

Guidance for the additional Use of Prison court Video Link equipment by Criminal Justice Partners

Criminal Justice System partners including Defence Practitioners, Probation and Youth Offending Teams from the 1st July can make additional use of the Prison Court Video Link equipment sited at HMCS sites in Northumbria in suitable cases outside of the dedicated slots for court use **free of charge**.

Examples of use;

- ✓ Enable Defence Practitioner's to use the Prison Court Video Link facilities at their local court to interview their client's in custody thereby avoiding travel and waiting time attending their client at the prison.
- ✓ Allow a Probation Officer to interview a defendant in custody using their local Prison Court Video Link facilities for a PSR assessment thereby avoiding travel and waiting time attending the prison.

Conferences can be arranged with defendants in custody whether the case is for the local court or not.

A note of available times and contacts for HMCS Northumbria is overleaf.

The additional use must not interfere with the primary purpose of facilitating court hearings using the Prison Court Video Link Equipment.

How can CJS Partners arrange a Conference?

- Consult the available times and contacts for HMCS Northumbria overleaf.
- Make contact with the appropriate custody establishment to arrange a time within that particular timetable.
- Video link appointments will be booked for 30 minute sessions last sessions being booked as 11.30am and 3.30pm.
- The date and time, and length of the conference will depend on PVL availability at the prison.
- CJS partner must then inform the Court contact of the date and time of the conference.
- The court will then make arrangements to make the PVL booth available for the conference and arrange the link.

HMP Contact Telephone numbers for Video Link:

HMP Durham 0191 3323590

HMP Castington 01670 382009

HMP Low Newton 0191 3764117

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