

# Get Home Safe Guidebook 2023

A non-exhaustive list of suggestions for how to implement different ways of helping your members **GET HOME SAFE** including some best practice guidance.

Please remember that while we are encouraging you to support your members in feeling confident and safe in their travels the safety and wellbeing of your members travelling is not the responsibility of your club / society and if you wish to discuss ideas further do contact Craig in the SU: [craig.aldridge@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:craig.aldridge@surrey.ac.uk)

This project will be a fantastic opportunity for your Wellbeing Champions to take the lead on and be the first point of contact to your members.

## **Forming walking / travelling groups of students heading in similar directions**

It could just be linking up people already walking / travelling in the same directions to travel together.

If starting a more organised walking / travelling group, it is good to ensure the following:

- You know who is due to be in the group that session and don't leave without them.
- That the person/s heading it up are known within the society and to those travelling with them.
- That those who will head it up are themselves travelling in the same general direction as the group or have the means and comfort to get themselves to their destination safely.
- Ensuring all members travelling together know they can leave at any point and are not obliged to reveal their exact home location – people do not need to be walked to their door unless requested.
- Establish a clear communication plan among group members in case of an emergency or if someone gets separated from the group.
- Encourage members to have bright or reflective clothing and/or carry a torch if it's an evening session. Plan the route in advance of the session to ensure it is safe and accessible to all members and that the route has proper lighting.

## **Agreeing for groups to take the same public transport to/from sessions**

The same guidance as for the above walking / travelling groups but to also ensure that any member's travel fare is their own responsibility.

## **Designating a member of the society/club as an available emergency contact/someone to confirm a student has made it safely to their location**

This person does not need to be the same person every session/week.

Decide and have the nature of support clearly defined to all:

- It can be someone who is available to call or text if there is an issue or feeling of lack of safety.
- It could be someone who has been given permission to do a check-up call if a member travelling back has not checked in by a certain time.
- Make sure there is no confusion in what the nature of support is and that it is understood that any communication in this respect does not automatically equate to permission to contact outside of this context.

### **Offering lifts**

- This is something ideally offered by a driver - not having them pressured to do so by others.
- Any contributions for fuel are to be voluntary and not a condition of this support, we do not want this to lead to any in club tension regarding debts and payments etc.
- Please ensure anyone offering to give lifts has a valid driving licence and that all regular road laws are to be followed including the wearing of seat belts.

### **Using the Walk Safe+ app, which can help members plan their route home and stay connected with others during their journey. The app is available for both iOS and Android devices**

- If using this app or any other location sharing app/technology, please ensure that consent has been **explicitly** given by members to have their location viewed and that it is known to all, which member will be monitoring the app that week.
- To be made clear to all involved that consent to be contacted in this scenario does not automatically equate to consent for contact in other contexts.
- This does not need to be the same member each week / session.

