

AGENDA ITEM NO: 3

Report To: Policy & Resources Executive Date: 10 March 2022

Sub-Committee

Report By: Interim Director, Finance & Report No: FIN/23/22/AP/LA

Corporate Governance

Contact Officer: Alan Puckrin Contact No: 01475 712223

Subject: DEC Appeal – Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is seek approval to make a donation of £20,000 to the DEC Crisis in Ukraine Appeal.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Sub-Committee will be aware of the humanitarian crisis in unfolding in Ukraine and spilling into neighbouring countries as a result of the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by Russia.
- 2.2 At the time of writing the report it was estimated that around 1 million Ukrainians had fled the country with the UN estimating that this could increase to 4 million. In addition thousands of civilians are reported to have been killed.
- 2.3 The Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) issued an appeal on the 3 March and, as the Council has responded generously to DEC Appeals in the past, then the Sub-Committee is asked to consider making a donation in this instance.
- 2.4 The most recent DEC Appeal response from the Council related to Afghanistan in December and a £20,000 donation was approved. If agreed then this would be funded from the Council's Free Reserves

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that approval is given to make a payment of £20,000 towards the DEC Ukrainian Appeal.

Alan Puckrin Interim Director, Finance & Corporate Governance

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Council has previously donated sums to a number of DEC Appeals eg: The Ebola Appeal, Nepal Earthquake Appeal, Malawi Food Crisis Appeal, Yemen Crisis Appeal, Cyclone Idai Appeal, Covid Emergency and Afghanistan Appeal. All have been funded from the Council's Contingency Fund with donations of either £10,000 or £20,000.

5.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1 As a result of the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by Russia it is estimated that over 1 million Ukrainians have fled the country with the UN estimating that this could increase to 4 million. There is an urgent need for shelter, food, medicine and other support.
- 5.2 The Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) issued an appeal on 3 March and, as the Council has responded generously to similar DEC Appeals in the past, then Committee is asked to consider making a donation in this instance.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

Financial Implications:

As the Council no longer has a Contingency Reserve any donation would come from the Free Reserves. Officers would recommend that the new Council consider setting up a Contingency Reserve for similar donations as part of the development of the 2023/24 Budget.

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
Reserves	Free Reserves	2021/22	20		

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

6.2 **Legal**

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.3 Human Resources

There are no HR implications arising from this report.

6.4 Equalities

Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	Χ	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required
I	Fairer Sco	tland Duty

(b)

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

YES - A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed. Χ NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out? Proposals have been discussed with Legal Services who have not identified any risks which require action.

YES - This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals. NO Χ

6.5 Repopulation

There are no repopulation implications arising from this report.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 None.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.