

1 March 2022

Dear Colleague,

As the leadership at County Hall, we're appalled by the illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Without any ceasefire imminent, it is inevitable more people are fleeing the country.

Today, the Prime Minister has announced plans for the UK government to help up to 200,000 people fleeing their homeland to come to the UK.

We all stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine in opposing the horror which is being unleashed upon them by Russia and that each and every one of us stands ready to help, however and wherever we can.

The UK government will undoubtedly be writing to all local council leaders asking us for our help and expertise, to make the national plans work locally.

This is why we are writing to you all today. As local leaders, we all have a moral obligation to do all that we can to help the people and government of Ukraine, and to do what we can in the effort to stop Russia from wreaking more havoc in Europe.

United we will stand in the opposition of tyranny, and I'm certain that ultimately, Putin will fail. But in the short-term, Ukrainian children and families need our help.

With your collective help and support, we can ensure that those fleeing war can look forward to a safe and happy home in Leicestershire. Let's keep each other informed on what we're doing to help and please cascade this letter to your contacts and networks for good ideas on what more we should be doing.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Rushton CC & Deborah Taylor CC Leader and Deputy Leader of Leicestershire County Council

Cabinet Office Leicestershire County Council, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire. LE3 8RA Telephone: 0116 3056111 Email: nicholas.rushton@leics.gov.uk

Nicholas Rushton, Leader, Leicestershire County Council www.leicestershire.gov.uk