

ANGUS COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 2 MAY 2023

HOMES FOR UKRAINE – FINANCIAL REPORT

REPORT BY MARK ARMSTRONG, DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the financial position for 2022/23 and the ongoing support being provided to people from Ukraine who are living in Angus.

**1. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

It is recommended that the Policy and Resources Committee:

- (i) Notes the ongoing work being undertaken to support displaced people from Ukraine and who are living in Angus.
- (ii) Notes the current financial position in supporting people from Ukraine and others who may move to the area under different resettlement schemes.
- (iii) Notes the intention to establish a resettlement team to provide dedicated support.

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN**

**Caring for our People**

- Protect those in our communities who are at risk of or have experienced significant harm.

**Caring for our Place**

- Enable inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe communities across Angus.

**Caring for our Economy**

- Support and deliver programmes that help people into work.

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Angus Council have worked closely in partnership with the UK and Scottish Governments, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (CoSLA) and other local authorities to provide support to people fleeing war in Ukraine since the February 2022.

3.2 Multi agency meetings through the formation of the Angus Ukraine Co-ordinating Group have been held on a regular basis with a range of stakeholders including, health, education, housing, social work, Police Scotland and third sector partners to co-ordinate our approach and consider how best we can support people from Ukraine. Communities in Angus have also provided help through local support groups. There has also been ongoing engagement with neighbouring local authorities and meetings at national level.

3.3 The Council have supported people through several schemes operated by the UK and Scottish Governments. Through the Homes for Ukraine scheme the Council works in partnership with the Scottish and UK Government and CoSLA to match displaced people with a person or family who have offered to accommodate people from Ukraine in their homes. The level of support offered by people in terms of hosting Ukraine guests is greatly appreciated.

3.4 The Scottish Government's super sponsor scheme removes the need for applicants to be matched prior to being given permission travel to the UK. By acting as 'super sponsor', Scotland has been able to provide safety and sanctuary immediately and through this scheme has welcomed significant numbers. Many of the applicants via the super sponsor scheme have

been accommodated in welcome accommodation throughout Scotland and the Council has worked in partnership with others to match people with suitable longer-term accommodation.

- 3.5 Scottish Government and Local Government (through CoSLA) is fully committed to supporting UK humanitarian programmes. This is illustrated by our ongoing participation in: the UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS); the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS); the Afghanistan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP); the National Transfer Scheme (NTS) for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC); Homes For Ukraine and the Scottish Super Sponsor Scheme. There is ongoing discussion with UK and Scottish Governments and CoSLA, regarding wider asylum and refugee dispersal across Scotland.

#### **4. CURRENT POSITION**

- 4.1 Due to the various visa schemes it is not possible to provide an exact figure on how many people from Ukraine are currently living in Angus. Some people have arrived on a family visa or have entered for employment reasons and therefore are unlikely to have had any involvement with Council or partner services.

- 4.2 The Council can however determine that at the time of writing this report we are making payments to 58 hosts. The number of guests living in host accommodation equates to 133 people.

- 4.3 To date, the welfare rights service has held a total of 199 meetings with people from Ukraine to make welcome payments. This equates to 306 family members. The matching process is ongoing, as is the request for additional hosts and accommodation.

- 4.4 The UK Government initially made available a £10,500 per person tariff to Councils to enable them to provide support to families to rebuild their lives and fully integrate into communities.

The Scottish Government secured the agreement of the UK Government for this tariff, and other payments, as detailed below, to be allocated to Councils for those arriving in Scotland under both the Homes for Ukraine and the Scottish Super Sponsor Scheme.

- 4.5 The £10,500 per person funding package was initially in place to support with the following:

- service referrals
- work and benefits
- homelessness assistance
- community integration.

- 4.6 Additional funding has also been provided to Councils to provide education services for children from families arriving from Ukraine. The Department for Education (DfE) allocated funding on a per pupil basis for three phases of education at the following annual rates:

- Early years (ages 2 to 4) £3,000
- Primary (ages 5 -11) £6,580
- Secondary (ages 11-18) £8,755

These tariffs include support for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

- 4.7 A “warm welcome” grant was also provided to local authorities to support staff costs, and the upgrading of properties and furnishings.

- 4.8 In addition to UK Government funding, the Scottish Government has provided £11.2 million of funding to Local Government to support its Scottish Super Sponsor Scheme. The Scottish Government has:

- a. Made £4 million of funding available to Local Government across Scotland to help sustain and enhance local resettlement teams.
- b. Provided £7.2 million of funding to Local Government across Scotland to enhance housing supply. This funding can be used to cover redecorating and furnishing of properties either in social stock or potentially in wider stock where targeted investment will enable the property to pass the appropriate checks.

- 4.9 The Council also administer 'thank you' payments at £350 per sponsoring household per month. This is a thank you payment and not a rental or any other kind of contract payment. This monthly payment will increase to £500 per month after a person from Ukraine has been residing in the UK for more than 12 months.
- 4.10 On 14 December 2022, UK Government announced changes to Ukraine funding. This included a reduction in tariff funding from £10,500 to £5,900 for arrivals entering the UK after 1 January 2023.
- 4.11 There will be a reconciliation process at the financial year end to account for movement of people from Ukraine between local authority areas. This will ensure all Councils receive an appropriate share of tariff funding. The principles and process for reconciliation are still to be agreed with the UK Government and the following information sets out what is currently understood. Reconciliation calculations will be monthly. The Council area where the person was for 2 weeks or more that month gets the share of the tariff for that month.

Finances continue to be monitored on a regular basis by the Ukraine Co-ordinating Group.

- 4.12 The funding received by Angus Council as of 31 March 2023 is as follows:

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>Budget £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Homes for Ukraine quarter 1 funding – tariff funding	787,500	
Homes for Ukraine quarter 2 funding – tariff funding	934,500	
Homes for Ukraine quarter 2 funding – thank you payment funding	39,200	
Homes for Ukraine quarter 3 funding – tariff funding	1,228,500	
Homes for Ukraine quarter 3 Funding – thank you payment funding	70,000	
Warm welcome funding instalment 1	136,000	
<b>Total income received</b>		<b>£3,195,700</b>

- 4.13 The funding still to be received by the Council is as follows:

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>Budget £</b>	<b>Supporting Information</b>
Warm welcome funding instalment 2	136,000	
Early years and education funding	290,375	To be allocated directly to education.
Estimate of quarter 4 funding – tariff	88,500	Assumed 15 new arrivals at £5,900 per person.
Estimated thank you payment funding	55,192	Balance of £164,392 not yet received.
Less projected deduction in tariff funding due to guest movements	(383,145)	Per information submitted in quarter 3 return.
Projected Income	186,922	

- 4.14 The total amount of funding expected to be received by the Council as noted at 4.12 and 4.13 is **£3,382,622**. £4,686 of this was required to fund 2021/22 expenditure, therefore there is £3,377,936 available for 2022/23 expenditure.

- 4.15 The projected costs and expenditure to date in 2022/23 are as follows:

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Protected Outturn 2022/23 £</b>
Staff costs – coded to Ukraine cost centre	101,914	
Staff costs – internal recharges from other services	226,449	

Total staff costs	328,363
Other Operational Costs	700
Non-employee transport	22,000
Change of tenancy	25,500
Furniture	80,204
Community care grant	2,875
Translation	2,000
Welcome payments	67,000
Void costs	9,500
Thank you, payments,	164,392
<b>Total</b>	<b>702,534</b>

4.16 The total income and expenditure is as follows:

<b>Summary Funding Sources</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>
Estimated funding available for 2022/23	3,377,936
Early years and education funding (paid direct)	(290,375)
Less: estimated expenditure for 2022/23	(702,534)
Total estimated surplus funding for 2022/23 excluding ELL funding and costs	2,385,027

## 5. PROPOSALS

5.1 To date the Ukraine work has been co-ordinated by two seconded members of staff, in conjunction with Council services, partners and third sector partners. Both co-ordinators have now returned to their substantive posts. Although we have been able to successfully manage the situation and demands so far, a more sustainable and holistic support system is being established. A dedicated resettlement team is being established to meet the growing demands of humanitarian work. This approach is aligned to that in place in neighbouring authorities. This will allow us to integrate all stands of humanitarian work within Angus and ensure that:

- Refugees and asylum seekers live in safe, welcoming, and cohesive communities and can build diverse relationships and connections.
- Refugees and asylum seekers understand their rights, responsibilities and entitlements and can exercise them to pursue full and independent lives.
- Refugees and asylum seekers can access well-coordinated services, which recognise and meet their rights and needs.
- Policy, strategic planning, and legislation, which have an impact on refugees and asylum seekers, are informed by their rights, needs and aspirations.

The new team will be located within the Vibrant Communities directorate and will be fully funded through the dedicated grant funding to support such work. The demands on this team will be continually monitored to ensure it is proportionate to that required to meet local need.

## 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The surplus funding at the commencement of 2023/24 available to the council is £2,385,027

Visas have been issued to people from Ukraine for a three-year period. As noted in para 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6 the tariff funding received in year one will have to support guests over a three-year period.

The Warm Scottish Welcome grant as noted at para. 4.7, covers the period 2021/22 – 2023/24: These funds are restricted by conditions, which have been fully met and claims submitted by Angus Council. This funding has been fully utilised.

As noted at 5.1, a new resettlement team is being established and fully funded from grant funding. The ongoing costs to support people from Ukraine, will continue to be monitored aligned to demands.

**7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

A full Equality Impact Assessment is not required but a screening EIA has been undertaken and is attached.

**9. CONSULTATION**

Consultation has been undertaken with the Director of Finance, the Director of Strategic policy, Transformation and Public Sector Reform and the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth.

**NOTE:** No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

**REPORT AUTHOR: Jacqui Semple, Service Manager, Risk, Resilience & Safety**

**EMAIL DETAILS: [SempleJ@angus.gov.uk](mailto:SempleJ@angus.gov.uk)**



Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

(To be completed with reference to Guidance Notes)

**Step 1**

**Name of Proposal** Homes for Ukraine – Finance Report

**Step 2**

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment **Yes/No**

**(A)** If Yes, please choose from the following options for **all** reasons why a full EIA/FSD is not required:

(i) It does not impact on people **Yes/No**

**The work relating to Ukraine is relevant to people who have been displaced due to war. This report solely outlines the funding, income and expenditure for 2022/23**

(ii) It is a percentage increase in fees which has no differential impact on protected characteristics  
**Yes/No**

**N/A**

(iii) It is for information only **Yes/No**

**This is a reflective report outlining financial position.**

(iv) It is reflective e.g., of budget spend over a financial year **Yes/No**

**As noted at point (i)**

(v) It is technical **Yes/No**

**N/A**

If you have answered yes to any of points above, please go to **Step 16**, and sign off the Assessment.

**(B)** If you have answered No to the above, please indicate the following:

Is this a full Equality Impact Assessment **Yes/No**

Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment **Yes/No**

If you have answered Yes to either or both of the above, continue with Step 3.

If your proposal is a **strategy** please ensure you complete Step 13 which is the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment.

**Step 3**

(i) Lead Directorate/Service:

(ii) Are there any **relevant** statutory requirements affecting this proposal? If so, please describe.

(iii) What is the aim of the proposal? Please give full details.

(iv) Is it a new proposal?      Yes/No      Please indicate      OR

Is it a review of e.g. an existing budget saving, report, strategy, policy, service review, procedure or function?      Yes/No      Please indicate

**Step 4: Which people does your proposal involve or have consequences for?**

Please indicate all which apply:

Employees                      Yes/No

Job Applicants                Yes/No

Service users                 Yes/No

Members of the public      Yes/No

**Step 5: List the evidence/data/research that has been used in this assessment (links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance). This could include:**

**Internal data** (e.g. customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints).

**Internal consultation** (e.g. with staff, trade unions and any other services affected).

**External data** (e.g. Census, equality reports, equality evidence finder, performance reports, research, available statistics)

**External consultation** (e.g. partner organisations, national organisations, community groups, other councils).

**Other** (general information as appropriate).

**Step 6: Evidence Gaps.**

Are there any gaps in the equality information you currently hold?      Yes/No

If yes, please state what they are, and what measures you will take to obtain the evidence you need.

**Step 7: Are there potential differential impacts on protected characteristic groups?** Please complete for each group, including details of the potential impact on those affected. Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

**Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each group. Please state the reason(s) why.**

Age

**Impact**

Disability

**Impact**

Gender reassignment

**Impact**

Marriage and Civil Partnership

**Impact**

Pregnancy/Maternity

**Impact**

Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers)

**Impact**

Religion or Belief

**Impact**

Sex

**Impact**

Sexual orientation

**Impact**

**Step 8: Consultation with any of the groups potentially affected**

If you have consulted with any group potentially affected, please give details of how this was done and what the results were.

If you have not consulted with any group potentially affected, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating action of any negative impact (Step 9)?



**Step 9: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce potentially negative impacts?**

**Step 10: If a potentially negative impact has been identified, please state below the justification.**

**Step 11: In what way does this proposal contribute to any or all of the public sector equality duty to: eliminate unlawful discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations between people of different protected characteristics?**

**Step 12: Is there any action which could be taken to advance equalities in relation to this proposal?**

### **Step 13: FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY**

This step is only applicable to **strategies** which are key, high level decisions. If your proposal is **not** a strategy, please leave this Step blank, and go to Step 14.

Links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance.

**Step 13(A) What evidence do you have about any socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome in relation to this strategic issue?**

**Step 13(B) Please state if there are any gaps in socio-economic evidence for this strategy and how you will take measures to gather the evidence you need.**

**Step 13(C) Are there any potential impacts this strategy may have specifically on the undernoted groupings?** Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from Covid-19.

**Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each grouping.**

**Low and/or No Wealth** (e.g. those with enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future).

#### **Impact**

**Material Deprivation** (i.e. those unable to access basic goods and services e.g. repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies).

**Impact**

**Area Deprivation** (i.e. where people live (e.g. rural areas), or where they work (e.g. accessibility of transport)).

**Impact**

**Socio-economic Background** i.e. social class including parents' education, people's employment and income.

**Impact**

**Other** – please indicate

**Step 13(D) Please state below if there are measures which could be taken to reduce socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome.**

**Step 14: What arrangements will be put in place to monitor and review the Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment?**

**Step 15: Where will this Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment be published?**

**Step 16: Sign off and Authorisation.** Please state name, post, and date for each:

Prepared by: Jacqui Semple 31 March 2023

Reviewed by: D Phillips. 31 March 2023

Approved by: M Armstrong 24 April 2023

NB. There are several worked examples of separate EIA and FSD Assessments in the Guidance which may be of use to you.

---