

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN

BATH and NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL, UK

and

OLEKSANDRIYA CITY COUNCIL, UKRAINE

Whereas

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24th February 2022, Bath & North East Somerset Councillors from across the political spectrum expressed the desire to stand shoulder to shoulder to express their full support and solidarity with Ukrainian people and affirm their COMMITMENT to provide help and support to Ukrainian nationals.

Council at its meeting of May 2022 agreed to form a direct connection between it and a Ukrainian area to provide a more tangible and visible focus for people to enable that support. As a result, Bath and North East Somerset Council and Oleksandriya Territorial Community (together the Parties) have formed a bond based upon their similarities as comparable cities.

The intention of forming the bond was to communicate messages of solidarity and support from citizens and organisations in BaNES to the Ukrainian people and in particular to the residents of Oleksandriya Territorial Community. To provide channels of communication between BaNES groups and Ukrainian recipients for the supply of humanitarian aid, such as medicines and equipment. To assist in linking potential refugees with prospective hosts in BaNES. To link Ukrainian bodies with potential BaNES donors. And to keep BaNES citizens, media, charities and voluntary bodies informed and aware of what is happening 'on the ground' in the area and COMMITTED to the territorial integrity of the State of Ukraine.

NOW

TAKING ACCOUNT of the active development of bilateral relations between the Parties as well as their desire to strengthen and widen their relations and; COMMITTED to a close and lasting relationship that is based on common values, namely respect for democratic principles, the rule of law, good governance, human rights and fundamental freedoms including respect for diversity, human dignity and RECOGNISING that the Parties share common values and are committed to promoting those values the Parties have

AGREED:

- i) to develop educational links - and to explore academic and student links that can be beneficial for the youth of both Parties
- ii) to strengthen historic and cultural links - to celebrate the unique heritage of Oleksandriya Territorial Community and Bath and North East Somerset including arts, sports, historic buildings and industry and when appropriate, to share experience in developing tourism opportunities
- iii) to widen economic and environmental links etc. for the future benefit of both Parties

TERMINATION

Either Party may terminate this Agreement with immediate effect without notice and without any liability at any time.

STATUS

This agreement shall come into force from the date of signature. It will be valid for five years. Upon expiration, it may remain in force if neither side terminates it.

The agreement signed on _____ is done in duplicate in the English and Ukrainian languages, both texts equally authentic.

The Leader of Bath & North East Somerset Council and the Mayor of the City of Oleksandriya affix their signatures on this declaration of Friendship & Co-operation Agreement

Signed for and on behalf of Bath and North East Somerset Council, UK

Date:

Where signed:

Signature:

Job title:

Signed for and on behalf of Oleksandriya City Council, Ukraine

Date:

Where signed:

Signature:

Job title: