

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LEICESTERSHIRE

ETHICS, INTEGRITY AND COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE

PAPER MARKED

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Report of	CHIEF CONSTABLE
Subject	ETHICAL SCENARIOS
Date	FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 2019 – 10:00 a.m.
Author	DCC NIXON

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek members' views on ethical scenarios outlined within the Appendices.

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that members consider the ethical scenarios and provide their views.

Commentary

3. The Terms of Reference provide for the Committee to be a forum for debate concerning professional standards and make recommendations about ethical dilemmas facing the Force. As such a standing item of 'Ethical Scenarios' will be included on all future agenda for members to discuss and provide their views.

Implications

Financial :	None.
Legal :	None.
Equality Impact Assessment :	None.
Risks and Impact :	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The scenarios provided are anonymised in order that no individual can be identified. The views of the Committee will be taken into account on any future similar incidences.• Public perception and reputational issues for the Force.
Link to Police and Crime Plan :	Links to the Nolan Principles and Code of Ethics contained within the Plan.
Communications :	Communications Plan will be approved by the Committee at this meeting.

List of Appendices

Appendix A – Transporting persons

Appendix B – Agency shortfalls that force further police detention of persons in custody

Background Papers

None

Person to Contact

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Scenario 1

Circumstances

A female contacts the crisis team and discloses that she has taken an overdose of various drugs. The crisis team then contact East Midlands Ambulance Service who then deploy a resource but will take 30 mins to get to the female. The Ambulance Service then contact the Police control room and request that we go. The female has a history of mental health issues.

This is primarily a medical issue an EMAS are attending. Do we send an available mobile if we can get there earlier? To preserve life is one of our building blocks. However so is the Fire Brigade but do EMAS contact them as well? They are well equipped to deal with medical emergencies. If we did deploy and another emergency came in but we were committed to dealing at this one, is that ethical?

Scenario 2

Circumstances

A male is arrested lawfully and taken into police custody. It became very apparent that he was not well and was assessed by a mental health custody nurse. He was deemed as unfit to detain in police custody due to his mental health.

Contact was made with the place of safety unit and the mental health team, however there were no beds available. It was another 13 hours before a bed became available so he remained in custody for this whole duration.

Legally he should have been released as there is no power to detain him. Is this ethical? He is a danger to the public and a risk to himself. Should he have been taken to another place of safety?

Whose responsibility does he become at the point he is no longer a prisoner and requires mental health intervention?