

MOTION TO EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2015

The Council has great sympathy for refugees from the conflicts in Syria and elsewhere and will co-operate with Government initiatives to accommodate and support refugees who come to this country.

The Council considers that an Essex-wide multi-agency approach to accommodating refugees is the best way forward and will contribute positively and constructively to meet assessed needs.

The Council further supports the Churches' Refugee Network and will work with other initiatives, local communities and individuals to find accommodation and other human needs for refugees within the Uttlesford area such as secure access to education, health, welfare and other vital services as may be required.

Working with Community representatives and other organisations, and being mindful of the refugee status granted by Government, the Council will start and maintain a database of organisations and individuals who are able to offer accommodation or make other contributions to the welfare of refugees in the Uttlesford area

The Cabinet is recommended to establish a Refugee Working Group to oversee and manage the implementation of these policies. A report from the chairman of the working group will be a standing item on each Cabinet agenda for the duration of the emergency.

The working group will include representatives of all political groups on the Council to be established at the Cabinet meeting on the following evening.

Motion to be proposed at the meeting by Councillors Rolfe, S Barker, Lodge, Light, Dean and Loughlin