University of Stirling
Computing Science and Mathematics

CSCU9P5 Software Engineering I

Tutorial 6

Consider the scenario described below. Refer to the BCS Code of Conduct, including Appendix 1, which gives guidance on interpreting the code and specific examples of how it might be applied. You can find the code at https://www.bcs.org/upload/pdf/conduct.pdf

1. Identify all of the stakeholders involved in the scenario. Classify them into these groups: the general public; the BCS member; the "relevant authority"; other members of the IT profession.

2. Taking each of the four sections of the Code of Conduct in turn, discuss what responsibilities are placed on the BCS member in the given scenario.

3. Are there any conflicts among the different responsibilities you have identified?

4. As well as the BCS Code of Conduct, what other sources of guidance could the BCS member consult?

5. What are some different courses of action that the BCS member could take in the given scenario? For each option, discuss how well the responsibilities you identified will be met.

6. What course of action would you recommend to the BCS member? How would you justify your recommendation?

Scenario:

You are a junior developer employed by a software development company, and a member of the BCS. Your team has been assigned a project to develop a new flood warning system for Stirling. The software will receive and process real time data from sensors around the city, and will automatically issue flood warnings on social media, advising residents, businesses, commuters and the emergency services of locations that are flooded.

This is a very important project for your company. They were awarded the contract after a very competitive bidding process, which they won by promising to deliver a sophisticated system within three months at a relatively low price.

You were initially very excited to be assigned to this project, but your excitement turns to concern as you study the project agreement in more detail, and begin to consider what would be involved in designing and implementing the promised system. You realise that neither you nor anyone else in your team has all the necessary skills in real-time processing of sensor data. You are not sure if your team will be able to deliver a functioning system by the deadline.

