

Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee – Ukrainian Crisis Humanitarian Response**Briefing Item: Ukrainian Crisis Humanitarian Response – 16/06/22**

Summary of Key Points:

- This paper updates Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee on Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership's response to the Ukrainian Crisis and the work we have undertaken to support people fleeing war and persecution.
- Glasgow has considerable experience of extending a welcome to people seeking asylum from conflict zones and has been working with COSLA and Scottish Government to offer asylum to Ukrainian Displaced Persons.
- The HSCP and Glasgow City Council colleagues have initiated a rapid response to ensure that UDPs have access to the accommodation and support as they flee the war in Ukraine and seek sanctuary in Scotland. The HSCP has re-directed staffing resource in order to facilitate support to UDPs.
- In particular the HSCP has ensured that people being accommodated in the Welcome Hub that has been established within the City access a wide range of supports to enable their stay within Scotland and meet their health and well-being needs. These supports have include:
 - Access to emergency accommodation
 - NHS screening through in-reach to the Welcome Hub
 - Assistance to register with GPs
 - Advice and assistance to register children with local schools
 - Social care
 - Welfare Benefits and employability advice from the DWP
 - Emotional supports
 - Access to interim accommodation.
- As of Monday 13th June, there were 303 UDPs staying at the Glasgow Welcome Hub. The Hub was at near capacity with one room available.
- The Council is undertaking property and disclosure checks to ensure that appropriate hosting arrangements are in place for all those who arrive under the sponsorship schemes.
- The HSCP is currently in discussion with Housing Associations within the City to identify properties that can be used to as to provide homes for UDPs.

Challenges Going Forward

- Whilst the HSCP recognises and welcomes the need to extent support to people fleeing the war in Ukraine it is also clear that the scale of demand

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from UDPs is placing additional pressures on HSCP and Council services. In particular the need to secure temporary accommodation may undermine the HSCP's capacity to meet its strategic objectives in relation to its Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan.

- The HSCP is currently supporting 303 people who are currently accommodated in the Glasgow Welcome Hub. We are of the opinion that given the scale of need within the UDP population and the resources available to the HSCP and Council that it would not be advisable to open a second Welcome Hub in the City.
- There is also a need to ensure that the approach taken by National and Local Government is coordinated to maximise the efficiency and effectiveness of the UDP schemes.

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