Local legal community come together to support free frontline legal advice services in Hastings

London Legal Support Trust (LLST) is delighted to confirm the Hastings Legal Walk is back for the twilight of the summer on **Tuesday 19** September 2023.

The sponsored Walk unites local law firms, barristers' chambers, advice agencies, in house legal departments, and students to raise both awareness and funds for the provision of free legal advice to some of the most vulnerable members of the community. In Hastings, two routes are offered — a 5k and a 10k, with both walking along the seafront.

Taking part in the Hastings Legal Walk raises vital funds for local advice agencies including Hastings Advice and Representation Centre, BHT Sussex, Citizens Advice 1066.

In 2022, the Hastings Legal Walk raised nearly £2,000. The need for advice services, especially in the areas of debt, benefits, homelessness and housing has increased dramatically during the cost of living crisis. Therefore, the funds raised by the Walk are more important than ever.

Jacky Everard, Chief Executive of Hastings Advice and Representation Centre (HARC), talks about the importance of their work and why they take part in the Hastings Legal Walk:

"We walk so that we can raise much needed funds to provide free and confidential end to end Welfare Benefit specialist advice and representation. We aim to relieve poverty and improve the quality of life for vulnerable, disadvantaged individuals and families, through free legal advice and representation."

Teams will begin to arrive from 4.30pm at the First In Last Out pub, ready to take on either the hilly route or the sea front route at 5pm. Both routes will finish back at the same pub for some post-Walk drinks!

LLST welcome any organisation, or individual, who are passionate about the fantastic cause of supporting their local community. There is still plenty of time for new teams to join, and LLST will set up a fundraising page, and send regular newsletters in the lead up to the event so you have all the fundraising tips and logistical information you need.

You can find out more information <u>on our website</u> and/or <u>register via a very short form</u>. For more information, please email the friendly events team at <u>signups@llst.org.uk</u>

ENDS*

Notes to Editors

LLST was set up in 2003 to help law centres, Citizen's Advice Centres and other legal advice agencies to raise unrestricted funding that is vital to their survival. LLST supports over 120 organisations across London and the South East. In 2022, LLST raised over £2 million, a large proportion of which was from the London Legal Walk, which raised £720,000.

Contact: Katie Isherwood katie@llst.org.uk