

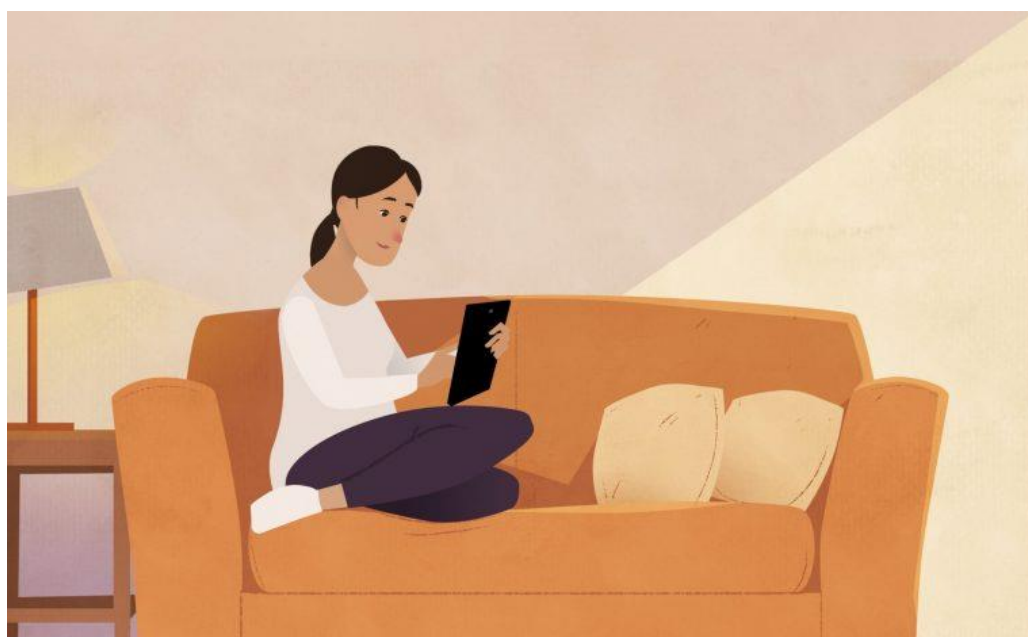
Using Near Me Video Consultations in Justice

Near Me

The ability to meet with an independent advocate using Near Me

- Near Me allows a virtual connection where an in-person visit is not possible due to the nature of a person's role or authorisation.
- Near Me is safe, secure and approved for use across the Scottish Public Sector and Prison Service.
- Near Me is free and easy to use. You can use it anywhere at any time.

Lived Experience



- It was identified that a service user was needing some support and had been working with an independent advocate within the community prior to being incarcerated.
- Due to the advocates role, they would not be allowed to travel to the prison, and rather than having a phone call they utilised Near Me via a one-time log-in made available to them for this purpose.
- This provided the service user with support in a time of need and with someone who was known to them.
- The video element added in that personal connection face-to-face that a phone call wouldn't have and was as good as an in-person visit which would have been impossible.
- As a result, the Independent Advocate will be meeting the service user again via Near Me after requesting another one-off log-in. For more information on how to set this up if you are unable to register for your own Near Me account then please contact [Calum Campbell](#)

"I thought it was pretty easy to navigate... Anyone who is familiar with using MS Teams, Zoom or Webex would not find it particularly difficult ... It seems it would be a bit easier for people to access, especially if they don't have to download an app or a piece of software. The fact that it is so secure-it can't be recorded and that no personal information is kept-is reassuring...I would definitely use it again"
– Independent Advocate.

For more information about using Near Me in Justice Services please contact Calum Campbell, Digital Social Work Policy and Practice Advisor, Social Work Scotland: calum.campbell@socialworkscotland.org or Sammi Allan, National Services Scotland Project Manager, Digital Health and Care, Scottish Government: sammi.allan@nhs.scot