

Decision Making Matrix

Decision-Making MatrixSM

- Last resort
 - Acting out of necessity
 - Harm is imminent or immediate
 - There is no alternative
- Reasonable
 - The individual's potential to cause harm
 - The individual's intent to cause harm
- Proportionate
 - Not acting by way of punishment or revenge
 - Equal to or less than the harm that may arise from the person's behavior
- Least restrictive
 - Maintain human rights
 - No less restrictive alternative available
 - Minimum amount of time

Severity of Harm				Likelihood of Behavior				
Catastrophic	Major	Moderate	Minor					
Death will occur, or the level of injury will lead to permanent or irreversible ill-health	Psychological or physical injury will require treatment leading to long term incapacity or disability	Psychological or physical injury will require treatment and/or lead to medium term incapacity and ill health	Psychological or physical injury will be non-permanent and/or cause no lasting ill-health	Negligible Psychological or physical injury will be minimal				
MEDIUM	MEDIUM	LOW	LOW	LOW				
HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	LOW				
EXTREME	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW				
EXTREME	EXTREME	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM				
EXTREME	EXTREME	EXTREME	HIGH	MEDIUM				