HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Florence Eshalomi MP
Minister of State
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Our Ref: EC23474/JP19 October 2026

Dear Florence

Re: Homes for Ukraine Scheme

I have been contacted by the Chair of the Herefordshire Community Network for Ukraine and the Support for Ukraine Project Lead for the Diocese of Hereford. They have asked me to raise their concerns about the Government's decision to reduce the thank you payments for the Homes for Ukraine Scheme from £350 per month to £100 from 1st January 2027.

The risks they highlight are that the decision will:

- discourage new sponsors
- destabilise existing hosting arrangements
- increase the risk of homelessness
- increase the benefit budget
- increase the pressure on emergency accommodation
- increase financial pressure on the local authority

They also express concerns about the timing of this decision due to:

- the simultaneous cut in local support through Herefordshire Council's Ukrainian Community Integration Grant
- the current limitations of the County's social housing stock and private rental market
- the Ukrainian winter, which is weaponised resulting in increased drone strikes and rocket attacks

They both recognise that this scheme should eventually be phased out but are concerned about the drastic reduction and the short time scale.

Dr Ellie Chowns MP
Member of Parliament for North Herefordshire
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Will the Government reconsider this decision to allow for a phased reduction or a longer lead-in period to reduce these risks and to give hosts, guests and support organisations time to plan safely?

Yours sincerely



Dr Ellie Chowns MP
Member of Parliament for North Herefordshire