



New Forest
for Ukraine

www.newforestforukraine.org

Charity Registration No. 1208709

Registered in England and Wales Charity No 1208709

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PRESS RELEASE:

SIR DESMOND SWAYNE MP SEES AID FOR UKRAINE IN ACTION



New Forest West's MP Sir Desmond Swayne visited New Forest for Ukraine's Lymington Aid Hub on Friday 25th April 2025 as it prepared to send out its 45th lorry load of humanitarian aid to

Ukraine. John Allison, NFFU Lead, explained how the charity has now sent over 500 tons of badly needed aid and has developed from having sent 170 vans in its early days now to an efficient operation which regularly sends around 9 tons of aid each shipment and is aiming to send its 600th generator in the near future.

The NFFU team showed Sir Desmond how aid is received from local communities and then sorted, packed and made ready for shipment via regular articulated lorries sent to Ukraine.

He also heard how NFFU is in direct touch with Ukrainian recipients to understand needs on the ground and verify delivery which gives donors assurance that the aid they give ends up in the hands of those who need it. He also heard about how NFFU operates on minimal costs, raising funds to pay for the fuel costs of the shipments it sends, via lorries provided otherwise free of charge by Logiscom, a local haulier. He heard about how NFFU operates entirely on local donations and community fundraising and met Mandy Haynes, NFFU's Head of Events, who is aiming to raise funds through sponsorship by taking on the Isle of Wight Ultra Challenge on 3rd and 4th of May, walking 70 miles in two days on the Isle of Wight.

Sir Desmond Swayne MP said “

“This is a fantastic operation supporting desperate people in Ukraine. They need our help more than ever and this kind of practical help is getting to people who need it. The support of local New Forest communities is inspiring in what is an entirely volunteer effort. I was delighted to make a personal contribution and will be sponsoring Mandy on her Isle of Wight walking challenge and wish her and the NFFU team all the best.”

John Allison, Head of New Forest for Ukraine said:

“It was terrific to welcome Sir Desmond and show him what we do and I know our team of volunteers enjoyed showing him what they deliver. We look forward to staying in touch with him and we are enormously grateful for his donation and opportunity to raise the profile of getting vital aid to the Ukrainians who need it.”



Notes to Editors:

1. New Forest for Ukraine is a registered charity in England and Wales No 1208709
2. Started in February 2022, became a charity in June 2024
3. Has sent over 500 tonnes of aid to Ukraine to identified partner NGOs
4. Over 40 articulated lorries and 170 vans sent
5. Staffed entirely by volunteers, it gathers donations from the South and across the UK and sends to Ukraine via selected transport and distribution partners
6. Website: <https://www.newforestforukraine.org>
7. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/470934037919815/>
8. Registered Office: 76 Swallow Drive, Milford on Sea, Lymington, SO410XG, Hampshire

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