

APPENDIX 1.

The Lewisham Offer for Syrian Refugee Resettlement

The London Borough of Lewisham will continue to work with the Government, the GLA, local authorities and a range of partners, voluntary sector agencies and the local community to resettle up to a further 100 Syrian refugee households. Lewisham makes the following commitments by way of an offer to:

- (1) the Government for the purpose of seeking its agreement to the proposed resettlement of Syrian refugees in the borough; and
- (2) the community across the borough for the purpose of locating suitable accommodation for refugee households and support to integrate individual refugees into society.

Timescales

Lewisham aims to start accepting the additional Syrian refugee households between January and March 2019 in accordance with the below outlined time table:

Time table for accepting the additional households.	
Date	Activity
September 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Put the Home Office on notice that agreement has been made to accept 100 additional households post Full Council meeting.• Re-establish the multi-agency support panel (including housing, health, DWP, education, resettlement, support service provider and other third sector agencies)• Recruit a full-time Refugee Programme Manager.
October – December 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Procure resettlement service.• Review housing delivery strategy to ensure that we are able to provide sufficient units across the Strategic Housing division. Proposal to be presented to Mayor and Cabinet.• Work with the Voluntary Sector, Landlords and agencies known to the Council to identify suitable accommodation at LHA rates.
January – March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree households with the Home Office• Begin accepting households.

Household categories

Lewisham will work with the Home Office to accommodate households in categories 1, 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D as outlined by the Home Office as follows:

Cat 1.	Non Complex case: those with no special needs or requirements.
--------	--

Cat 2a.	Mobility Issues: people who are wheelchair users or who have other disabilities including missing limbs or restrictive movement
Cat 2b.	Serious Medical: people who require surgery or ongoing medical treatment for life threatening condition (eg. Cancer, dialysis)
Cat 2c.	Psychological: people suffering from mental illness or those where a need for immediate support is specified in the HAP
Cat 2d.	Special Education needs: children or adults with disabilities or learning difficulties
Cat 3.	Large Families of groups of 7 or more

Accommodation

Accommodation for refugees in Lewisham will be secured from a range of sources including the community, private rent sector, and local authority acquisitions

Properties procured for the purpose of resettling Syrian refugee households will be appropriately furnished with essential items and white goods

Resettlement Support

Lewisham will commission meet and greet and ongoing integration casework and resettlement support. Support will be provided to households for a period of 12 months from arrival.

Education

Lewisham will ensure that school places are available at the time of refugee arrival, school places will be accessed via normal admissions processes and will be chosen in line with the proximity to sourced accommodation Lewisham will ensure refugee households are assessed on their English language ability and that accredited English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses are available

Health

Lewisham will ensure Syrian refugees are registered with local health services and facilitate access to specialist health services as required

Translation

Lewisham will ensure interpreting and translation services are available to Syrian Refugees

Community Integration Activities

Lewisham will continue to work with the local voluntary sector and community to provide activities to Syrian refugee households that promote integration