

4 April 2022



Department for Corporate Core Services

The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP  
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs  
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

Letter sent via email to : [private.office@fco.gov.uk](mailto:private.office@fco.gov.uk)

Dear Secretary of State,

**Reference: Council Motion on Standing with Ukraine**

Bury Council at its Full Council meeting on 16 March 2022 debated a notice of motion in relation to standing with Ukraine.

**The Council resolved to:**

1. Reach out to the Ukrainian Community in Bury and the wider city region and offer the help and assistance they require during this heart-breaking period.
2. Note the commitments already made by the government to house displaced Ukraine families and making it clear that the Borough will go over and above to offer sanctuary and shelter to those that need it
3. Support, promote and work in partnership with local charitable, community and religious organisations who are working to provide resources and assistance for those affected and displaced by the conflict in Ukraine.
4. Work with our local school community to urgently find placement for any school age children seeking refuge in Bury.
5. Support the local Russian community who are opposed to the violence and terror being wrought on Ukraine by a regime they do not support.
6. Promote opportunities to support other organisations working on the ground in Ukraine to provide humanitarian aid and shelter - these include but are not limited to the British Red Cross, UNICEF and the UN Refugee Council.
7. Ask the Chief Executive to raise with the Home Office the situation children without passports are experiencing at the UK Border.

**The Council further resolved to:**

1. Immediately request a report from the Greater Manchester Pensions Authority on the investments our Council's Pension Fund currently has in Russian companies. Where these investments still exist, Council calls on the Pension Fund to make immediate arrangements to divest any shares in Russian companies.
2. Write to the Home Office to give Bury's support to stricter sanctions on the Russian regime - and in particular to extend sanctions against Russian oligarchs with ties to Putin's regime to fully block their access to financial operations in the UK.

**The Council further resolved ask all Group Leaders sign a joint letter to the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary calling on the UK Government to:**

1. Offer sanctuary to Ukrainian people in their hour of need and ensure there is a swift and efficient visa application process.

2. End our dependence on Russian energy and fast-track the transition to renewable energy sources.
3. Impose the severest economic, financial, technical, and cultural sanctions on the Russian state

We look forward to your response so that an update can be provided to Members of Bury Council. We have also written in similar terms to the Prime Minister. The Council's Chief Executive has also written to the Home Secretary regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely