

Ask for: David Kilgallon  
Email: David.kilgallon@walthamforest.gov.uk  
Ref: GK/KR/Ukraine  
Date: 4 March 2022

Dear Colleague

### **Humanitarian crisis in Ukraine**

The Leader of the Council, Cllr Grace Williams has stated;

*“The unprovoked aggression of dictator Vladimir Putin against the people of Ukraine has rightly raised anger across the world. We stand united in sending a clear message: This illegal, immoral invasion must stop now. The Ukrainian people should be able to live in peace, safety, and security.*

*“Over the last few evenings, Waltham Forest Town Hall has been illuminated in blue and yellow – the colours of Ukraine – in solidarity with its people. It will be lit up again over the coming days and weeks. Waltham Forest has a long and proud history of providing support and assistance for those experiencing persecution. Over the last decade alone, the community has gone above and beyond to support the Syrian people when brutalised by another vicious dictator, Bashar al-Assad, and again to help Afghan refugees fleeing the Taliban. Now we are ready to assist the Ukrainian people in their hour of need.*

*“Over the last few days, I have received many messages from Waltham Forest residents asking what we can do right here, right now, to show our support. There are already several ways to donate food or money. We have included details below and will add more over the coming days as we receive more information.*

*“There are no winners in war. The human cost is felt by the families and loved ones of those who are needlessly lost.”*

I would encourage schools to share this message with their wider community. In addition, I would ask that you circulate the following information in whatever way will maximise community engagement.

### **Where individuals can donate**

- [Coffee Treasure Coffee Shop in Highams Park](#) – arranging for a delivery of supplies to Poland from Monday 28 February.

Contact [oksanalevchuk28@gmail.com](mailto:oksanalevchuk28@gmail.com)

- **Queens Boundary Community** – Thomas Gamuel Park Café #CookforUkraine events to raise money. Contact [gbcmarkhouse@gmail.com](mailto:gbcmarkhouse@gmail.com)

- The Red Cross has been supporting people in need across the world for many years. The Ukrainian Red Cross Society (URCS) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) have set up an appeal where you can donate and help Ukrainian families get food, water, first aid, medicines, and warm clothes. [Visit the appeal page here to contribute.](#)

Many people have asked where to get information about immigration routes for Ukrainian nationals or about support groups in London for those who have been affected:

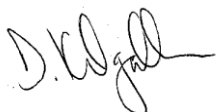
### Useful links

- Immigration law experts **Freemovement** has produced a helpful resource bringing together advice on immigration: [Can Ukrainians take refuge in the UK? Immigration concessions and asylum policy - Free Movement](#)
- **London Plus**, a group that supports charities and community groups in London, has drawn together a list of existing resources: [Ukraine Charities & Community Groups Support - Google Docs](#)
- A pro-bono referral scheme for Ukrainian nationals on immigration matters was launched yesterday afternoon: [Ukraine Advice Project UK – Free UK immigration and asylum advice for Ukrainians and their families from qualified lawyers \(advice-ukraine.co.uk\)](#)
- **Work Rights Centre** has produced a resource for those directly affected: [Solidarity with Ukraine | Work Rights Centre](#)

Please keep an eye out for further communications and details of what additional support will be available for families more directly impacted by this crisis.

Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Yours sincerely



**David Kilgallon**  
**Director of Learning and System Leadership**