Amendment Received for Council – 23 March 2022

Item 9 (a) <u>LABOUR GROUP AMENDMENT</u> of the Motion Submitted by the Conservative Group

Russian Invasion of Ukraine

This Council wholeheartedly condemns the barbaric and illegal invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces. As a democratic chamber, we are appalled by what we have seen unfold over recent weeks – horrors which we all hoped we would never see on our continent again. All our thoughts are for the men, women and children who are currently suffering immeasurably, whether it be in the cities under bombardment, those occupied by Russian forces, or those who have fled their homes.

There is no justification for the actions of the Russian Government, and we offer our backing to the Ukrainian people, Ukrainian Government and President Zelenskyy as they continue to fight for Ukrainian freedom, democracy and independence.

We applaud countries across the world who have come out to condemn and sanction the Russian regime and President Putin's leadership.

We are proud that our country has been one of the leaders in condemning Russia and has implemented the most severe economic sanctions in history. We are also proud of the millions of pounds the UK has sent to Ukraine in humanitarian aid, both from the government and ordinary people.

We welcome the government's plans to offer sanctuary to Ukrainians fleeing danger and are ready to help support those who comes to live in Trafford.

We recognise these actions are not the actions of the Russian people, but the Russian Government. We reject any attacks on Russian people in the UK, and offer our moral support to the Russian opposition groups bravely opposing the Putin regime.

Finally, this Council extends its thoughts and prayers to members of the Trafford Ukrainian community and pays tribute to the incredible generosity the people of Trafford have shown in their personal efforts to support the humanitarian response to this crisis.