Local legal community unites to support free frontline legal advice services in Southampton

London Legal Support Trust (LLST) is delighted that the Southampton Legal Walk is back again in 2023.

Taking place on Wednesday 20 September, the 10km sponsored Walk will bring together lawyers, barristers, local legal advice agencies and students, all raising awareness and funding of the free legal advice sector. The Walk will be led by Amelia Riviere, the High Sheriff of Hampshire.

In 2022, the Southampton Legal Walk raised nearly £12,000, with 175 walkers joining the route. These funds are vital in helping the most vulnerable people in the county access free legal advice when facing a crisis which, in light of the ongoing difficulties caused by the rising cost of living, is more important than ever. Taking part in the Southampton Legal Walk raises vital funds for local advice agencies including Citizens Advice Isle of Wight, Citizens Advice Winchester and Citizens Advice Test Valley.

Bob Nightingale MBE, Head of Fundraising and founder of LLST, remains more passionate than ever that the sector needs support and funds. He commented, "Free legal advice is a fundamental human right, and the incredible advice agencies that this event supports are increasingly in demand. Thank you to all the teams who have signed up so far and those who have made donations —we are looking forward to walking shoulder to shoulder in Southampton."

Citizens Advice, Test Valley, added: "The cost of living crisis means our services are even more in demand and any

extra funding available to help offer our service is vital in an ever-changing environment."

Teams will begin to arrive from 4:30 for a 5pm start in front of the Combined Courts, with the route finishing at College Chambers with a drink's reception.

There is still time to sign up a team or as an individual and the registration process is easy, with the LLST events team creating your fundraising page and giving you all the tips you need to raise funds— there is no better time to support this fantastic cause and your local community.

You can find out more information <u>on our website</u> and/or <u>register via this short form</u>. Or for more information, email the small and 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