

## Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue

Unit 2, Mount Pleasant Industrial Estate, Pymoor, Ely, CB6 2DY www.camsar.org | charity 1118622 registered in England & Wales

16<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Town and Parish Council members,

Please forgive this rather generic letter which I am circulating to many local Councils across Cambridgeshire.

I am writing to you on behalf of Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue (CamSAR) to ascertain your opinions and possible support of a project we have been considering for some time, but one which has come to the forefront due to the crisis in Ukraine.

We understand that many people want to help the Ukrainians by donating clothes and similar items and, as an organisation, CamSAR have already helped to enable lorry loads of acceptable items to be transported from our base in Pymoor to Eastern Europe under the auspices of Ukraine Lifeline https://www.ukrainelifeline.com/. This organisation is also accepting monetary donations as you can see from their website.

In a similar vein, we had previously been considering the possibility of getting recycling bins placed in parishes e.g. in Community Centres, Council car parks, under the management of a company called Wilcox. This company already have established recycling bins in areas of the UK, and they provide total support in terms of management of the bins with the exception being that the Charity for whom the items are collected for has to find the initial sites for the bins.

We have been advised that the bins would need to be in place for a minimum of two years to make the collections cost effective. In the short term, any items that have already been collected in local areas can be taken directly to our base in Pymoor by the Councils/parishioners themselves, but following on, once the awful situation in Ukraine has been resolved, those sites that were interested in having a (longer term) bin situated in their parish could do so, with the funding generated going to CamSAR, and our logo going on the bins. The items that can be collected in the bins are clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts, sheets, towels, pillow cases and duvet covers.

I am sure there will be many questions about this project which either/both the representative from Wilcox (in the future) and CamSAR team members would be happy to answer.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue

Anne Ninham

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