

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To confirm the Council's response to the crisis in Ukraine following the invasion by the Russian Federation in February 2022. The response is detailed across four specific areas:
- Solidarity and support for the Ukrainian people.
 - Promotion, coordination, and support to practical actions.
 - Refugee Resettlement.
 - Strategic Planning for a medium and longer-term response to the crisis.
- 1.2 The decision is urgent to enable the council to implement immediately its support to the people of Ukraine.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 On the 21st February 2022 the Russian Federation launched an unprovoked invasion on the sovereign state of Ukraine. The invasion has been confirmed as a violation of sovereignty and a breach of international law.
- 2.2 Fighting in the country continues and the invasion has resulted in a humanitarian crisis, which has seen up to 800,000 people being displaced and fleeing into neighbouring countries.
- 2.3 **North Lincolnshire Council condemns the unprovoked invasion and will show support to the people of Ukraine through the following actions:**
- Solidarity and Support**
- The Council will show its visible support to the country and people of Ukraine by lighting up its main headquarters building at Church Square in blue and yellow throughout March 2022. Once

sourced, the Ukrainian Flag will be flown from Church Square House during March 2022.

- North Lincolnshire Council is committed to ensuring that we will not knowingly invest in or have financial links with any Russian or Belarusian companies' organisations or individuals.
- The Council Website will be updated with information advice and guidance and provide links to additional support.

Coordination and Promotion of Action

- The Council will provide co-ordination to practical responses such as collation and distribution of non-financial donations and liaison with voluntary and community agencies. Logistical support will continue to be made to partner agencies, private companies and charities who are delivering responses to the crisis.

Refugee Resettlement

- The Council has a long history of providing support and resettlement to refugees and displaced people. We will commit in advance to support the delivery of future Government Resettlement programmes for Ukraine Nationals. This means North Lincolnshire Council will welcome and enable Ukrainian refugees to settle locally on the established fair share basis with access to housing, education, employment, and community.
- The Council will also work with local communities and businesses to promote the revised Humanitarian and Work Visa programmes in line with Government policy, increasing the sponsorship of refugees.

Strategic Planning - Medium and Long Term

- The Council will develop a wider strategy position on Resettlement to ensure we can respond to ongoing requests for support to help alleviate the crisis and ensure we have the required capacity and expertise to respond effectively.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Approve the report and proposed actions set out in section 2 above.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 This is the preferred option as it publicly highlights the Council's stance on the crisis through:

- **Showing solidarity and support for the Ukrainian people.**
- **Promotion, coordination, and support to practical actions.**
- **Refugee Resettlement.**
- **Strategic Planning**

4.2 The Decision is in line with the Council values and ambitions as set out in the Council Plan.

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

5.1 Financial costs associated with officer time and coordination of activities, will be met from within existing budgets.

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

6.1 The statement of solidarity and proposals for support to the people of Ukraine is in line with our ongoing commitment to the ambition and priorities articulated in the Council Plan.

6.2 The provision of support can be provided from within existing resources and there are no specific risks or capacity issues identified.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

7.1 A Stage one Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) has been undertaken and there are no material potential negative impacts identified in relation to the proposal.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 There are no conflict of interests identified

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the Leader approves the proposals set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report that the Council shows-

- Solidarity and support for the Ukrainian people.
- Promotion, coordination, and support to practical actions.
- Support for Refugee Resettlement.
- A requirement for further strategic planning for resettlement .

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report – Nil.