**PraxisIFM launches #givingonehour Fundraiser**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**31 MARCH 2020**

The PraxisIFM Group has launched a fundraising appeal for islanders who are affected financially by coronavirus. The financial services administration group is calling on other companies who are in a position to be financially supportive to join the campaign.

PraxisIFM’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) team has launched the appeal by asking staff to donate the last hour of their April salary in order to support island charities, which are facing a surge in demand for their services or shortfalls in funding if they are unable to hold their usual fundraising activities.

‘We have over 200 staff in Guernsey and with us all working from home and the lockdown restrictions the best way to support our community right now is with financial support,’ said Janine Lewis, CSR team member and Director of Praxis Fund Services in Guernsey.

The Group has been operating in Guernsey for more than 35 years and supports a number of local charities and sporting initiatives annually.

Working with The Association of Guernsey Charities to identify which organisations are in most urgent need of financial support, PraxisIFM has decided to split funds raised by its own employees 50/50 between Guernsey Welfare Service and a second charity which staff are voting for from a shortlist.

The Guernsey Welfare Service works with a variety of people who find themselves in financial need. This includes single-parent families, pensioners, people with disabilities or long-term medical conditions and families on low incomes who may find themselves with unexpected medical or household bills that put them in financial difficulty.

AGC Vice-Chairman, Peter Rose, said: ‘On behalf of the charitable and voluntary sector we are most grateful for the financial support provided by this initiative.

‘Many charities are being called on to provide additional support to the vulnerable and disadvantaged in our community, yet their funding sources are starting to dry up. Charities who rely on commercial activities such as charity shops, charities who rely on sponsorship and fund-raising events, and those who simply collect in town or outside supermarkets, are no longer able to do so, so generous initiatives like PraxisIFM’s #givingonehour appeal, are becoming vital to securing their continued operation. On behalf of these charities we thank PraxisIFM’s staff for their generosity.’

Mrs Lewis added that it would be great to see other businesses signing up to the initiative, particularly those in the financial services sector who are more likely to be in a position to help as they are able to maintain day to day operations during the lockdown remotely.

Here is how the appeal works:

* Once a company has identified if they would like to join the appeal, they can get in contact with Karen Blanchford to seek advice from the AGC on suitable charities to support.
* Internal communications which outline what the appeal is and how it works needs to be sent, inviting staff to participate.
* Employees will need to confirm that they would like to take part.
* If confirmed, that employee will not receive payment for the final hour of work they complete on 30th April. Instead, it will be paid directly to the company’s chosen charity or charities.

The appeal was coordinated initially through Karen Blanchford disability sector representative for the AGC. Business wanting to find out more or sign up to the appeal can contact Karen advice and details on how to take part (karen@matter.gg)

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Notes to editors

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**PraxisIFM Group**

The PraxisIFM Group, which is listed on The International Stock Exchange, is one of the largest independent financial services groups headquartered in the Channel Islands. The Group reported revenues of £66.9 million in the year to 30 April 2019 and employs around 550 staff across 19 global jurisdictions (as at 30 November 2019).

The Group’s core activities are Private Client & Corporate Administration, Fund Administration, Pension Administration and International Expansion Services.

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