

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **How to get students to behave**

**3 May 2018**

Swansea University has declared this year's varsity event the 'smoothest' yet, thanks in part to the additional support that came in the form of two former police officers.

Preparations behind the biggest social event in the university calendar – Varsity – are not to be underestimated. It is the gathering of some 30,000 young people, fuelled with the excitement of competition between universities.

Every year Swansea University does groundwork ahead of the event to try and ensure that students enjoy this great occasion in safety. This includes, careful planning and also campaigns advising students not to pre-load on alcohol before the event.

But this year, the University additionally employed the help of two former police officers with sixty years' experience on the force between them.

Under the banner of their company, Professional Together, the two former officers, Tim Jones and Phil Davies, ran sessions with the students to help them understand the potentially life changing consequences that a moment of foolishness, or a bad decision fuelled by alcohol, can lead to.

Phil Davies, a former chief superintendent who served with the Metropolitan Police and South Wales Police for 30 years said:

“Having worked in the force for decades we know that the worst can and unfortunately does happen. Although parents may give advice, young people can dismiss it as nagging. Using our background to help students think about risks and worse case scenarios clearly gets the message across.”

Richard Lancaster, JOB TITLE, from Swansea University said:

“From our perspective, operationally, this was the smoothest event we have delivered. Incidents were at a record low and all feedback from the organisational committees has been positive. The event was safe and provided no major areas of concern from our perspective or for those we worked with.”

Professional Together are now keen to enter talks with the university to discuss how this successful working partnership can be utilised to help students keep safe whilst enjoying the events of the student calendar.

As well as working with universities, Professional Together also works with many high-profile clients, such as the Welsh Rugby Players Association. The company is dedicated to helping people make better life decisions by teaching them how to avoid or deal with threats or vulnerabilities that could have a negative impact on their career and lives.

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### **Notes to editors**

Professional Together - a company formed by two senior retired police officers with 60 years' experience between them - is dedicated to helping people make better life decisions by teaching them how to avoid or deal with threats or vulnerabilities that could have a negative impact on their career and lives.

The company's trainers work with organisations in all sectors and of all sizes, and individuals with a wide age-range. Their sessions cover a range of threats to the reputation of those individuals and organisations ranging from gambling to sexual consent to problems around substance misuse to the responsible use of social media.

Professional Together's services are particularly relevant to high-performing individuals such as: sports stars and athletes; celebrities; high-performing leaders; and executives within organisations whose profile and actions may be under greater scrutiny because they are in the public eye.

The firm's services are also used by many companies to provide guidance for younger workers embarking on their careers, especially those in high-pressure jobs, who may be vulnerable to threats or making bad life decisions that may impact on their future careers.

Companies of all sizes are investing more and more time and money in recruiting and training the best talent. These bespoke sessions help companies also protect that investment – and their reputations – by helping their staff make better life decisions outside work in order to prevent them getting into trouble.