

Title	District Councillors' Report
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Ukraine Refugees

Many SODC staff have been re-assigned from their usual duties to work on the Ukraine refugee scheme, to ensure that the council does everything it can to support hosts through the approval process and to support hosts & refugees after their arrival.

The number of properties being rejected for overcrowding or poor housing conditions remains very low in SODC. There are a small number of partially approved properties that are waiting for improvements. The number of properties where guests have arrived before the accommodation visit takes place is also very low. SODC will continue to book in visits for new host properties that are notified to them.

SODC and other councils are working with Asylum Welcome to ensure that both hosts and Ukrainians have access to a network of support – and that it is as safe and effective as possible. Asylum Welcome is keeping a track of all offers of community support across the county. To make best use of this significant response, the councils will expand the community liaison staff team to coordinate, advise and refer guests to the support that is available to them, including across housing, education and health.

Community Grants

The SODC community grant scheme was heavily over-subscribed and some difficult choices had to be made. However the scheme is now open every 6 months with the next round expected in the autumn. Grants awarded for the period March 2021 to February 2022 are as follows:

Recipient	Purpose	Amount £	Round
Wild Pear CIC	Thame COP	5000	1
SOFEA	Community Larder	2000	1
Senior Friendship Centre	Storage Trolley	271	1
Thame Players	Auditorium Lighting	3000	1
21 st Century Thame	Taste of Thame	845	1
MP Sports Development Trust	Sports in the Street	634	2
21 st Century Thame	Thame Drive Electric	450	2
Thame Girl Guide Association	Guide Hut defibrillator	300	2
Inner Wheel Club	Seniors Christmas Party	500	2
Red Kite Family Centre	Parenting Support Fund	2000	2