

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY OFFICERS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

This is a record of a decision taken by an officers under delegated powers and where necessary taken in consultation with members and officers.

Ukrainian Emergency Support

Delegated Power

Specify the particular delegated power being exercised by reference to the Delegation Scheme or Cabinet minute and date.

Council Constitution, Part 3 Responsibilities for Council Functions, Section 2 Functions Delegated to Cabinet Members and Officers - Scheme of Delegation, functions:

1.9 Public and Civil Emergencies

The Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader: To exercise any power to protect the interests and well-being of the inhabitants of the Borough in cases of emergency

In exercising the delegation an update to be made at Cabinet as soon as reasonably practical

Decision Taken

Specify precise details of the decision taken

West Norfolk has one of the largest settled Ukrainian and Eastern European communities in Norfolk. In view of the worsening situation in Ukraine it is reasonably expected that people will be fleeing their homes in Ukraine to join their families here in West Norfolk or come here to settle in a community that can support them.

The borough council has recently agreed an emergency support grant scheme, administered by the borough LILY team, to mitigate the immediate financial hardship of refugees arriving in West Norfolk before wider statutory and emerging support arrangements can be put in place.

In addition, the borough council is working with partners to provide wider support for Ukrainian refugees coming to West Norfolk. A key element of this support is already being provided by Access and the Hanseatic Union, established charities in West Norfolk providing support for migrants. The borough council has been approached by Access and the Hanseatic Union jointly for financial support to provide additional staffing as they deal with the increasing volume of requests.

The duties would include:

- Building a network on Facebook – specific needs being met ie dress size 12 – and donations offered and links made
- Linking up all organisations offering help – so that requests come from the host families themselves
- Linking with the homes for Ukraine – who is bringing refugees in, who will come and what they will need before they arrive
- Supporting refugees by supporting through the paperwork processes, signposting, questions asked by host families.
- Providing info and support for all those asking
- Gathering stats

This staffing resource would also link with our plan, working with partners, to provide a drop-in support and advice location in King's Lynn.

It is proposed to provide £10,000 to fund a 0.5 full time equivalent support post for 6 months to be shared between Access and the Hanseatic Union. The funding can be met from existing community support funding allocated to the borough council.

Reasons for the Decision

Specify all reasons for taking the decision

To enable Access and the Hanseatic Union, established charities in West Norfolk providing support for migrants, to respond to the increasing demand from Ukrainian refugees on their services.

Options considered

Any declarations of interest and details of any dispensations granted in respect of interests.

List of Background papers

Officer delegated decision 15 March 2022 – Ukrainian Emergency Grant Support

Authorisation

Post Held Chief Executive

Signature



Date **23 March 2022**

Consultation with members/officers

If the decision is taken following consultation with the members/officers, please give details:

Signed by Member as consulted:

Cllr Dark



Date 23 March 2022

Pre-Screening Equality Impact Assessment

Borough Council of
**King's Lynn &
West Norfolk**



Name of policy/service/function	Emergency Grant Support for Ukrainian Refugees				
Is this a new or existing policy/ service/function?	New				
Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened. Please state if this policy/service rigidly constrained by statutory obligations	In the immediate days of arriving in West Norfolk, and before wider support arrangements can be put in place, some refugees may experience immediate financial hardship. It is proposed to introduce an emergency support grant scheme, administered by the borough's LILY team.				
Question	Answer				
<p>1. Is there any reason to believe that the policy/service/function could have a specific impact on people from one or more of the following groups according to their different protected characteristic, for example, because they have particular needs, experiences, issues or priorities or in terms of ability to access the service?</p> <p>Please tick the relevant box for each group.</p> <p>NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.</p>		Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
	Age			x	
	Disability			x	
	Gender			x	
	Gender Re-assignment			x	
	Marriage/civil partnership			x	
	Pregnancy & maternity			x	
	Race Ukrainian	x			
	Religion or belief			x	
	Sexual orientation			x	
Other (eg low income)					
Question	Answer	Comments			
2. Is the proposed policy/service likely to affect relations between certain equality communities or to damage relations between the equality communities and the Council, for example because it is seen as favouring a particular community or denying opportunities to another?	Yes	Specific support for the Ukrainian refugees			
3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?	Yes	As above			
4. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle evidence of disadvantage or potential discrimination?	Yes	As above			
<p>5. Are any impacts identified above minor and if so, can these be eliminated or reduced by minor actions? If yes, please agree actions with a member of the Corporate Equalities Working Group and list agreed actions in the comments section</p>	Yes	Actions: Public opinion and outpouring of support locally, humanitarian crisis			
		Actions agreed by EWG member: Name ...Becky Box.....			
Assessment completed by: Name	Lorraine Gore				
Job title Chief Executive	Date 23 March 2022				
Please Note: If there are any positive or negative impacts identified in question 1, or there any 'yes' responses to questions 2 – 4 a full impact assessment will be required.					