

Media release

Hertfordshire Sports Village and Hertfordshire Sports Partnership launch brand new 'Partake and Donate' fundraising day to raise vital funds for Pancreatic Cancer UK and Herts Disability Sports Partnership during the pandemic

To support the work of its charity partners of the year – especially in light of the impact from Coronavirus – Hertfordshire Sports Village and Hertfordshire Sports Partnership have joined forces to introduce a brand new charity fundraising day. Everyone across the UK is invited to take part in whichever way they choose through the 'Partake and Donate' initiative on 29 May 2020. All money raised will be shared by Pancreatic Cancer UK and Herts Disability Sports Foundation.

The Hertfordshire Sports Village and Sports Partnerships teams are determined to raise much needed funds for Pancreatic Cancer UK (to help the charity's specialist nurses continue supporting patients and their families) and Herts Disability Sports (to promote the development of disability sport for people in day services across Hertfordshire) despite the pandemic. They have also secured the support for the fundraiser of Saracen Mavericks and England International netball players Jo Trip and Sasha Corbin.

The aim of the 'Partake and Donate' fundraising day is to cover the distance around Hertfordshire, the East of England, England and the UK with activities which equate to the distance. For example 10 minutes of a group exercise class would equal 1KM, running 5K speaks for itself, or 10 minutes of a mental challenge such as a quiz would count for half a KM. The Hertfordshire-based sports organisations behind the fundraising will be putting on a full schedule of activities throughout the day, and can be accessed via Youtube live and Facebook, or participants can opt to do their own thing either indoors or outdoors to support the initiative. Fundraisers can then donate £1 for each 1KM they contribute to the overall distance to help raise some money for some great causes.

David Connell, Director, Hertfordshire Sports Village said: "We want to do all we can to support our charities of the year and since we couldn't carry out our usual fundraising activities we came up with a new plan – our 'Partake and Donate' day. It's more important than ever that we raise vital funds for these worthwhile partners because of the financial impact Covid-19 is

having on the charity sector. We hope our day allows everyone to get involved in whichever way they feel able to and at the same time we'll be helping to reduce the adverse impact by raising money and creating more awareness of these two fantastic charities.”

Hannah Hamilton-Skerritt, Senior Events Fundraising Manager for Pancreatic Cancer UK, said: “We can't thank everyone at Hertfordshire Sports Village enough for quite literally going the extra mile to support our work. Please get behind them and donate if you can. Pancreatic cancer doesn't stop during a pandemic and people up and down the UK are still having to face the deadliest common cancer at what is an especially difficult time. It's because of fundraising challenges like this that our team of specialist nurses on the Pancreatic Cancer UK Support Line can be here for patients and their loves ones when they are needed most.”

Ros Cramp BEM, Charity Operations Manager at Herts Disability Sports Foundation, said “We were delighted to hear that we had been chosen as a charity for the Hertfordshire Sports Village event. We are a small Herts based charity, which has put all its efforts into supporting people with disabilities and their families, by keeping them active and connected. Our online sessions bring together groups of friends, so they are having fun and communicating while exercising. We also have disco's for those who love to dance or just want to see friends. We have also been busy raising money to give iPads to those who have been unable to access sessions or see friends / family because of technology”

If you would like to take part and support the day, you can do so at:

www.hertssportsvillage.co.uk/news-partake-and-donate-on-friday-29-may-457

For more information or to raise funds for Pancreatic Cancer UK, please visit

www.pancreaticcancer.org.uk/fundraise

For more information or to raise funds for Herts Disability Sports Foundation, please visit

<https://donate.thebiggive.org.uk/campaign/a051r00001MTbY6AAL>

- ENDS -

For further information please contact:

Gavin Davies

07855943145, g.j.davies@herts.ac.uk

About Pancreatic Cancer

- Less than seven per cent of people with pancreatic cancer will survive beyond 5 years in the UK. (**Source:** [ONS](#))
- Five year survival for pancreatic cancer has improved very little since the early 1970s.
- One person dies of pancreatic cancer every hour. Around 8,924 people die every year of the disease in the UK.
- At least 60 per cent of people with pancreatic cancer are not diagnosed until the cancer is at an advanced stage.
- Surgery is the only treatment which could save lives, yet less than ten per cent of people with pancreatic cancer have it.
- Pancreatic cancer has the lowest survival of all the 20 common cancers.
- Around 10,000 people are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer per year in the UK. That's 27 people every day.
- Pancreatic cancer is the fifth most common cause of cancer death in the UK (**Source:** [Cancer Research UK](#))
- Pancreatic cancer research has historically been underfunded. The disease attracts just 2.1 per cent of the UK cancer research budget. (**Source:** NCRI 2016/2017)

About Pancreatic Cancer UK

Pancreatic Cancer UK is taking on pancreatic cancer through research, support and campaigning to transform the future for people affected.

- We provide expert, personalised support and information via our Support Line (Freephone 0808 801 0707) and through a range of publications.
- We fund innovative research to find the breakthroughs that will change how we understand, diagnose and treat pancreatic cancer.
- We campaign for change; for better care, treatment and research, and for pancreatic cancer to have the recognition it needs.
- Pancreatic cancer patients already face appallingly low odds of survival – less than 7 per cent of patients will live for five years after diagnosis - but the global pandemic means that they now face an even more uncertain time. Pancreatic Cancer UK run the only dedicated Support Line for people affected by the disease. It's team of specialist nurses are needed more than ever: to give people practical information on what COVID-19 means for them and their treatment, provide emotional support, and to help ease the burden of the NHS.

About Herts Disability Sports Foundation

- Herts Disability Sports Foundation (Registered Charity Number 1156034) was originally set up in Welwyn Hatfield to promote the development of disability sport for people in day services across Hertfordshire. The developments in provision made during the time of the Sports England funded programme, has a lasting legacy of equipment and training that is continuing to reap benefits for all of the community.

- The Foundation also supports inclusive training and coach development opportunities for participants, coaches and day service staff; providing a holistic approach to inclusive sports development.
- In addition to this, the foundation provides open sessions which are available to anybody with a disability and their siblings/friends. These sessions include archery, easy rider adapted cycling, doughnutting, fishing and bell boating. To find out more about these sessions and to book a place, please [click here](#).
- Alongside this, the Foundation is able to cater for organisations who would like to take part in corporate activities with a paralympic twist. This includes activities such as paralympic games and wheelchair basketball competitions.
- The Foundation is now able to provide activities from a variety of facilities across Hertfordshire. Activities include archery, basketball, boccia, dance, easy rider adapted cycling, fitness and mobility, team building activities, wheelchair basketball.