

**We will not be distracted from our mission through fear of being criticised. In identifying and managing risk, we will seek to achieve successful outcomes and to reduce the risk of harm to individuals and communities.**

**In the face of violence we will be professional, calm and restrained and will apply only that force which is necessary to accomplish our lawful duty.**

**Our commitment is to deliver a service that we serve can be proud of and which keeps our communities safe. “**

When dealing with the armed subject keep in mind the following practical considerations.

These encounters are dangerous. The subject is capable of any action until they are completely neutralised. You must be prepared to respond to fast changing circumstances. You must be prepared to escalate or de-escalate your use of force as the situation demands. Hence, the cyclic nature of the N.D.M. as shown above.

Consideration must be taken as to when you place your finger on the trigger of your firearm. The fifth safety rule states that you should: - **“KEEP your finger outside the trigger guard unless you believe there is an imminent threat to life”**.

Having considered the NDM process and the subject poses an imminent threat to life then you must be in a position to neutralise that threat, whether it is towards you or another person. This could be information to say a person has a gun and their hands are hidden from view and are in a position to shoot, then a finger placed on the trigger would be justified

The initial contact with the subject is important. A loud declaration of **“Armed Police”** is needed.

- Gain full vision of the subject's hands.
- Scan the subject for any sign of weapons.
- Strong, robust communication with the subject is vital. We are trying to mentally stun the subject by the force of our voice.

This stunning when achieved must be maintained by a series of short sharp commands to maintain a momentum of 'natural surprise and compliance'. For example phrases like **“Show me your hands”, “Look at me”, “Do it now”**, can be used to good effect. We are trying to totally dominate the subject and get them detained before they have time to consider their options to escape or injure us. However, control is the important factor and so you must be flexible and if 'verbal stunning' is not working use another communication style to 'negotiate' surrender and be prepared to use force if necessary if the circumstances dictate it.

This degree of dominance and control is enhanced when deployed in pairs, using the No.1 and No.2 system, (Contact and Cover).

No.1 challenges the subject and controls them. (Contact)

No.2 plans the prisoner reception and backs-up the No.1. (Cover)

No.1 is responsible for communicating directly with the subject, and covering the threat with a firearm. Listen to what subjects are saying and respond accordingly. Their role is to:

- Keep their full attention on the threat area at all times
- Communicate / negotiate with the subject appropriately to the circumstances
- Maintain firearms cover (invariably off aim or low ready – selector to fire)