

POLICE
SCOTLAND

National Decision Model

August 2013 LPS Version 1

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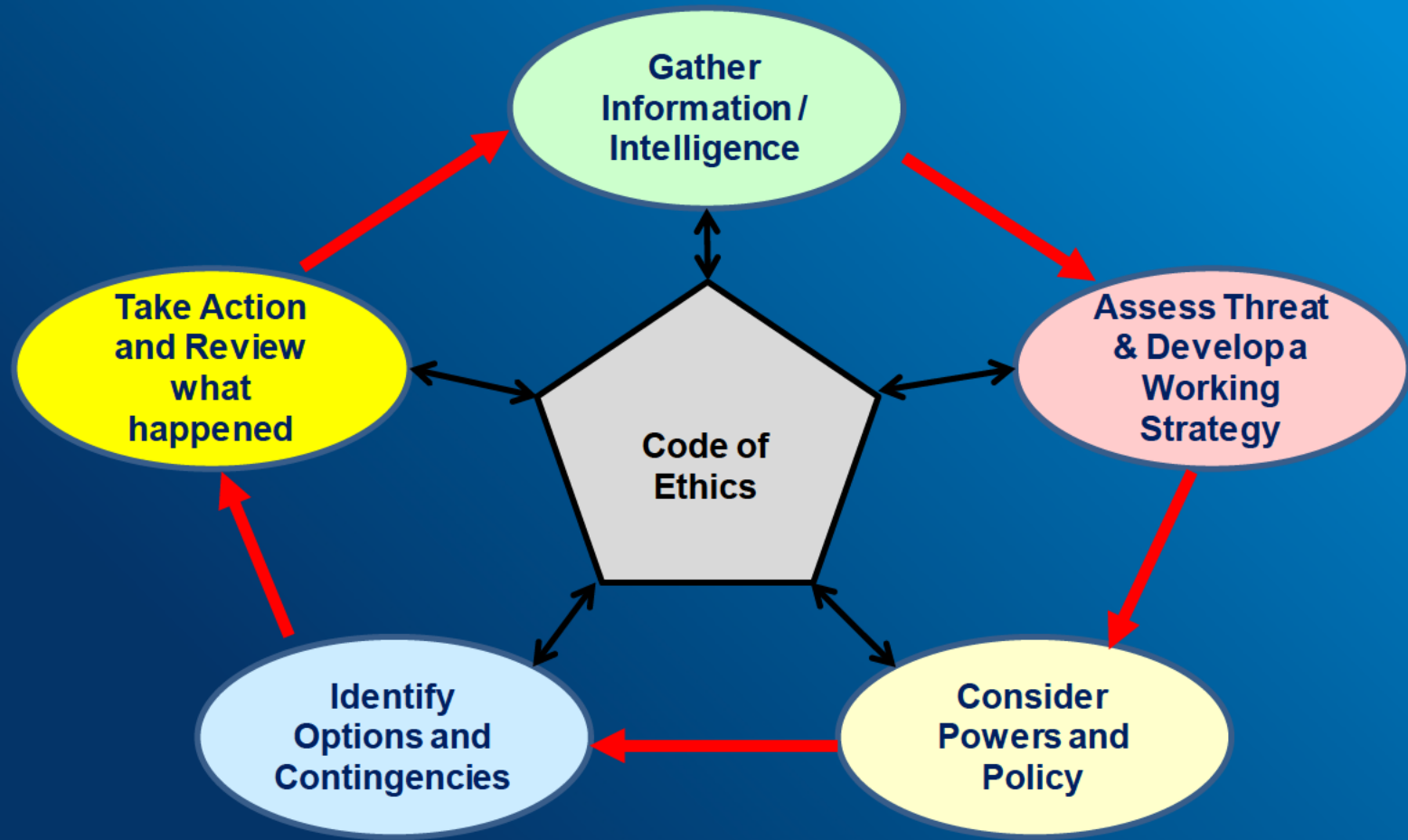
To ensure students understand the concept of the National Decision Model, allowing justifiable decision making by having a clear process for identifying the rationale behind any decision made or omitted.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this input students will be able to;

- Explain the 5 stages of the National Decision Model
- Describe the 4 obligations set out within the Code of Ethics for policing in Scotland
- Explain the importance of considering Human Rights in the decision making process
- Analyse and correctly interpret information and intelligence available
- Apply the stages of the National Decision Model during an operational incident
- Examine decisions made and actions taken during the decision process, and provide structured rationale for the decision(s) reached

National Decision Model



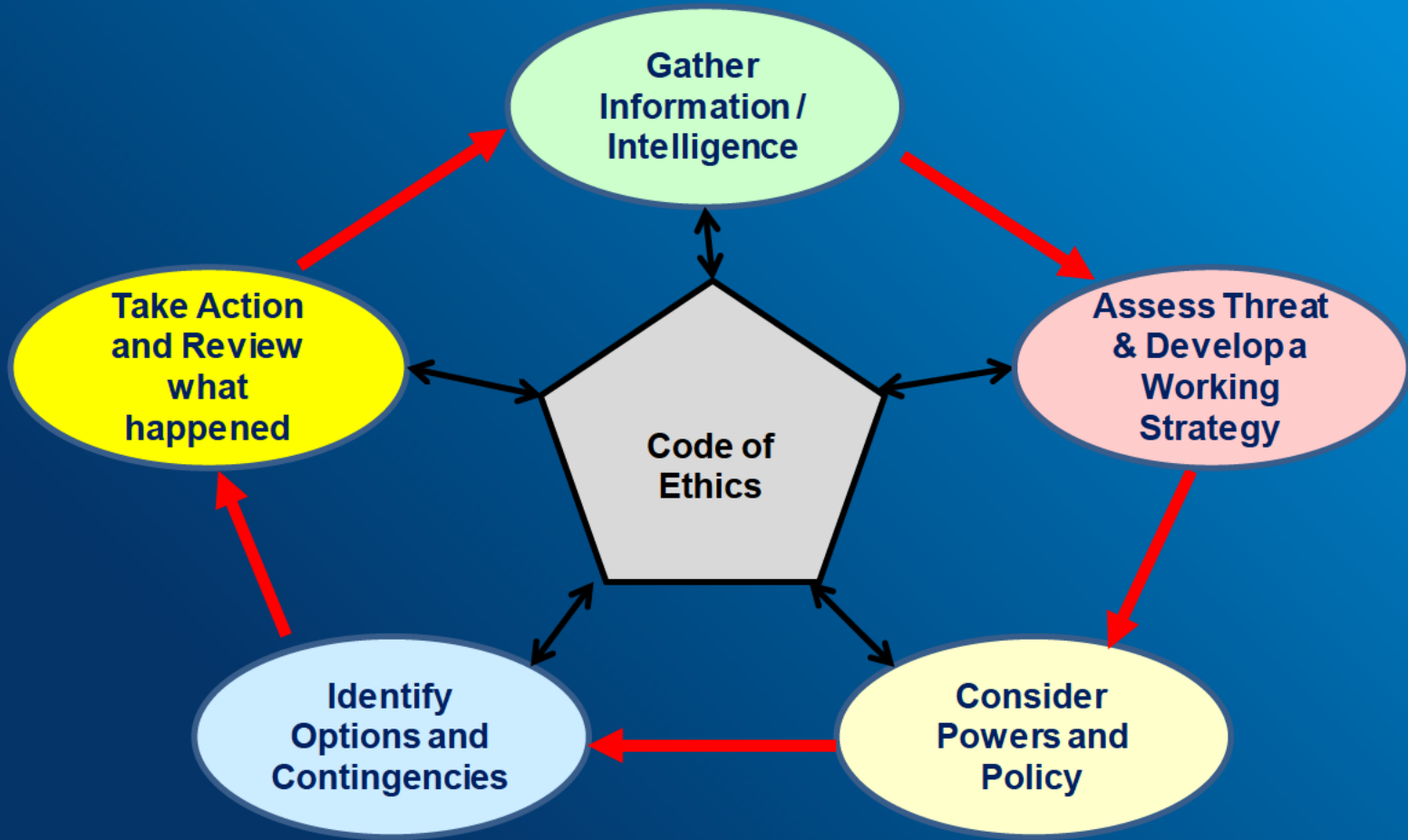
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Gather Information / Intelligence

- Are actions being taken to develop the information/intelligence picture within the available time frame?
- Establish what is fact and what can reasonably be assumed

REMEMBER

- As the Incident Commander/Supervisor **YOU** must always attempt to increase the information and intelligence, yet may need to take early considered action in order to mitigate the identified threats.
- Resources may need to be deployed with limited information and intelligence



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Assess Threat and Risk

The determination and recording of a threat assessment based on the information/intelligence available **at that time** is a crucial action required of the Incident Commander.

Assess Threat and Risk

An accurate threat assessment will allow for:

- The establishment of an appropriate and prioritised working strategy.
- A proportionate and focussed policing response.

Assess Threat and Risk

The Incident Commander must adopt a multi dimensional approach to the threat assessment, i.e.

- **WHAT** is the threat?
- **WHICH** individuals/groups are subject to threat?
- **WHAT** level of threat exists for each of the above

High / Medium / Low or Unknown - now and as time passes

Develop a Working Strategy

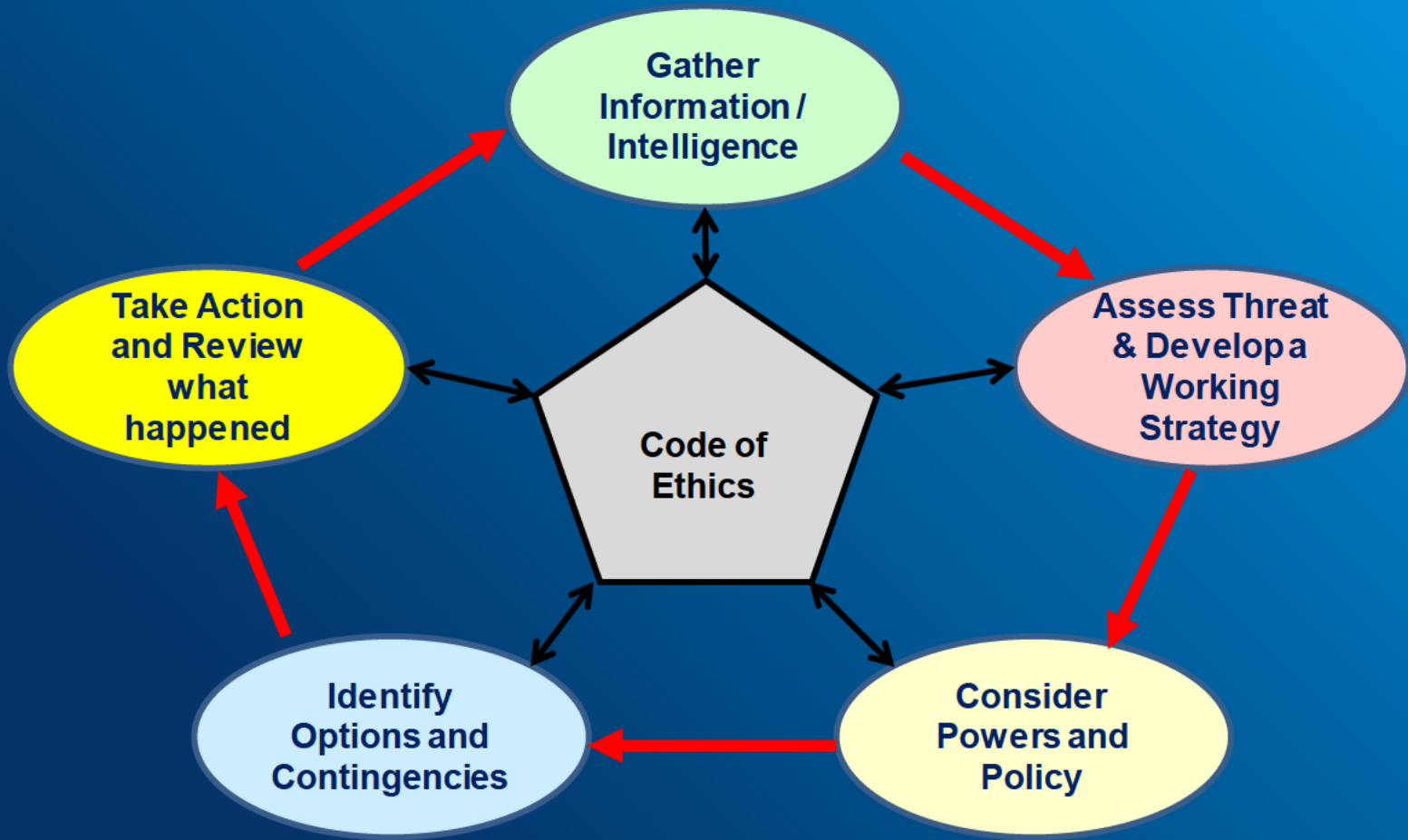
In most cases, the Incident Commander will establish a **'Working Strategy'** including any appropriate Tactical Parameters.

Develop a Working Strategy

An example of a Working Strategy:

- Maximise the safety of any victims.
- Maximise the safety to the public in the immediate area.
- Minimise the risk to any unarmed police/staff.
- Minimise the risk to any specialist officers.
- Maximise the safety of the subject(s).
- Arrest subjects
- Recover and preserve any evidence/weapons.

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Consider Powers and Policy

- Powers of Detention / Arrest
- Powers of Entry
- Powers to Search
- ECHR (Articles 2,3,8,14)
- RIPSA
- Common Law
- Force Policy

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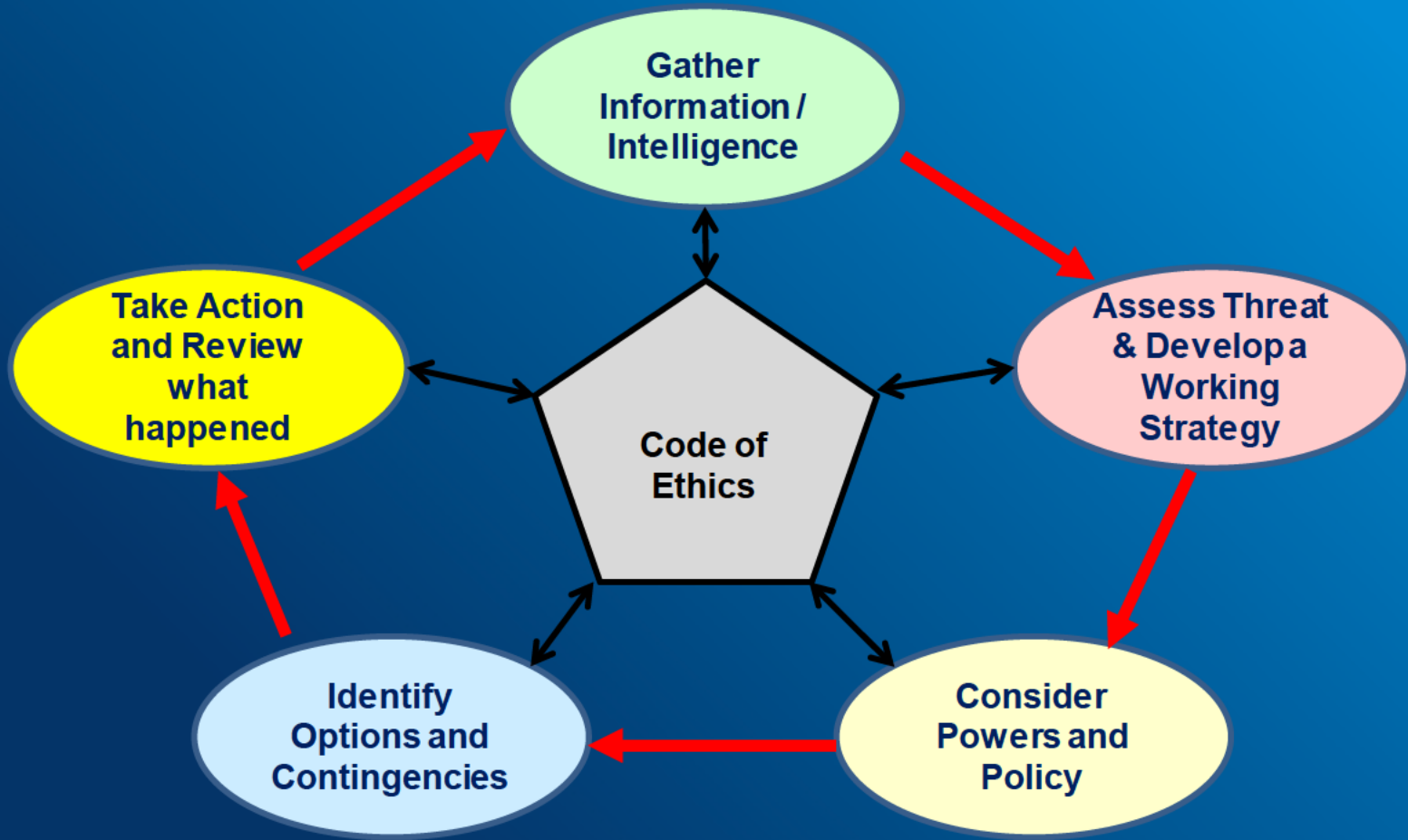
Identify Options and Contingencies

Consider **ALL** viable tactical options

Decide on a policing response that is **PROPORTIONATE**
to the **THREAT** assessment

Identify Options and Contingencies

- Wait
- Take Mitigating Action
- Keep The Subject Under Observation
- Carry Out an Investigative Assessment
- Contain the Area Around the Subject, Thereby Minimising the Opportunity for Harm
- Communicate With the Subject
- Take Decisive Action



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Take Action

When a course of action has been decided on an incident commander should:

- Be clear on which tactical option they are to carry out
- Direct resources and ensure that those involved are appropriately briefed

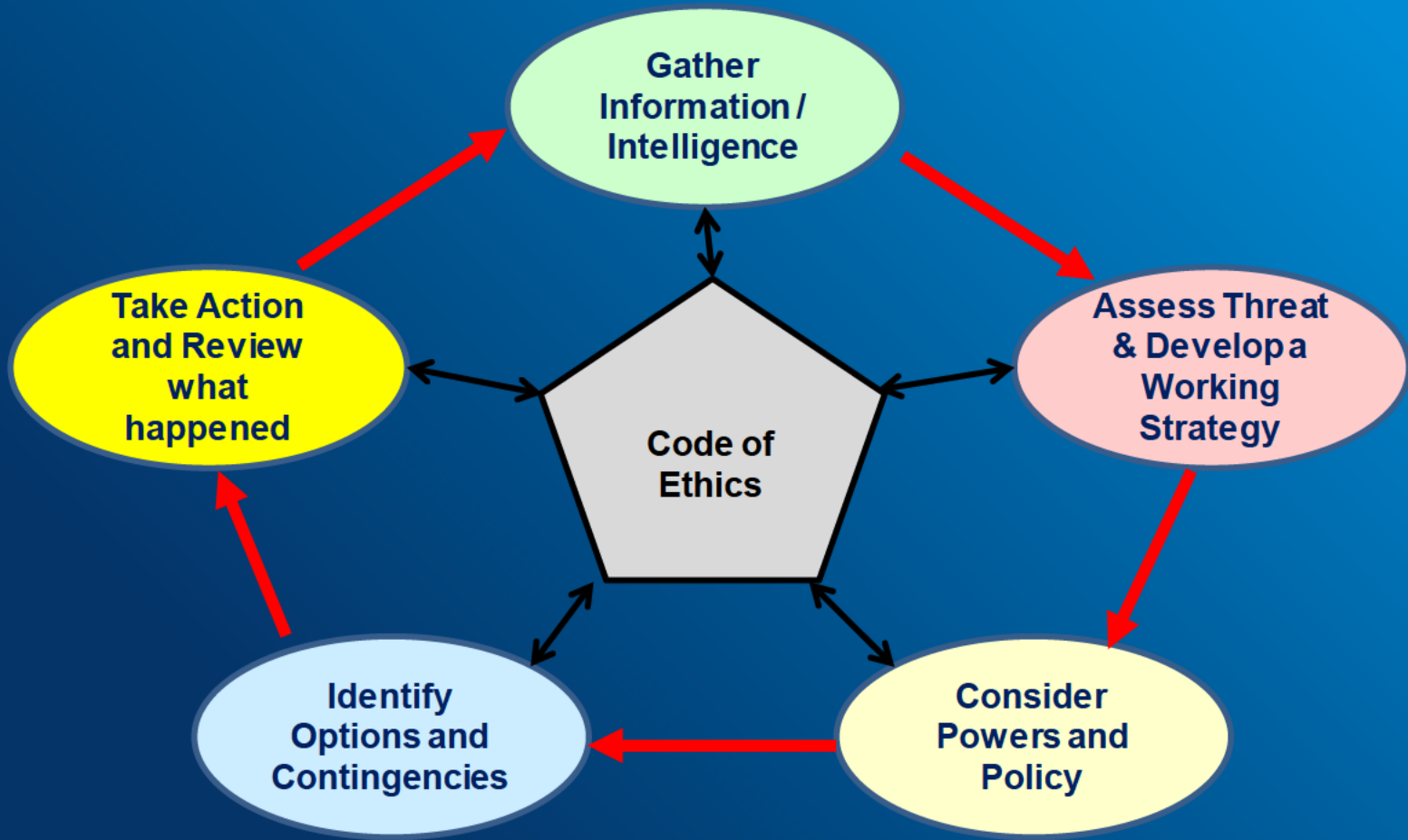
>> Have Clarity of Purpose

Take Action

- Have all decisions and actions been effectively recorded?
- Has the plan been appropriately risk assessed?
- Has a Community Impact Assessment been considered?
- Is the plan proportionate to the threat assessment and focussed on the priorities of the Working Strategy?

>> DECISION LOG

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Code of Ethics

- Integrity
- Fairness
- Respect
- Human Rights

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- Explain the importance of considering Human Rights in the decision making process
- Analyse and correctly interpret information and intelligence available
- Apply the appropriate stages of the National Decision Model during a spontaneous or pre-planned operational incident
- Examine decisions made and actions taken during the decision process, and provide structured rationale for the decision(s) reached

Questions?

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