

**Home Secretary** 

2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF www.gov.uk/home-office

28 April 2022

Clare Adamson MSP The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Dear Clare,

Thank you for your letter of 1 April to about Ukrainian Seasonal Workers. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

As you will be aware, the Government has established the Ukraine Family Scheme and the Homes for Ukraine Scheme and provided flexibility for those already in the UK, including visitors, to enable them to switch to those schemes where they would not normally be able to. We also put in place provisions for Ukrainians to extend their existing visas.

Further to this, we are launching a new Ukraine Extension Scheme on 3 May. The Ukraine Extension Scheme will allow Ukrainian nationals in the United Kingdom before 18 March to remain here for up to three years and will allow access to public funds, work and study in the United Kingdom – in line with the other two Ukraine Schemes.

Seasonal workers, or those granted permission under the Ukraine Extension Scheme, may be eligible to act as an approved sponsor to allow them to sponsor family members to come to the United Kingdom under the Homes for Ukraine scheme. They would, however, still need to meet the wider sponsor eligibility rules, including being able to offer accommodation for six months. Family members of Ukrainian seasonal workers may also seek alternative sponsors if the seasonal worker is not in a position to act as an approved sponsor.

The new routes show that the UK stands shoulder to shoulder with Ukraine and its citizens. The changes we are making to the visa process are making it quicker and simpler for Ukrainians to come here, as well as ensuring those already here can stay. Further details on all the schemes I have referenced can be found on gov.uk.

Rt Hon Priti Patel MP Home Secretary

Cc: The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and Communities, Minister for Intergovernmental Relations; Lord Harrington, Minister for Refugees, Neil Gray, Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development and Minister with special responsibility for Refugees from Ukraine