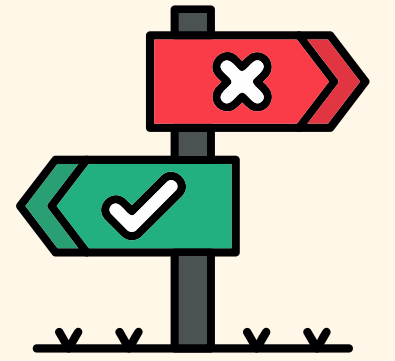
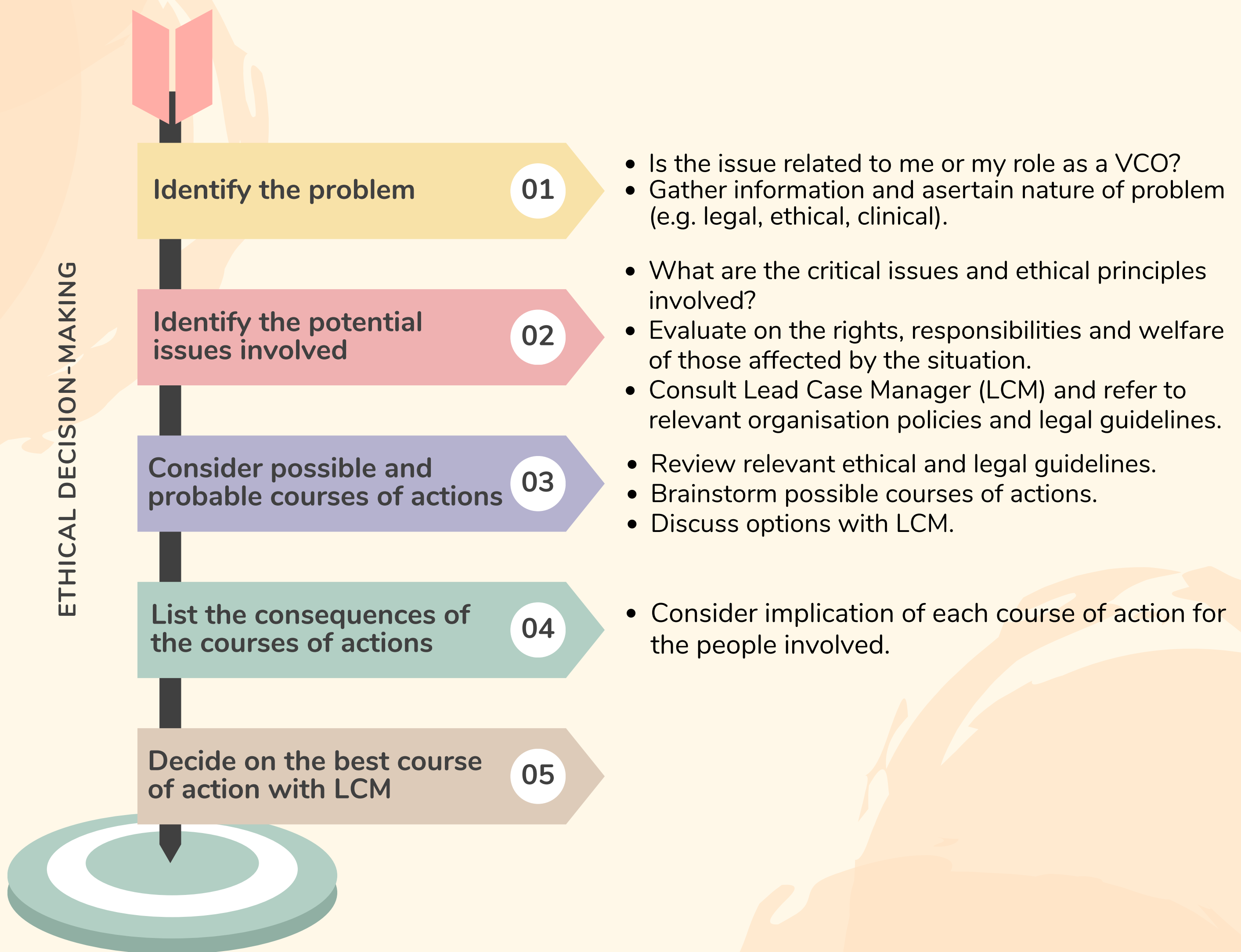


Ethical Decision-Making Series #3



In Series 1, we explored a scenario where a supervisee asked to borrow money and in Series 2, we explored ethical decision-making through a scenario where a supervisee discloses involvement in illicit activities. In this series, we'll explore the steps to take if a supervisee expresses romantic interest in you. Before diving into the case study, let's quickly recap the steps of ethical decision-making!



Now that we have recapped the steps to ethical decision making, let us practise with a case study!

Case Study

You've been working with your supervisee for a few months and have built a good rapport.

During one of your regular sessions, he tells you he is interested in you romantically and asks you out. How would you respond?

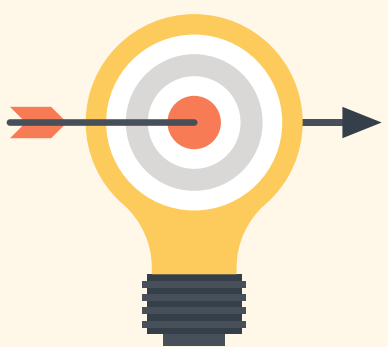


Let's practise!

Using the 5 steps above, let's take some time to brainstorm!



Kindly note that the guidelines below **are not exhaustive** and may vary based on individual comfort levels. As you work through the steps, take a moment to reflect on your own boundaries and what feels right for you.



Step 1: Identify the problem

Should I prioritise not hurting my supervisee's feelings or maintain my boundaries as a VCO?



Step 2: Identify the potential issues involved

1. If I reject him, he may take it personally, which could affect our rapport or even lead to tension or potential aggression.
2. If I agree to his request, it creates a dual relationship, which can lead to role confusion, and result in a potentially exploitative relationship.

Let's practise!

Kindly note that the guidelines below **are not exhaustive** and may vary based on individual comfort levels. As you work through the steps, take a moment to reflect on your own boundaries and what feels right for you.

Step 3: Consider possible and probable courses of actions



1. I can reject his romantic interest firmly but respectfully, making it clear that a romantic relationship is not appropriate due to our roles and boundaries.
2. I can choose to avoid addressing his request directly, shift the conversation, and observe his behavior to see if the issue arises again.
3. I can agree to go out with him and explore a personal relationship.

Step 4: List the consequences of the courses of actions



1. If I reject him firmly and respectfully, I uphold boundaries and ethical standards, though it may cause some discomfort or tension.
2. If I avoid the question and observe his behavior, I am not setting clear boundaries, which may risk sending mixed signals. This could lead to misunderstandings or escalation and further blurring of our relationship.
3. If I agree to go out with him, it may result in role confusion and lead to a potentially exploitative relationship.

Remember you are not in this alone!



Step 5: Decide on the best course of action with LCM

WE WANT YOUR
FEEDBACK!

Have you encountered other ethical dilemmas in your interactions with supervisees? Are there specific scenarios or decision-making steps you'd like to see covered in future broadcasts? We would love to hear from you!

➡ Share your experiences or questions with us through the [Connect With Us form!](#)