Appendix 1. Differences between Canadian PSR and UK’s CSS

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Canada's Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) | UK’s Community Sponsorship Scheme (CSS) |
| Who can submit an application? | * Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs) – who signed a sponsorship agreement with IRCC (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada) * Constituent Groups (CGs) approved by SAHs * Groups of Five (G5) Canadian citizens or with permanent residence. * Community Sponsors (CSs), including any organisation, association or corporation. | Sponsorship groups must have charity status or partner with a charity. |
| Who can be sponsored? | Refugees and persons in refugee-like situations. The presence of family members in Canada, or ability to speak English or French, and employability are considered. | UNHCR vulnerable refugees. |
| Identification of sponsored refugees | Groups can identify the refugee/family. Relatives in Canada can use sponsorship to facilitate resettlement of their family. | The Home Office matches groups and refugees. Groups can decline a match but cannot select refugees. |
| Support | Support for 1 year or until the family is self-sufficient. With a groups agreement sponsorship can be extended to a maximum of 36 months. | Integration support for 1 year, housing provision two years. |
| Financial assistance | Groups provide financial support. Only refugees in the Joint Assistance Sponsorship Program or the Blended Visa Office-Referred Program receive Government assistance.  The estimated cost for a privately sponsored refugee is $16,500 and up to $35,500 for a family of 6.  Refugees are given a loan from the government to pay for their travel to Canada – sponsorship groups are not obliged to cover this cost. | Refugees receive welfare support.  Sponsorship groups provide £200 per person on arrival and help cover accommodation and living costs.  Groups must raise at least £9,000 per household. |
| Settlement services | Refugees can access specialist settlement services including job orientation and language classes. | Refugees can access services such as language classes and non-specialist job support. |
| Family members | A sponsored refugee can submit a One Year Window application to allow his/her spouse and dependent children to come to Canada. The sponsors have responsibility for all family members. | Resettled refugees can apply for family reunion. They must justify why the member was not included in the original application and meet minimum income targets. |
| Status on arrival | Refugees receive a permanent resident card valid for 5 years. | Refugees resettled after October 2021 are granted indefinite leave to remain. Refugees resettled before were granted refugee status for 5 years. |