

## **Our Statement of Support**

We are all appalled about the awful situation in Ukraine as Russian troops invade a sovereign European state.

Nottingham is home to a significant Ukrainian community, many of whom may have lost loved ones or are worried about families and friends in Ukraine. Our thoughts go out to them and we stand in solidarity, offering whatever support we can provide.

We have been lighting up the Council House, Wollaton Hall and the Castle yellow and blue and flying the Ukrainian flag and all City Councillors have come together from across the political groups in support of Ukraine and to stand in solidarity with the Ukrainian people. People in Nottingham have already organised many fundraising events, raised thousands of pounds and donated much needed items for the Ukrainian people caught up in this war. Local people have gathered in memory of those Ukrainians who have already lost their lives to Putin's war.

We have severed our links with Krasnodar in Russia and Minsk in Belarus in response to the invasion of Ukraine. The severance of ties is borne out of our unwillingness to be associated with both the Russian and Belarusian governments and is not a reflection on the people of Russia or Belarus wherever they live.

Ours is a welcoming city and will always provide refuge to those in need. We work closely with organisations in the voluntary sector such as the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum and the Arimathea Trust, who offer vital support to new arrivals in our city in whatever way they can.

An emergency fund-raising appeal has been set up to support Ukrainian people and donations can be made here [www.dec.org.uk](http://www.dec.org.uk).