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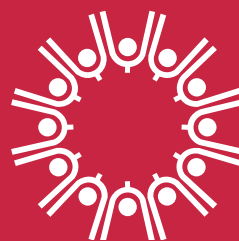
# Ukraine Infrastructure Support Fund: findings and recommendations

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March 2024



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## Background and Process

1.1. As the scale of new arrivals to the UK increased, British Red Cross recognised the community support needed to bring them in, and help them settle. In addition to direct BRC support, they were keen to build capacity and networks in local VCS groups, recognising the importance of community based, grass roots support. To ensure funds were distributed where most needed, and to expedite funds getting to communities, they granted NAVCA £440k in summer 2022 to support local infrastructure to enhance the local response to Ukrainian arrivals. This note sets out learning from both the process of grant award and the capacity building it enabled.

1.2. The aims of the fund were deliberately kept simple and high level:

- support organisations which are preparing for the arrival of people from Ukraine and subsequent support for them;
- support better coordination of activity at place level (within the VCS, and with local authorities), and to build capacity where it is needed.

Whilst the fund was focussed on Ukrainian arrivals, it was accepted that the capacity building and enhanced collaborative working would benefit other groups, notably other arrivals into communities.

1.3. Outcomes were set as:

- investment in local activity supporting those displaced by the war in Ukraine, building capacity and capability in communities, particularly to fill “cold spots”;
- enhanced community cohesion and integration;
- improved relationships and stronger cross sector collaborations, for example between local VCS, specialist VCS organisations and statutory support.

1.4. The fund was restricted to NAVCA members, recognising the importance of local VCS infrastructure, and to make use of a trusted network of organisations. This enabled us to distribute funds quickly and collaboratively (rather than in a competitive setting). To balance investment across a wide area of England, ease of application and processing, and the need to ensure the fund had impact NAVCA members could bid for:

- Individual organisation – up to £10,000
- Partnership of 2+ NAVCA members – up to £30,000

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1.5. The total amount of funding to distribute was £400,000.

1.6. The application process was designed to be light touch to enable a rapid deployment of funds. The assessment and scoring process gave sufficient reassurance on the quality of proposals and relevance of actions. Applications were scored against set criteria, with a summary and recommendation. This was then considered by an Assessment Panel, made up of NAVCA CEO, NAVCA Policy Manager who had been independent of the process to that point, and a member of the VSCEP secretariat to bring independent perspective. This panel made final decisions about funding.

1.7. 31 applications were received, the total amount applied for was £521,930.68. 39 organisations applied, with 15 of these being part of partnership applications. The applications set out the current position in their area to coordinate and develop support for Ukrainian arrivals, the activity they wanted to undertake, and their budget and capacity for delivery.

1.8. Funding was awarded to 29 applications, 6 of which were partnerships of 2 or more NAVCA members. To ensure the full fund was used, each partnership subsequently received an additional £2000 each to support their work.

1.9. Through the course of the project recipients were brought together to share learning, talk through challenges and ensure peer support. Four online sessions focussed on what grant recipients were doing, share successes and challenges, and ask each other for advice and resources. This proved a valuable part of the project, increasing the impact of the fund beyond the immediate impact and outcomes, by fostering relationships, connections and learning between local infrastructure organisations.

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## Activity

2.1. The focus of the fund was to build capacity to support Ukrainian arrivals. This broadly fell into two parts – better coordination of networks of organisations working with the cohort, to better join up, identify gaps and meet need; and ensuring activity was delivered as needed, building new groups if required. Through that range of activity common themes were identified:

- **Local, strategic coordination** – funding was used for an organisation to lead on coordinating organisations and services across multiple sectors, to help establish a clear picture of the support available to Ukrainian refugees and signpost between organisations. This also involved cross-sector collaboration for many fund recipients, which has helped them to establish working relationships with a spillover benefit to other local issues. For many, this included establishing network meetings of VCSE organisations and statutory partners to improve the coordination of information, raise awareness of services and highlighting gaps.
- **Capacity Building** – this has taken on diverse forms for fund recipients. For many, the funding has allowed for the time and resources necessary to support smaller local (and sometimes grassroots) organisations leading on refugee-related activities. Some have also been offered support in establishing new Ukrainian-led organisations in their area. Some recipients have highlighted the connections they have made with the City of Sanctuary movement.
- **Resources** – a common theme amongst fund recipients was addressing the need for local resources to be collated in one, easy to access place for both refugees and the people supporting them. Some created a specific area on their website, others made them available in both print and digital formats. This improved access and the user experience, and reduced duplication for example in developing specific resources or information.
- **Language tuition and translation** – many of our members used funds to support the provision of ESOL lessons, paid/volunteer translators, and the distribution of translated resources across communities.

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## Outcomes and Impact

3.1. All funding recipients have been able to evidence an improvement in Ukrainian refugees' access to local services and activities which support them with housing, education, employment, mental health, socialisation and much more. For some, this has also included getting involved in their local Ukrainian-led organisations, with some of these groups being supported through our members to formally establish as charities and access funding for further activities. Feedback shows that Ukrainian guests and Homes for Ukraine hosts feel better supported from a network of VCSE providers rooted in the communities where Guests live.

3.2. The medium/ longer term outcomes for many fund recipients were about changes in how people felt, how they used the knowledge and experiences developed to improve their wellbeing, choices, financial stability. In general, recipients report better integration of Ukrainian refugee families, and reduced isolation and trauma caused by the war and forced displacement – the immediate risk to families was reduced and managed through the work of the project. Beyond that there are more specific benefits – recipients report greater social adaptation and reduction of stress and anxiety amongst the most vulnerable Ukrainian refugee women who've recently arrived. Feelings of ownership and belonging as well as empowerment through new experiences and skills were gained through training, employment and volunteering opportunities and support.

3.3. As well as benefits to the arriving groups outcomes and impact also included staff and volunteers within VCSE organisations, as they also developed skills and knowledge around ways of working to support refugees and asylum seekers which will have wider benefit and impact.

3.4. One of the main outcomes has been that the cross-sector relationships established through funded activity, particularly mapping of activities, network meetings, coordination of services, are now in place and will benefit the wider community. Relationships and ways of working have been enhanced in ways which are more widely applicable. The 12-month funding period has given these organisations enough time to create and embed structures that reflect local needs, challenges, and communication processes, and enables organisations to respond accordingly. Many recipients report that these cross-sector relationships have improved significantly throughout the course of this funding, with smaller VCSEs feel more empowered and involved in important conversations. Improving relationships, particularly between VCSE organisations and their Local Authority, has long-lasting benefits for all involved, as they will be able to work together more effectively on other activities.

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## Learning

4.1. For some recipients with long established relationships with local refugee services, they have found that funding can narrow the focus of thinking, and it has been a challenge for them to take an approach that provides support based on need rather than nationality.

4.2. Many fund recipients have found that they needed to adapt quickly to changes; funding and government initiatives move quickly, so they had to make sure they were keeping up with the latest information and accessing all resources at their disposal. This could be challenging at times due to capacity limitations, but many identified that they were able to do this much faster than statutory bodies, again highlighting the need for VCSE involvement in programmes such as this.

4.3. With a lot of the activity being based around coordination and connecting relevant organisations, this work was a reminder for many that taking time to have conversations, develop understanding and build trust-based relationships with other organisations is worth the investment of time in order to establish strong foundations, which are now in place for future programmes.

4.4. Some of our members found that rather than large numbers of groups setting up to respond to the emergency, existing groups have simply adapted their approach, increased services, or expanded their reach to meet the need. This highlights the importance of supporting existing organisations in terms of funding and resource throughout the year so that they are in a position to step up when they are most needed.

4.5. There have been concerns raised about long-term planning, which is a common issue with grant funded activity. In this particular scenario, the lack of national direction has created hesitancy around establishing long-term programmes and services.

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## Ongoing Need

5.1. Though NAVCA members have been able to do lots of impactful work through this fund, there is still a lot of ongoing unmet need. Much of this need is similar for refugees of all backgrounds, and issues such as housing are much wider, affecting UK 'natives' as well.

5.2. **Mental Health** – the initial Homes for Ukraine scheme was lacking in advice and support around mental health. Many refugees have come to the UK with complex trauma and mental health needs due to the war, which has created additional complexity for both the refugees and the people housing them who may not have been prepared.

5.3. **Housing** – this is a major issue highlighted by many recipients. Many refugees are experiencing difficulty in finding permanent accommodation after their placement under the Homes for Ukraine scheme has ended. This is due to supply not meeting demand, and extremely high rent and living costs in many areas. This also adds the additional stress of starting to feel at home in a community, which they then have to leave as they can't afford to live in the area.

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*Refugees initially came to stay in homes in more affluent areas (where residents were most likely to have capacity). As they moved on and became independent, they have moved to less affluent areas with more affordable housing. Refugees had to learn about their initial area and then build knowledge and social capital in a new, different area. This movement also makes it difficult to offer locally connected support.*

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5.4. **ESOL and Translation** – many organisations are still experiencing extremely high demand for ESOL lessons, which outweighs what is currently available. For many organisations, it's a combination of lacking in staff time and funding preventing them from increasing their offer. There is also the common issue of many services now requiring people to complete forms online, without offering it in relevant languages.

5.5. **Employment** – there are ongoing issues with the translation of Ukrainian qualifications, meaning that many people are unable to apply for jobs they are qualified to do at home. This leads to issues such as not being able to find work relevant to their skills and experience, having to take lower paid work and being unable to establish a career to develop as they make the UK their new permanent residence.

5.6. There is an understanding from grant recipients that many of these issues need to be addressed at a more strategic (government) level to make lasting beneficial change. They are doing what they can to support people on these issues, but on a reactive basis rather taking a considered, long-term view of the changes needed.

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## Conclusion and Recommendations

6.1. Overall the fund was successful in supporting Ukrainian arrivals, and achieved the outcomes set out. 29 applications were funded, enabling activities which benefitted over 470 local organisations across England, and over 7000 Ukrainian refugees.

6.2. The focus of the fund on better coordinating and developing activities to support Ukrainian arrivals was key. By using trusted relationships of a membership body, British Red Cross was able to get funding and support to community groups within a matter of weeks. The simple design of the scheme enabled this, with fixed amounts of funding and a straightforward application process.

6.3. Through the process, the network of funded organisations has been useful. This enabled the sharing of learning and ideas, and mutual support amongst the supporters, as well as for the front-line organisations.

6.4. The funding enabled a building and enhancement of infrastructure support. In particular the space and capacity to build relationships and connections between VCSE organisations as well as statutory services will have a future spillover benefit.

6.5. The fund was for a 12-month period. At the outset it was unclear how long Ukrainians might stay in the UK. As time goes on and no end to the conflict is in sight, this is perhaps longer than many anticipated at the time of arrival. Consideration needs to be given to how further integration and support provide, building on the support provided. This particularly needs to be focused on the four areas of ongoing need set out above.

6.6. While 12 months has been a welcome amount of funding, the project highlights the need for more strategic consideration of need. Systemic change is needed in some areas to ensure Ukrainians can live their full life in a new context.

6.7. Though there is this ongoing unmet need, fund recipients have expressed lots of gratitude for this fund, as it has allowed them to provide support that wouldn't have been possible otherwise.

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## Annex – Project Summaries

### **Cambridge CVS and Hunts Forum** (Partnership)

This funding covered both existing, unfunded activity – contributing to district & county meetings to represent VCS sector and providing support to groups working directly with Ukrainian families – and a more proactive response – training for these groups, a programme of activity to bring them together as a network and a comms plan to include groups they had not yet reached.

### **Manchester Alliance for Community Care (MACC), Salford CVS, Bolton CVS and Bury VCFA** (Partnership)

This partnership used the funding through the Greater Manchester Sanctuary Seekers Community Response group which they host. They used it to better coordinate VCS activity and improve capacity across Manchester, facilitate networks and contribute to local response groups, as well as working with the local Ukrainian community to understand their needs to help influence medium to long term planning.

### **Teignbridge CVS, South Hams Community and Voluntary Services and Torridge Voluntary Services** (Partnership)

This partnership focused on two main themes. The first: investing in understanding what is needed locally, including provision, gaps, challenges, successes; bring together communities, guests and hosts in their own networks to design their future programme offer for guests not just for arrival but through to resettlement. By collating their findings, they were able to increase influence in the design of plans and policy, developing the foundation/blueprint for future similar programmes. The second theme was to invest in the distribution of information. They were able to develop translated factsheets and signposting to local services, as well as a Devon-focused newsletter and videos showcasing the importance of volunteering.

### **Voluntary Action Stoke-on-Trent and Support Staffordshire** (Partnership)

The grant fund played a pivotal role in supporting local organisations in addressing the needs of Ukrainians locally, leveraging various strategies to maximise impact. Funds supported the continuation and development of established networks, bringing them together and improving capacity to meet demand. The partnership was able to host hybrid meetings, disseminate vital information through regular newsletters, create and support links and partnership working, and encourage and support new voluntary groups/charities. They state that the funding ‘has served as a catalyst for community resilience’.

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### **Voluntary Norfolk and Community Action Norfolk (Partnership)**

Funding was used to coordinate local activities and invest in capacity building of organisations supporting Ukrainians. They used a collaborative approach, working with local refugee/asylum seeker support organisations to develop strategic coordination. They were able to develop a new partnership with Norwich City of Sanctuary, using funds to build wider infrastructure support and engage a wider range of statutory bodies. The partnership has been able to build capacity in three rural market towns in the area, enabling them to become Towns of Sanctuary and provide better support to refugees living there.

### **Voluntary Support North Surrey and Central Surrey Voluntary Action (Partnership)**

This partnership worked with statutory agencies to communicate the needs/voices of the Ukrainian community when discussing problems and solutions. They have been able to support the integration of Ukrainians into the local community, providing capacity for social activities and access to support with housing and food insecurity.

### **Adur Voluntary Action**

Using this funding, Adur VA were able to set up a support network for all West Sussex partners working with Ukrainians, which included VCSEs, local authority and statutory partners. Starting with just 4 attendees in June, ending with 30 attendees, they chaired meetings bringing together best practice, overcoming joint issues by lobbying other stakeholders and improving support services. They were able to discuss issues such as the end of the 6 month placements with hosts, initial access and receipt of benefits, ESOL access issues, accessibility to educational or technical qualifications and temporary accommodation suitability. They plan to lobby the West Sussex Council for funds to continue the network, including issues for refugees from other areas.

### **Basingstoke Voluntary Action**

This funding has been used to provide critical expansion to the provision of support for new arrivals, facilitating dedicated staffing resource to supporting and ensuring guests access community services quickly and effectively. They were able to map the local landscape of community responses and ongoing community support required for Ukrainian refugees in the borough, such as providing guidance on “cold spots” with community gaps in provision. They have been able to establish a Ukraine Association for the borough, build capacity and capability, invest in local activity, enhance community cohesion and integration, improve relationships and strong cross sector collaboration.

### **Communities 1st**

This funding built on work already being done around coordinating information about VCS and statutory service support available locally. They were able to increase scope of website they've set up as a central point of information and also establish a network for organisations working directly with refugees to facilitate partnership working and better

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VCS links locally. Communities 1st felt that the local Ukrainian community would benefit from the opportunity to develop their own services and support networks to make sure they're fit for purpose, so they have supported the creation of new community organisations.

### **Community Action: MK (Milton Keynes)**

The key funding outcomes that this organisation has achieved are improving relationships/cross-sector collaborations and enhancing community cohesion/integration. They were able to support a local Ukrainian-led group through the process of formalising as a charity, building their capacity, helping them access key networks and communicate the needs of Ukrainian arrivals. They began work on developing a bank of translation volunteers, and are hoping to access further resource to support this. Community Action: MK were able to use funds to establish a local refugee support network, bringing together VCSEs and statutory bodies to map out the needs of refugees and the organisations best placed to provide support.

### **Community Action Network (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole)**

Community Action Network have worked closely with International Care Network (ICN), a local charity that supports refugees. With the funding, they have been able to connect with 33 different community groups (target of 20) in the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole area who are supporting Ukrainians via their existing or new activities. They have provided regular bulletin updates containing useful information such as funding opportunities for groups, government advice/guidance and localised information from local authority and voluntary sector that would be of use. They have also offered advice, support and training to local organisations. They sat on a regular multiagency stakeholder meeting about Ukrainians in the area, and acted as a conduit of information; passing on intelligence from the voluntary sector to the statutory sector and vice versa.

### **Community Action Suffolk**

CAS used the funds to recruit a part-time Volunteering Officer who helped Ukrainian arrivals engage with and integrate into the local community. They also engaged with the wider local VCS and county council to explore further opportunities for Ukrainian refugees, making sure volunteers were well supported and removing access barriers such as travel costs. They also developed an informal network of organisations working with Ukrainians to share opportunities and challenges.

### **Crawley Community Action**

The funding enabled the delivery of dedicated capacity and capability building for emerging local Ukrainian support groups over a six-month period (October 2022 to March 2023). They worked with the management committees of two Ukrainian-led community groups to offer tailored governance, funding and organisational development advice and guidance. This enabled these community leaders to consider

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how to most appropriately meet the needs of both refugees and the settled Ukrainian community in Crawley through the creation of regular health, social, economic and wellbeing activities and the establishment of positive local partnership opportunities.

The funding helped committees to understand the principles of being 'fit for purpose', including in-depth support around determining the right legal structure for their projects; assisting with the setting up of financial systems and controls; development of relevant policies and procedures; roles and responsibilities of trustees and other compliance issues, such as insurance and safeguarding.

### CVS Tendring

This organisation was able to provide some funding to a local specialist organisation to be able to support Ukrainian people new to the county to be able to navigate the bureaucracy and form filling. They also set up a regular Drop-in facility where there were Social Prescribers on hand to be able to support and signpost people. They compiled vital information and resources in English, Ukrainian and Russian on a dedicated page on their website and were able to respond to local needs, working with partners to bring in support for employment and for English lessons. They recruited two volunteers, one a Ukrainian woman who showed an interest in being more involved and an ESOL teacher who volunteers weekly still at the drop-in. Some of the group have now established a Friendship Group where English language is practiced informally.

### Ealing and Hounslow CVS

EHCVS used this funding to establish a local Ukraine Infrastructure Network, building relationships between local VCS organisations, statutory bodies and the local council to work together on issues for Ukrainian arrivals. They have facilitated over 25 sessions for over 800 network members. They have also developed their local outreach through various communication channels, including both in-person sessions and the dissemination of information through social media. The funding also facilitated hiring an already settled Ukrainian specialist who, under EHCVS managers' guidance, worked on establishing and developing a support network for Ukrainians in Ealing.

### Gosport Voluntary Action

GVA coordinated all the support organisations in their area to improve access to services for refugees by working with arrivals to signpost; map existing support; establish contacts and networks; identify gaps and feed in to local systems. Through this coordinated network, local organisations were able to develop ESOL courses, raise safeguarding concerns, support refugees with finding employment and access vital resources.

### High Peak CVS

HPCVS used the funding to map and identify priority areas for support and feed this back to local statutory services; support developing networks and information sharing;

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gather and disseminate useful resources and guidance for hosts and service providers in sector, and support newly emerging community groups with governance, funding etc. Through their Development Workers, they were able to coordinate the VCSE response in line with the support offer from statutory services, and developed resources on their website which signposted to all the local support and activities on offer.

### **Links CVS**

Links CVS used funds to increase the capacity of their Advice & Project Manager, which enabled them to coordinate infrastructure support across Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire. They were able to build networks between VCSE organisations and statutory partners, and help a local Ukrainian group to establish independence and connect to the local BME Forum. As a result, the group has been able to participate in a range of networks and run events which have provided socialisation and enrichment for local Ukrainian arrivals. Links CVS have also sent out regular bulletins to Ukrainian arrivals, host and volunteers which have provided vital information and signposting to local services.

### **Third Sector Leaders Kirklees**

This funding has allowed for the continuation of funding for five Community Anchor Workers, one in each district, which were only funded by local authority until March 2023. These anchors are independent local VCSE organisations who take on a variety of roles and provide resources. The funding has provided them with more flexibility in responding to needs and has funded the development and growth of community organisations, facilitating improved access to community activities.

### **Voluntary Action Camden**

VAC has convened community partnership forums, supported community events, provided access to networks, and access to VAC training for the network of organisations supporting Ukrainian arrivals and their host families. Through the partnership forums and community events, they have been able to build stronger cross-sector collaboration between local VCS, council, and statutory partners, identifying and addressing gaps in provision and sharing resources. They have also provided regular insights and information, co-produced publications and provided some funding for direct delivery organisations to increase their capacity.

### **Voluntary Action Epping Forest**

VAEF used the funding for continued local consultation and engagement to stay aware of needs that can be met/supported by the local VCS, as well as making VCS services more accessible to Ukrainian arrivals. They used a peer-support model which allowed for relationship building, experience sharing and support with navigating services and bureaucracies. Working with other community partners, they have been able to signpost to vital information and services, create cultural integration, and provide support opportunities for Ukrainian families.

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## Voluntary Action Islington

In Islington, an independent charity, Healthprom, was commissioned by the local council to deliver refugee support for a large number of Ukrainian refugees, but support was needed from VAI to link in with and improve coordination and access to local offer of wraparound care, which initially seemed fragmented. With this funding, VAI have been able to employ a part-time Project Officer from the Ukrainian community, which has helped to establish an excellent working relationship between the two organisations, which has made the project very effective. They have been able to coordinate a network with statutory and community partners to address issues, establish need and match to community assets. This approach has helped them to build trust and rapport with Ukrainian refugees, which has helped them to identify gaps in awareness and access to services. They have supported Healthprom to establish a range of activities which provide socialisation, health benefits and support with accessing local services.

## Voluntary Action North Somerset

VANS used the funds to recruit a Ukrainian Support Worker to fulfil coordination needs and build stronger VCS connections across the region, improving outcomes for arrivals through more effective signposting to local services/support. They have also developed a local VCS network for information exchange and development, as well as establishing better relationships with statutory partners.

## Voluntary Action Rotherham

This funding has enabled VAR to build on existing multi-agency work, adding value to meet identified need. They recognised that there was strategic co-ordination taking place but a widening gap between operational delivery and strategic discussions. In response, they created the Migration Operational Providers Network (MOP). This network continues to meet monthly, filtering 'down' information and opportunity to the voluntary and community sector, whilst representing 'up' the intelligence and voice of the front-line work. This has enabled organisations to connect to the wider picture, coordinating delivery to meet need and reduce duplication. They have also been able to support three peer-support groups across the borough, using a community development approach to create a legacy of community infrastructure that connects to wider systems of support.

## Voluntary Action Sheffield

VAS have used the funds to continue and build upon existing long term refugee response work, in a coordinator role for the city, by supporting better coordination and responsiveness for Ukrainian refugees by delivery organisations based on a needs analysis and mapping activity. This grant has covered staffing costs which has allowed them to continue to lead the strategic leadership and partnership co-ordination of the refugee response in Sheffield and, in particular, widen it out to be meet the needs of Ukrainian refugees (primarily women and children) by advocating and influencing service development based on need, improving coordination and cross sector

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relationships and supporting organisations receiving referrals and directly working with refugees.

### **Voluntary Action Arun and Chichester**

This organisation has used the funding to employ a part-time Ukrainian and Eastern European Coordinator, helping the local VCS to connect with Ukrainian arrivals to support integration into the community, particularly through volunteering. They have worked with local VCS organisations to provide training and development sessions for the voluntary sector to help with diversifying their volunteer recruitment, as well as developing the information and resources available. They have also worked with local statutory partners to establish partnership opportunities and disseminate resources.

### **Volunteer Centre Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde**

Volunteer Centre Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde have been able to better coordinate the local VCS response for Ukrainian refugees, linking groups and projects together so work is not unnecessarily duplicated and develop a streamlined, strategic approach. The funding enabled them to facilitate and service monthly network meetings for information sharing, discussion, identification of gaps and potential resources. The network provided a forum whereby agencies could come together to find out about each other and how they could work together more collaboratively and signpost Ukrainians to the agency that was best place to support their individual needs.

### **Voluntary and Community Action Sunderland**

VCAS used the funding to develop a response to the needs of Ukrainians and other refugees and asylum seekers residing in the city. The aims and outcomes focused on building capacity and capability in communities, enhancing community cohesion and integration through developing stronger community links, and improving relationships and stronger cross sector collaboration between VCS groups and statutory bodies. They were able to map key support organisations, identify their barriers, challenges, and capacity needs. This enabled VCAS to develop a tailored support package for these key organisations to access, addressing needs raised through the mapping exercise. This work has massively improved the local understanding of refugee services across Sunderland.

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## About NAVCA

NAVCA is the national membership body for local VCSE infrastructure organisations (LIOs) in England. LIOs provide support and development for voluntary and community action across England. Our members support hundreds of thousands of local charities, voluntary groups and social enterprises at a community level, helping them to thrive and deliver essential services. More information on the role of LIOs can be found [here](#).



# NAVCA and British Red Cross: Ukraine Support Fund

**£400,000**



In 2022, we secured £400,000 from British Red Cross to distribute to NAVCA members. This funding has helped to build infrastructure support for local groups, focused on helping Ukrainian refugees and communities.

**36 NAVCA members funded**

We funded 36 NAVCA members, including 6 partnership projects between members working in similar regions.



**470 groups supported**

The fund supported over 470 local charities and community groups across England.

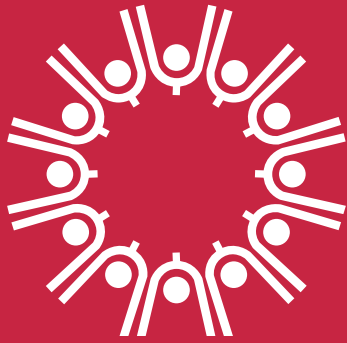
**Over 7000 people supported**

This fund has enabled over 7000 Ukrainian people to access local help including translation support, housing provision, and more.

We are proud to support our members with the vital role they play in responding to emergencies.

We are grateful to British Red Cross for supporting local infrastructure, and we will continue to promote the work of our members.





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