



17 March 2010

## **'Change 4 Life' sports clubs to get more young people playing sport as part of 2012 Olympic Legacy**

### **Messages of support from sports organisations:**

Chief Executive of British Fencing, Piers Martin said:

"British Fencing is extremely pleased to be involved with 'Change 4 Life.' The growing awareness around London 2012 is bringing new levels of interest to our sport, and after school sports clubs are a perfect place to show how exciting, fun and accessible fencing really is. This will give us a huge boost for keeping our momentum going for future Olympic efforts when London 2012 is just a memory."

Chief Executive of Boccia England, Tony Waymouth said:

"Boccia England is committed to increasing opportunities for people to engage in physical activity and sport and this initiative provides a platform for Boccia to engage youngsters of all standards in an after school environment. This provides an opportunity to capture youngsters for a life in sport."

General Secretary of England Handball Association, Stephen Jones said:

"England Handball is delighted to be included in this very exciting project. The development of after school handball clubs on school sites has always been a key objective in delivering our Olympic Legacy for England Handball. Change for Life Sports Clubs will provide England Handball with a huge opportunity to achieve our aim!"

Chief Executive of Volleyball England, Lisa Wainwright said:

'Volleyball England welcomes the new funding to support after school clubs and to establish more volleyball clubs around England. It is without a shadow of doubt that after school clubs have a major impact on the number of opportunities for young people to play volleyball. We are particularly pleased to be selected as one of the initial sports to be

involved after the huge success of the Premier League 4 Sport Project. The programme will help schools access better equipment for their schools, as recommended in the Volleyball England Technical Guidance, providing a safer and more adaptable approach to the sport.

"Our team at Volleyball England is here to support the game in all its forms, generate new ideas and plan an exciting period of growth and increased participation alongside this new programme. We're an ambitious sport and strongly believe in the game's ability to enrich people's lives - improve fitness, vitality and social interaction."

Chief Executive of the Great Britain Wheelchair Basketball Association, Charlie Bethel said

"This is a fantastic opportunity for wheelchair basketball and more importantly the children in schools who will get the chance to play our sport. We applaud the Government for such an innovative programme that will really impact on the lives of young disabled people in mainstream education."

Chief Executive of the English Table Tennis Association, Richard Yule said:

"Table tennis is on the rise in schools but we're always looking for ways to reach out to even more young people. The Change 4 Life sports clubs will give us a fantastic opportunity to do just that. With the support of one of our leading players and role models, Darius Knight, we are looking forward to welcoming a new wave of teen players to the sport!"

Chief Executive of Badminton England

"Badminton is delighted to be part of the 'Change 4 Life' Sports Clubs programme. We expect the programme to engage thousands more young people into the Olympic sport of badminton which will enable them to enjoy a happier and healthier future. It will also enhance the world-leading badminton system that we are building by creating sustainable clubs that can link with our Community Badminton Networks and enable a route into lifelong participation in sport. This will deliver a true legacy from the 2012 Games and help us to achieve our long-term ambition of being the World's Number 1 badminton nation."