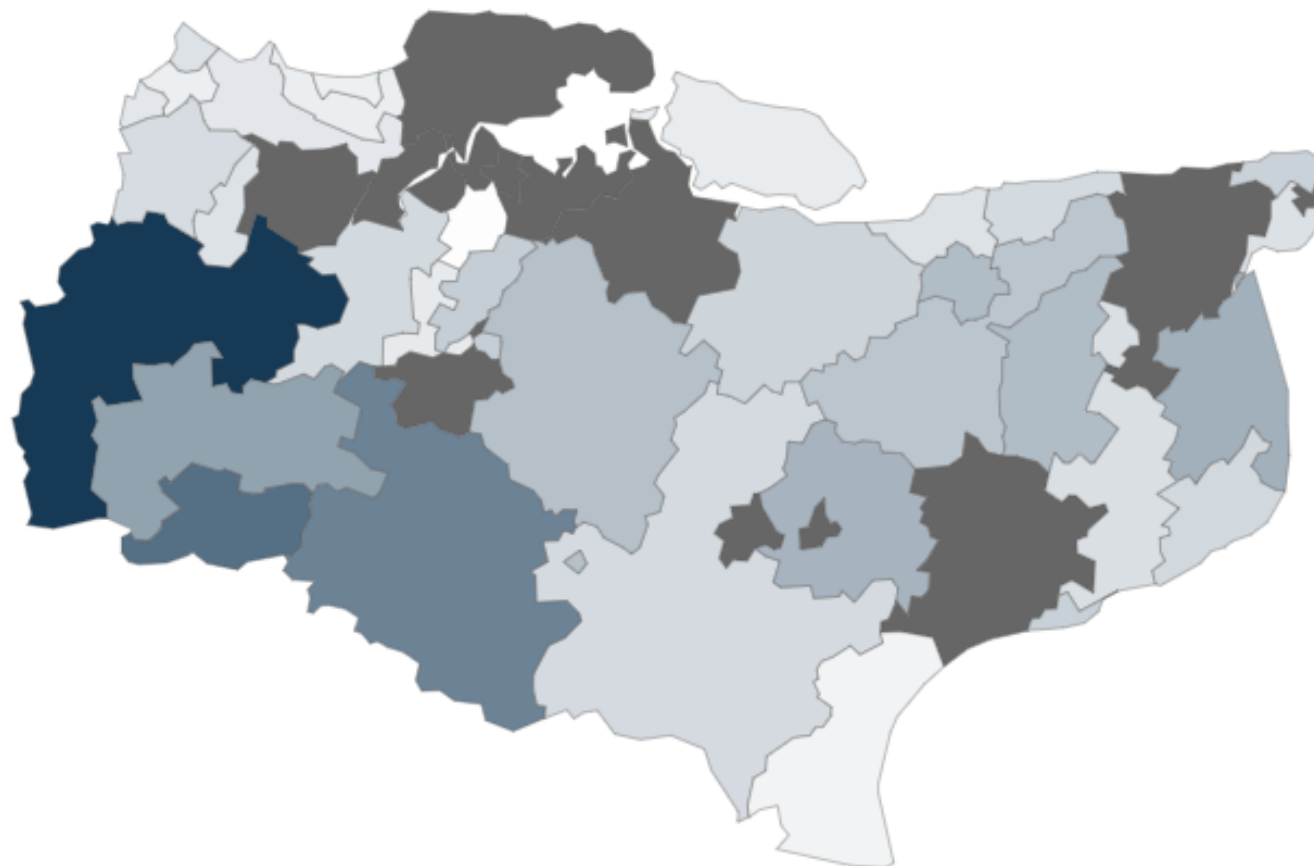
Last Refreshed: 17/06/2022

There have been 3584 matched applications relating to 1459 sponsors in this period.



Primary Care Network	Applicants in PCN
	105
ABC	41
Ashford Rural	72
Ashford Stour	146
Canterbury North	114
Canterbury South	132
Coastal and Rural East (CARE) Kent	137
Dartford Central	56
Dartford MODEL	31
Deal and Sandwich	155
Dover Town	75
Faversham	83
Folkestone Hythe and Rural	168
Garden City	47
Gravesend Alliance	33
Gravesend Central	30
Herne Bay	71
LMN Care	64
Maidstone Central	96
Maidstone South	96
Malling	73
Margate	88
Medway Peninsula	1
Medway Rainham	4
Medway South	3
Ramsgate	58
Sevenoaks	388
Sheppey	37
Sittingbourne East	28
Sittingbourne West	19
Swanley & Rural	69
The Marsh	23
Total	3584

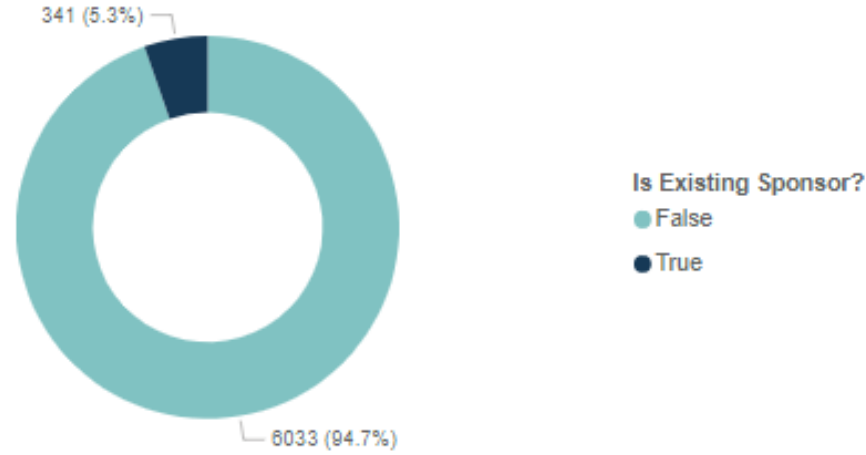
Distribution of Applicants: by Primary Care Network



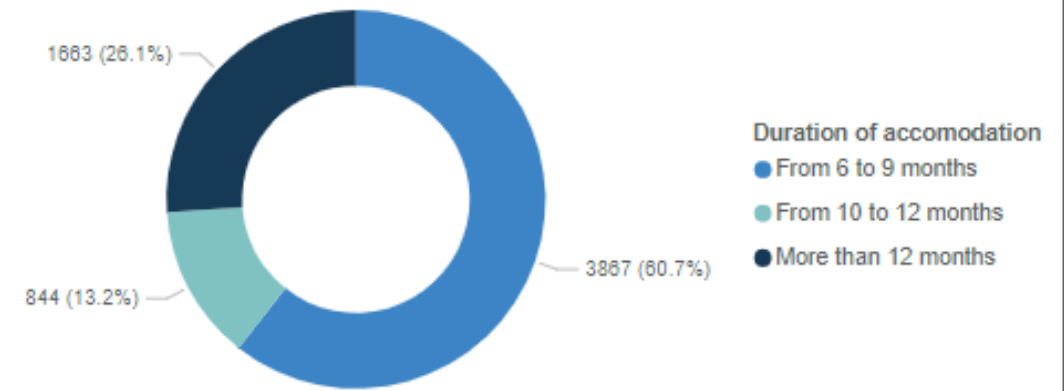
PCN boundaries are due to be refreshed, data may be subject to change at this time.

Source: Home Office
Matched applications to the Homes For Ukraine scheme provided to KCC

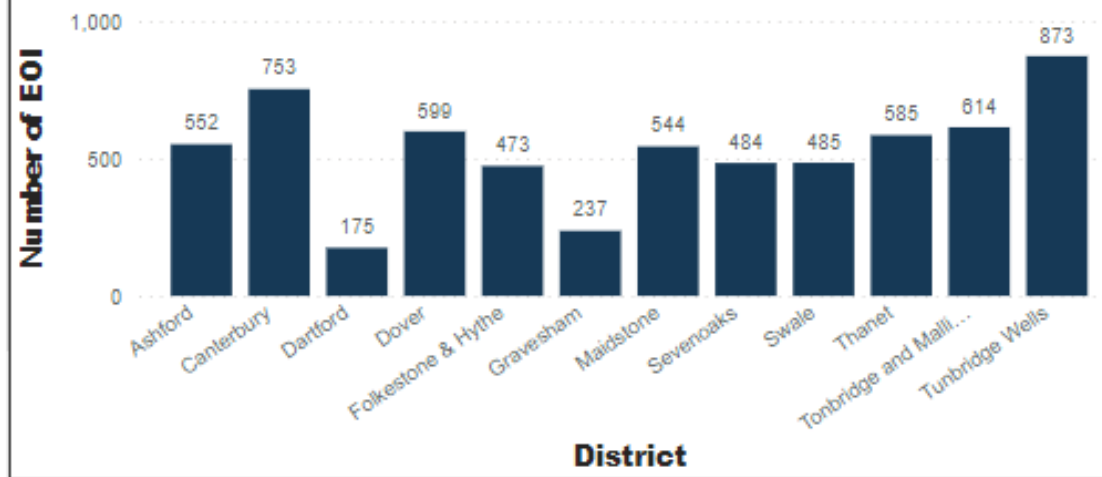
Current Sponsor Status



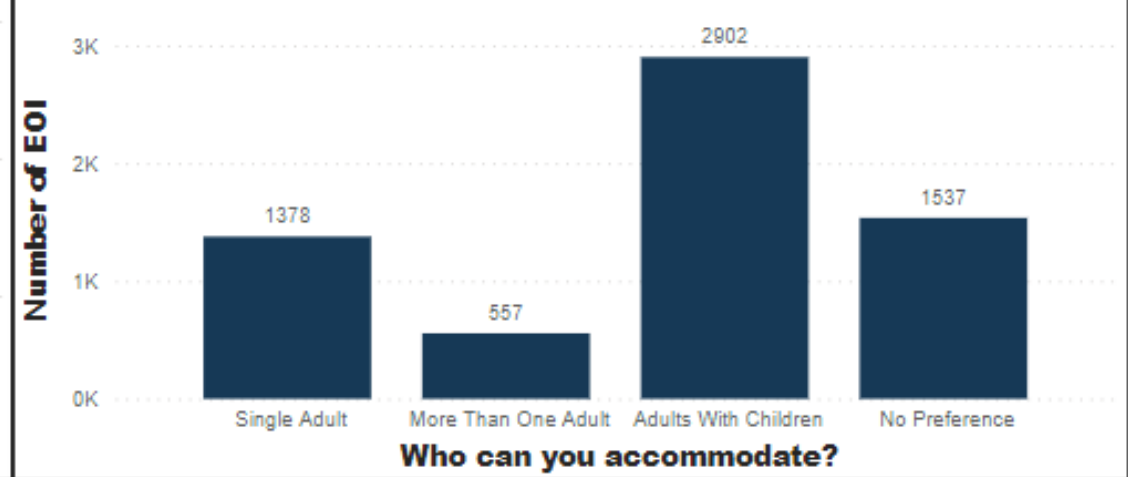
How Long Can You Offer Accommodation?



Expressions of Interest by District



Who Can You Accommodate: Single Or Family?



Update 21.06.26

- We continue to operate under a **multi – agency partnership Kent Resilience Team Structure**.
- **LA checks – The local checks, DBS, Property, KCC system checks and welfare checks are** progressing between the district and County Council. As at the beginning of the week, 2,099 DBS checks have been submitted and 1,726 DBS checks have been approved. 1039 property check forms have been uploaded on the Foundry system.

KCC continues to **surge capacity** to support the volume of demand including utilizing support from KFRS, but this is proving **particularly challenging in the West of the County with high levels of sponsors guests**.
- The **district coordinators and support workers** who will provide ongoing support are coming into the team on a phased basis and are working a priority to make a second contact with all guests.
- KCC has switched payment schemes to the post office from pay point to facilitate the **£200 payments to guests**. To date, over **£374k of payments have been made**. These are being made within a few days of the notification of an arrival with a verified UK SIM.
- **Payment of the sponsors £350 thank you payment are starting to flow**. The process is more complex and is reliant on all checks having been satisfactory completed.
- The **first DLUC return has been completed** for the flow of funding to local authorities.

Key Areas of Focus

- Continuing to **refine the 'Thank you' payments** and the **ongoing support requirements**
- Re-matching processes. KCC contacted all 6300 sponsors, **800 sponsors have confirming that they would like to be part of a rematching pool**. These have been sorted into a district clusters with the first focus being on guests in temporary accommodation.

With partners we **are developing support on the accommodation pathways** available once the initial sponsorship arrangement comes an end.
- **Further central government guidance expected** on DFE spend allocations, multiple sponsors, unaccompanied children and the relationship between local and national checks.
- Continued **close monitoring of key local services** including school places to identify service pressures - whilst the guidance is coming forward **we have confirmed that primary schools will receive £500 and secondary schools £1000 per Ukraine child**.
- Development of a **public transport voucher scheme**.
- Parity of Family and Homes for Ukraine Scheme (and other refugee schemes) continues to be highlighted

Children's Services Community Based Support

**Sarah Hammond
Interim Corporate
Director, CYPE**

Ashford Hotel

- Weekly parent and child sessions to families arriving and settling in the Ashford hotel offered within the hotel since November 2021
- Community based advice, guidance and support offered within the groups

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Canterbury Abbots Barton Hotel

- Support was led by Canterbury City Council
- Open Access groups and young people's groups delivered weekly for parents and young children

Canterbury Holiday Inn Hotel

- Open Access teams worked closely with Migrant Help, DWP and Health to offer multiagency, coordinated wrap-around support daily, moving to weekly once emergency needs for practical provisions such as clothes, toys, books, crafts and toiletries were met

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Bespoke groups are also delivered with the local Children's Centre as this provides a better quality of activity based support than within the hotel grounds

Group based support to continue to respond to needs identified

Support for these families is managed within the existing services

- Canterbury is home to c90 children and young people in bridging hotels, Ashford c76. The bulk of the families arrived in September 2021. Additional families have moved into the hotels since that point, with few moving out.
- All pupils have been offered school places/ post 16 places or, where they have recently moved into a hotel, places are being arranged. This has been through the support of local schools and colleges.
- Due to the location of the bridging hotels, transport has had to be arranged for the majority of families.
- In Ashford, where places in certain primary and secondary year groups are tight, Fair Access Protocols have been applied with the support of school leaders (as has been the case for Ukrainian children/young people). This has led to schools going over PAN or breaching infant class size regulations.
- Offering Early Years provision has been a little more challenging due to the location of the hotels. Hover provision has been organised at the hotels with the support of Children's Centre staff. We will need to continue to develop this offer.

The funding for the Afghan families was given as a lump sum:

- 1st September 2021- 30 November 2021: £189,515
- 01 December 2021- 31 March 2022: £219,980.00

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Funding was only announced to the end of the financial year.

Funding for 2022-23 has not been confirmed yet but is anticipated.

Case Study: The John Wallis Academy

- 15 Afghan families with 50 primary and secondary school aged children/young people moved into the bridging hotel in Ashford in September 2021.
- As this was expected to be a short stay, The John Wallis Academy offered education support immediately, through a mixture of online work and sessions at the Academy. This included:
 - Physical Activities (Sports/Games etc.)
 - Adventure/Challenge (Orienteering, team games etc.)
 - Creative Activities (Art/Music/Drama etc.)

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Staff and pupils volunteered to lead these sessions.

Once it was clear that the families would be in the hotels for more than a few weeks, the Academy formally took all the pupils on role as they had capacity. This enabled families to stay together.

The funding available from the DfE via KCC has been used initiatives, not only to fund additional support staff and translation support but also to create smaller break out/intervention pods to offer bespoke support for the pupils.

The pupils are fully integrated into school life.

Case Study: Parkside Community PS, Canterbury

- First cohort of Afghan pupils arrived in October 2021 and went straight into classes
- There was a focus on making them feel welcome.
- Fun, bespoke language work and games were introduced to help to ‘tune’ pupils into English.
- Close liaison with school staff to address any worries that the pupils/families may have. This included liaising with Canteen staff.
- Teaching resources shared in addition to general strong teaching strategies.
- Afghan parents invited to watch the nativity that their pupils were engaged in.
- Strong liaison with the hotel – built up good rapport with parents
- Parents evening organised at the school with an interpreter present.
- Second cohort of pupils arrived in February 2022, at which point most of the early cohort were speaking in sentences. They were used as a welcoming committee for the second co-hort.
- The third cohort arrived a few weeks ago and have joined a happy established community of Afghan refugee pupils at Parkside

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) in Kent

Reception and Safe Care Service

Louise Fisher
Assistant Director, Front Door

- **July 2016** National Transfer Scheme (NTS) launched
- **March 2018** KCC withdraws from NTS
- **June 2020** KCC returns to NTS
- **August 2020** Despite voluntary NTS transfers it becomes unsafe for KCC to accommodate newly arrived UASC.
- **December 2020** KCC returns to accommodating UASC.
- **June 2021** Despite voluntary NTS transfers it becomes unsafe for KCC to accommodate newly arrived UASC.
- **September 2021** KCC returns to accommodating UASC. Protocol between KCC, Home Office and DfE agreed, resulting in the setting up of a Reception and Safe Care Service, designed to accommodate an additional 120 young people with a 10 day working timescale for NTS transfers.
- **December 2021** Government makes the NTS mandatory for all UK local authorities

- Predominantly 15-17 year old males
- Afghan, Iranian, Iraqi, Eritrean and Sudanese nationals
- As many Afghans as these other nationalities combined, with marked increase in arrivals since the return of Taliban rule in Afghanistan in August 2021
- 25% under 16; 75% 16+
- Increase in female UASC in 2022

Intake since September 2021

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	31	36	16	17	10	13	16	107
February	15	28	11	8	11	39	15	92
March	31	34	23	7	29	35	59	132
April	16	48	12	3	15	38	38	106
May	41	30	12	6	18	64	115	158
June	105	32	27	20	26	85	63	47*
July	178	49	14	19	43	68	6	
August	127	42	25	17	44	97	9	
September	102	43	16	12	24	-	90	
October	211	19	19	11	40	-	96	
November	49	11	23	30	24	1	127	
December	40	18	12	12	48	38	96	
TOTAL	946	390	211	162	332	478	730	642

*at 15th June 2022

NTS transfers

	2020	2021	2022
January	-	14	44
February	-	18	77
March	-	36	96
April	-	14	98
May	-	21	95
June	48	50	17*
July	37	24	
August	44	6	
September	47	11	
October	11	69	
November	2	89	
December	11	83	
TOTAL	200	435	427

*at 15th June 2022

NTS transfer timescales

	Shortest wait for NTS transfer (working days)	Longest wait for NTS transfer (working days)	Average wait for NTS transfer (working days)
September 2021	Less than 24 hours	86	23
October 2021	1	102	16
November 2021	1	78	17
December 2021	Less than 24 hours	77	18
January 2022	Less than 24 hours	32	14
February 2022	Less than 24 hours	94	16
March 2022	Less than 24 hours	71	15
April 2022	Less than 24 hours	54	10
May 2022	Less than 24 hours	34	6
June 2022*	1	3	2
TOTAL (average)	Less than 24 hours	63	14

*at 15th June 2022

Outcomes for Children in RSCS

Transferred on NTS	679
Awaiting NTS transfer	95
Remaining in Kent	166
Turned 18 in under 13 weeks	16
Family reunification	21
Age dispute preventing NTS transfer	5
Missing before NTS transfer	29
Referral withdrawn by Home Office	35
Referrals received in September 2021 before protocol agreed	5
TOTAL	1051*

***at 15th June 2022**

- **July 2021** Home Office establishes hotels in South East to meet demand of UASC arrivals KCC cannot safely respond to.
- **September 2021** Home Office operates 5 hotels accommodating over 250 UASC.
- **February 2022** All Home Office hotels are briefly emptied as last UASC referred to KCC.
- **June 2022** Home Office continues to operate 4 hotels, 2 of which are in Kent.
- KCC does not hold corporate parenting responsibilities for UASC in the Kent hotels but does hold statutory safeguarding duties, just as it does for any child resident in Kent.

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South East Strategic Partnership for Migration

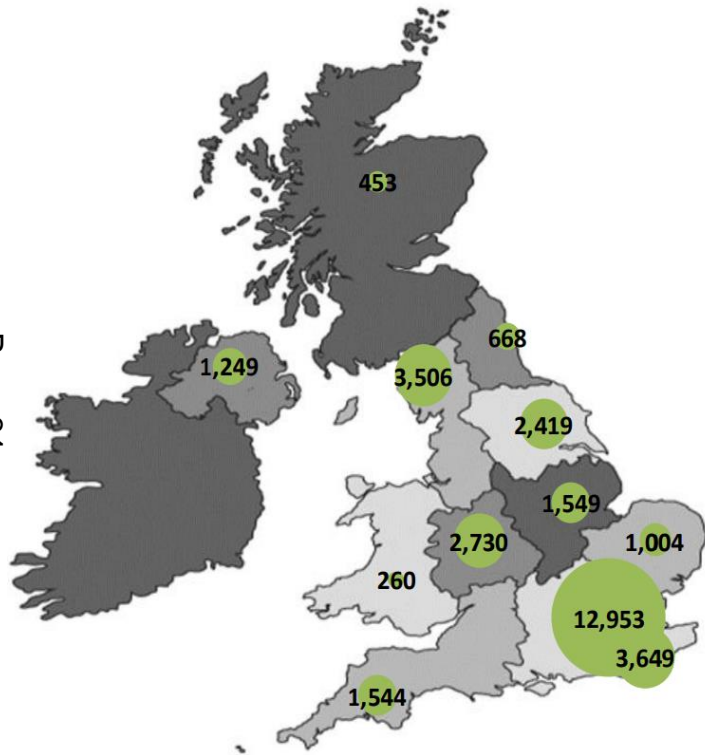
SOUTH EAST MIGRATION

KCC CABINET JUNE
2022

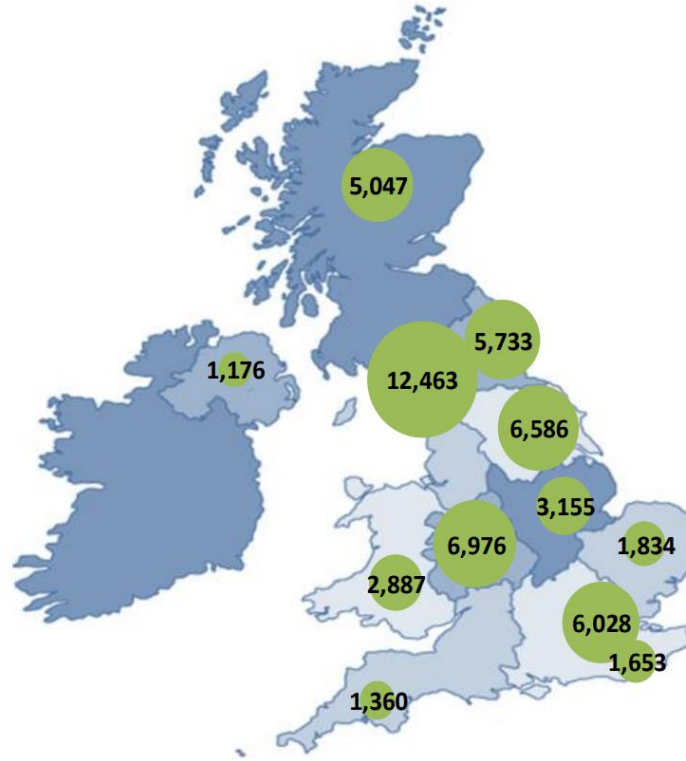
OVERVIEW OF THE SOUTH EAST - All Migration

- **Total asylum adults and families** – Circa 5,500 (including contingency)
- **Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC):** Circa 1,000
- **Former UASC Care leavers:** Circa 2,000
- **Resettled Programmes including:**
 - Syrian Resettlement 2015-2020 (2,038)
 - UK Resettlement Scheme (2021-present) 23 families
 - Afghan Programmes (present) 247 families – 1400 people
- **Ukraine** – South East has an estimated Ukrainian population of 5,390 plus approx. 11,500 Home for Ukraine/Family Visa population (26% of national total)
- **Hong Kong British Nationals Overseas** (Est. 19,000 in Year 1)
- **EU Migration** (736,160 applications - Sept 2021)

SOUTH EAST SHARE OF ASYLUM POPULATION



Total IA/Contingency Population by SMP region



Total Dispersed Population by SMP region

South East has:

- 13.65% of UK's population
- 6.1% of UK's accommodated asylum population
- 11.5% of UK's IA & Contingency Population
- 3% of UK's dispersed population

KENT and MEDWAY–Adult and Family Asylum Position

- Manston Processing – 24 hour processing
- Napier Barracks – 326 capacity (Initial Accommodation)
- Asylum Dispersal in Kent = 37 people at end of April
 - Folkestone and Hythe – 16
 - Gravesham – 11
 - Maidstone – 2
 - Medway - 8

IMPLEMENTING 'FULL DISPERSAL'

- April/May 2022 – Full Dispersal Announced
- 'Informal Consultation' runs until 1st July
- Council consent presumed
- Does come with funding for 2022/23 - £3,500 per new bed space
- Funding beyond 2023 is being scoped to inform costs to LAs and inform a New Burdens Assessment
- Aim is to reduce/eliminate contingency asylum hotels (none in Kent) and establish a fairer distribution of asylum seeking adults/families
- Next steps – agree a regional plan following allocation of numbers from the Home Office; existing change plan reflects population ratios
- South East currently has low levels i.e. 3% of national (1,500 people) – if in proportion to UK population the SE figure would be 13.57% = 11,780.
- Maximum figures are 1:200 per population
- IF population ratio applied alone then Kent = approx. 2.78% of UK population. 2.78% of current accommodated asylum population = 2,415 (currently 37)
- Other factors consultation is taking into account:
 - **Short term** - equity, rurality & market availability
 - **Long term** – impact of other schemes, areas of deprivation, funding, impact on council services, access to legal services



SOUTH EAST MIGRATION

REFUGEE
RESETTLEMENT

Date	Scheme
2015 to 2020	Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) 2038 accepted into the South East (10% National pledge) Resettlement suspended from March 2020 until November 2021
2021 - Present	Existing resettlement schemes (Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme, Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme, Mandate and Gateway Schemes) were consolidated into a new global resettlement scheme called the UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS) 47 families so far and some coming from Thailand and Indonesia
From June 2021	Afghan Locally Employed Staff (ALES) Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP)
August 2021 - Present	'Operation Pitting' – military evacuation of 15000 people Afghan Resettlement, Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP), Afghan Citizens and Resettlement Schemes (ACRS) 15 bridging hotels in SE – with a programme of closures over the next few months 64 local authorities participating 247 families accepted and resettled in the South East so far circa 1400 people

SOUTH EAST MIGRATION

RESETTLEMENT

District/ Borough	Number of families resettled under VPRS/UKRS	Numbers resettled under ARAP/ACRS	Community sponsorship	Comments
Ashford	37	7	0	
Canterbury	9	3	2	
Dartford	3	4	0	
Dover	10	0	0	
Folkestone & Hythe	8	5	1	
Gravesham	3	0	0	
Maidstone	2	2	0	
Sevenoaks	7	2	0	2x ARAP/ACRS families due to arrive in near future
Swale	14	0	1	1x ARAP/ACRS family due to arrive in near future
Thanet	2	0	0	1x ARAP/ACRS family due to arrive in near future
Tonbridge and Malling	9	1	0	
Tunbridge Wells	10	1	0	
Total	114	25	4	

AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT

Bridging Hotels

- **Nationally:** c12,000 in hotels
- **South East** Bridging Hotels (15) c 2,200

Resettled in Local Authorities

- **Nationally** c 6000 people
- **South East** region 247 families (June 22) which is c 1400 people

AFGHAN SCHEMES ISSUES

- Rapid procurement of bridging hotels as Op Pitting families exited managed quarantine
- Wraparound Support provision in bridging hotels
- Matching families to LA accommodation offers – improved process with triage information
- Need for more LA offers especially larger properties
- MOD Service Family Accommodation available at below market rent
- Alignment of ARAP and ACRS schemes
- Inclusion of British citizens in funding
- 3 year funding for all
- Interplay with UKRS



SOUTH EAST MIGRATION

UNACCOMPANIED
CHILDREN & YOUNG
PEOPLE

REGIONAL UPDATES

- The South East region has achieved each placement within 10 days of allocation.
- The South East region has achieved 100% of referrals for each Tranche of four cycles to date.
- The South East is at 0.059% of the 0.07%- 86%
- Final Figures are due soon and the South East is likely to receive a reduction in allocations.

SE CYCLE UPDATES

- 270 Children and Young People have been placed since the 23rd November..
- Age disputed young people remains high- over 50% of all allocations.
- Despite UASC Hotels being empty in February all four are back in use and are based in the South East Region
- Cycles continue to have low female representation, ages differ across tranches and the current tranche is a mixture of age and nationality





SOUTH EAST MIGRATION

HONG KONG BRITISH
NATIONALS OVERSEAS

OVERVIEW

- Visa scheme opened January 2021
- Open to a potential 5.5 million HK BNO visa holders and their dependents
- Recently extended to allow those born after 1997 to come to the UK provided they have one parent who is a HK BNO visa holder.
- 103,900 came in Year 1 to the UK
- 300,000 predicted to come in the next 4 years
- Potentially the largest movement of non European into the UK in British history

TOP AREAS OF SETTLEMENT IN SOUTH EAST

Sub-region	Estimated numbers
Thames Valley (Reading)	6,000-8,000 4,000-6,000
Surrey & Sussex (Guilford) (Brighton)	3,500-4,700 (900-1,200) (600- 800)
Hampshire, IOW, Portsmouth & Southampton (Winchester) (Southampton)	2,000-2,700 (600-800) (450-600)
Kent (Tunbridge Wells)	1,800-2,400 (900-1,200)
Total	13,593 – 18,124 DLUHC estimate year 1 – 19,000

PROFILE OF NEW ARRIVALS (SESPM SURVEY OF HK BNOS IN THE SE)

- 26% have found employment and 5% are self employed
- 12% intend to open their own businesses with another 33% considering doing so, this is opposed to only 5% who were self employed back in Hong Kong.
- 28% have already purchased a property with 36% intending to buy within the next 5 years
- Gender mix is equal and most are around 40 years of age with an average of 1.2 children per family.
- NEED - Help entering employment followed by English classes, assistance to purchase property and information on how to start their own business were deemed the most important aspects requested. Additionally, mental health support was also deemed an area of concern.

MENTAL HEALTH

- A recent survey by Hongkonger in Britain found that:
- Potential repercussions from the Chinese/HK SAR government are a key concern for this cohort with 90% saying that campaigns by these governments made them feel unsafe even in the UK.
- 84% fear infiltration of information and secret agents from China.
- 24% reported clinically significant symptoms of PTSD due to the 2019 protests and/or HK National Security Law
- 19% reported clinically significant symptoms of depression

BUT!

- 62% said that moving to the UK had improved their overall mental health.

SESPM'S WORK IN THIS AREA

- An ESOL guide to assist local authorities to know the learning needs of HK BNOs and how to claim this funding.
- A Flow chart – mapping every step to consider from prior to departure, immediately upon arrival all the way up to ILR and Citizenship
- NRPF Training – Specialist training on the NRPF condition for HK BNOs.
- Currently looking at how to create a mental health guide explaining how to access state and non state provided mental health provision in the UK and outlining key safeguarding concerns.
- Coordinate and host meetings for all successful regional and national VCSE organisations operating in the South East.
- Coordinate and host local authority sub-regional HK leads meetings.
- Attend weekly meetings with other RSMPs and DLUHC
- Report on HK BNO activities in quarterly sub regional strategic migration groups, SESPM Executive and 6 monthly NRPF meetings
- Attend other HK network and diaspora meetings.

SOUTH EAST AREA WEIGHTED DELIVERY

- Supported Surrey & Sussex to commission the Workers Education Association to create a bespoke training course for HK BNOs on Business start up and Business English language.
- Supported Kent County Council to assist HK diaspora organisations in Kent and Medway.
- Supported Brighton & Hove, Southampton, Surrey, Kent and other local authorities to purchase library books serving as 'cultural custodians' of diaspora requested books about HK history and culture.
- Supported Reading Borough Council in commissioning private training for parents of HK SEN children.
- Supported RBWM to undertake independent evaluations of SEN of HK children.





SOUTH EAST MIGRATION

UKRAINE

UKRAINE – NATIONAL-REGIONAL CONTEXT

Numbers of 7th June 2022

- National Applications **154,500** comprised of **47,300** Family Visa and **107,200** Homes for Ukraine (HfU)
- National Visas issued = **124,400** comprised of **41,000** Family Visa and **83,400**

Total arrivals = 70,500 comprised of 24,000 Family Visa and 46,500 HfU

- South East Share = **26%** of English regions
- Kent share of English regions = **16%** (highest of SE)

SOME KEY ISSUES

- Adverse PNC hits delaying visa/travel – rematching process
- Safeguarding
- Sponsors making multiple applications
- Breakdown of relationships – homelessness duty on councils
- Engagement mechanism being refined with experience
- Family visa scheme data – needed to plan services
- Funding: receipts to LAs and distribution to sponsors
- Navigating the Foundry system

THANK YOU

**South East
Strategic Partner
for Migration**