



Susan Potton

Dear Susan Potton,

You are one of the tens of thousands of people in the UK who have opened their homes to those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine. We are writing to thank you personally for the contribution you have made.

This has been an enormous collective effort. Together, you and your fellow hosts, and the Ukrainian diaspora community, have given 100,000 people safe refuge in our country. You have saved lives, given hope, and offered sanctuary to people in desperate need. This represents the UK's largest offer of help to people fleeing war since 1945.

This effort has not gone unnoticed by the people of Ukraine Maria Kartashova, who is being sponsored in Surrey, said: "I want to send my gratitude to all the British people and my sponsors personally. What you are doing for the Ukrainian people is more than giving us somewhere to stay. You support us at every stage, offer your time and energy, pay attention to what we need and give us care. I cannot put into words how grateful I am."

Your guests and their fellow Ukrainians across Europe continue to feel the impacts of this war. We know that this has not always been easy for you. Welcoming people into your home and supporting people to settle into life in a new country is hard.

Sadly, this war is carrying on longer than any of us had hoped. We have passed the fifth month of full-scale Russian aggression; millions of Ukrainians have been forced to flee their homes and hundreds continue to perish each day. Although 2.5 million Ukrainians have already returned home, some have no place to go as their homes have been destroyed and their cities are being relentlessly bombarded.

That is why the continued support from people like you is part of a significant international response supporting Ukraine and its people.

We have heard you tell us you want further advice about how to help your guests establish themselves here in the UK. There is now updated information and advice available on GOV.UK. We will continue to keep you updated.

For now, please know that your continuing efforts are making a difference, and that you have our heartfelt thanks and the thanks of the people of Ukraine.

Lord Richard Harrington Minister for Refugees

His Excellency Vadym Prystaiko Ambassador of Ukraine to the UK