



## **PATTERDALE UKRAINIAN RELIEF**

Hello everybody

Thank you for the various responses we have received to the initial letter asking for help in relation to supporting Ukrainian refugees.

We have met recently and taken on board all of the responses received, as well as watching developments from the Home Office and HM Government. We have also received advice from Theotrust, The Sanctuary Foundation, Penrith and Eden Refugee Network, and other organisations.

We think the village response in providing relief to Ukrainians suffering as a result of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, should focus on 3 main priorities at this stage:

- **Support local sponsors offering accommodation.**
- **Enabling the provision of respite/holidays in this area.**
- **Fundraising for the above two initiatives.**

### **SUPPORT LOCAL SPONSORS OFFERING ACCOMMODATION.**

The Government have not yet enabled community organisations to register with them, so we would like to encourage those who offered accommodation (and those who are still considering this) to consider registering as sponsors as individuals, in the knowledge that our local community will support you in this. This is known as the 'Community Volunteer' model, and is where a whole community supports a sponsor and refugee family.

If you would like to consider doing this, please think through the implications first (if you have not already done so). There are some good articles which highlight some of the issues and which you might find helpful to read before deciding to go ahead:

- **Homes for Ukraine Scheme:** [https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-scheme-frequently-asked-questions?cookie\\_consent=reject#homes-for-ukraine-scheme](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-scheme-frequently-asked-questions?cookie_consent=reject#homes-for-ukraine-scheme)
- **Toolkit for Homes for Ukraine Sponsorship Programme:** <https://resetuk.org/toolkits/homes-for-ukraine>

- **City of Sanctuary - Thoughts before offering to become a sponsor:**  
<https://cityofsanctuary.org/2022/03/21/things-to-consider-before-applying-to-sponsor/>
- **Penrith and Eden Refugee Network:**  
<https://www.penrithandedenrefugeenetwork.org/>
- **Archived Material on becoming a Community Sponsor** (for Syrian Refugees. Currently being updated for Ukraine):  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1043868/MiniGuide\\_16th\\_June.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1043868/MiniGuide_16th_June.pdf)
- **Pickwell Foundation** (Charity in Devon working with organisations that help displaced people): <https://www.thepickwellfoundation.org.uk/community-sponsorship/>

If you do decide to register, there are a number of organisations which are offering to link sponsors with potential hosts.

- **Ukraine Take Shelter:** A website that links Ukrainians with potential sponsors in UK. You just key in your name and Ukrainians can contact you directly. <https://www.ukrainetakeshelter.com/>
- **RESET:** Community Sponsorship Organisation.  
<https://resetuk.org/about/what-is-community-sponsorship>
- **Opora:** Charity helping to link Ukrainians with UK sponsors:  
<https://www.opora.uk/hfuguide>

If you find a person or family who you feel you could provide accommodation for, you will then need to apply for a visa. This is still a complex, long-winded and lengthy process. The organisation 'Association for Ukrainians in Great Britain' has some useful links:

- Links to how to sponsor Ukrainians: <https://www.augb.co.uk/sponsoring-ukrainian-refugees>
- Link to HM Government Visa Application form: <https://apply.visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/has-international-ukrainian-passport>
- HM Government link with Ukrainian translation for Ukrainians seeking help in UK. <https://www.uspuk.org/documents>

Once a Visa is granted, the District Council will then inspect and assess the suitability of the accommodation, and the County Council will begin a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check to ensure there is no historical concerns about safeguarding, as many refugees will be children. Payment of the £350 per month is made in arrears.

***If you decide to go ahead with this route, please keep us informed. We are here to support you and any refugees who come here, and there are some things as a community we can and need to do if we know that we are expecting refugees to be accommodated here. Please contact Morris Rodham or Charlene Iredale or Louise Greenwood (details below).***

## **ENABLING THE PROVISION OF RESPITE/HOLIDAYS IN THIS AREA.**

We live or have properties in a beautiful part of the Lake District. We would like to be able to offer respite and holiday opportunities to Ukrainian people and families. We are trying to establish links with organisations in Penrith, Carlisle, Manchester, and Bolton who have already existing Ukrainian community and support structures in place (and who are probably more geared up for their holistic care than we are at Patterdale). We can then take recommendations of people from these organisations. We at Patterdale would then arrange the respite/holiday. This we hope could include a short break that provides accommodation, meals in local pubs/restaurants, outdoor activities, steamer trips, etc. This sort of hospitality is what Patterdale excels at so it would be good to enable Ukrainians to benefit from this.

So.... please let us know if you:

- Have any empty weeks in your holiday lets or chalets and would be willing to let Ukrainians have those for free.
- Could provide meals for Ukrainian families occasionally.
- Offer outdoor activities.
- Have any other ideas!

Please contact Rob Shephard or Gary Wilson (details below) if you can help in this way.

## **FUNDRAISING FOR THE ABOVE TWO INITIATIVES.**

We are clear that any fundraising we raise in Patterdale is for the benefit of Ukrainian Families benefitting from Patterdale. This will be for the two initiatives outlined above. Any funding raised will therefore be used locally.

As mentioned in the first letter, St Patrick's Church created a new Restricted Fund specifically for this village initiative called the 'Patterdale Ukrainian Relief Fund'. This has now received over £900 for which we are very thankful.

However, costs for the two initiatives outlined above are likely to be significant, so we will be having a major fundraising drive over the coming year to support Ukrainian refugees here.

This fundraising will include:

- **Direct personal donations.** People can donate by any of the following methods:

- Directly to church by BACS (Quote PURF):

PCC of Patterdale  
Sort Code: 20-66-97  
A/C Number: 30686654

This method is preferable as we do not have to pay any charges.

- Using the following link: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/f7c1f2a7-140f-477a-9193-1ad381ecf512>
- QR Code



If you pay tax, then we can claim an extra 25% from HM Government for free just by you completing the attached Gift Aid form if donating by BACS, or if using the web or QR links the process will offer a Gift Aid option to you.

**Standing Orders.** One-off gifts are much appreciated. If some people felt able to, it would also be very helpful if people were willing to set up standing orders to this fund (Gift Aided where possible) so that ongoing support can be given. This can be done by the web/QR code links, or by contacting the Treasurer, Mrs Jo Heeley, on [JoHeeley.Patterdale@gmail.com](mailto:JoHeeley.Patterdale@gmail.com).

- **Organisational/Business/Event Donations.** If your organisation/business/Event has had a good year, please consider contributing to the fund. We are aware that not everyone had a bad time through Covid!
- **Cash Collection Boxes.** You will start to see cash collection boxes in Ukrainian colours placed around the parish for this. We will also welcome volunteers to stand on the bridge in Glenridding and receive donations from all our visitors!
- **Fundraising Events.** We would like to arrange some fundraising events, as well as ask existing fund-raising events whether they will contribute something to the Patterdale Ukrainian Relief Fund. If you have any ideas and/or would like to help at such events please contact Rob Shephard, Fra Cooke or Louise Greenwood (details below).

Many thanks again to everyone who has responded so far. We will provide regular updates over the coming weeks as we take this forward.

All the best

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