Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

Graham Stuart MP
Minister of State for Europe
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH
Tel: 0207 008 5000

Email:
fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/fcdo

Rt Hon. Alister Jack MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Your ref: AJ19809
Our ref: MC2022/21704

5 September 2022

Dear Alister,

Thank you for your correspondence of 10 August on behalf of your constituent, Stuart Littlewood of Tayvallich, New Galloway, DG7 3SB, about Ukraine and Russia. I am replying as the Minister for Europe.

Russia's assault on Ukraine is an unprovoked, premeditated and barbaric attack against a sovereign democratic state. The UK and our international partners stand united in condemning the Russian Government's reprehensible actions, which are an egregious violation of international law and the UN Charter. It's clear the Russian government was never serious about engaging in diplomacy and was focussed only on deceit and furthering their territorial ambitions. Ukraine has suffered horrific attacks and innocent people have lost their lives. It is a war crime indiscriminately to attack civilians, and Russia's crimes in Ukraine will not go unnoticed or unpunished.

The UK's differences are with the aggressive policies of the Russian Government, not with the Russian people. The UK wants an improved bilateral relationship, but this depends on Russia de-escalating, withdrawing its troops from Ukraine and abiding by its international commitments.

As a free and democratic country, Ukraine has the right to determine its own future. We will continue to support the Government of Ukraine in the face of this assault on their sovereignty and territorial integrity.

To ensure the security and defence of all our Allies, we will continue to work together to make sure that Russia cannot further undermine European stability. The UK and the international community stand against this naked aggression, and for freedom, democracy, and the sovereignty of nations around the world.

Yours ever,

Graham Stuart MP
Minister of State for Europe