

Technology changes in the justice system for Covid-19, Scotland's experience



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SCOTLAND'S PROSECUTION SERVICE

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“The best laid schemes o’ Mice an’ Men, Gang aft a-gley”

(No matter how well planned things are, things often go awry)

Robert Burns, To a Mouse, 1785



Innovation to provide business continuity

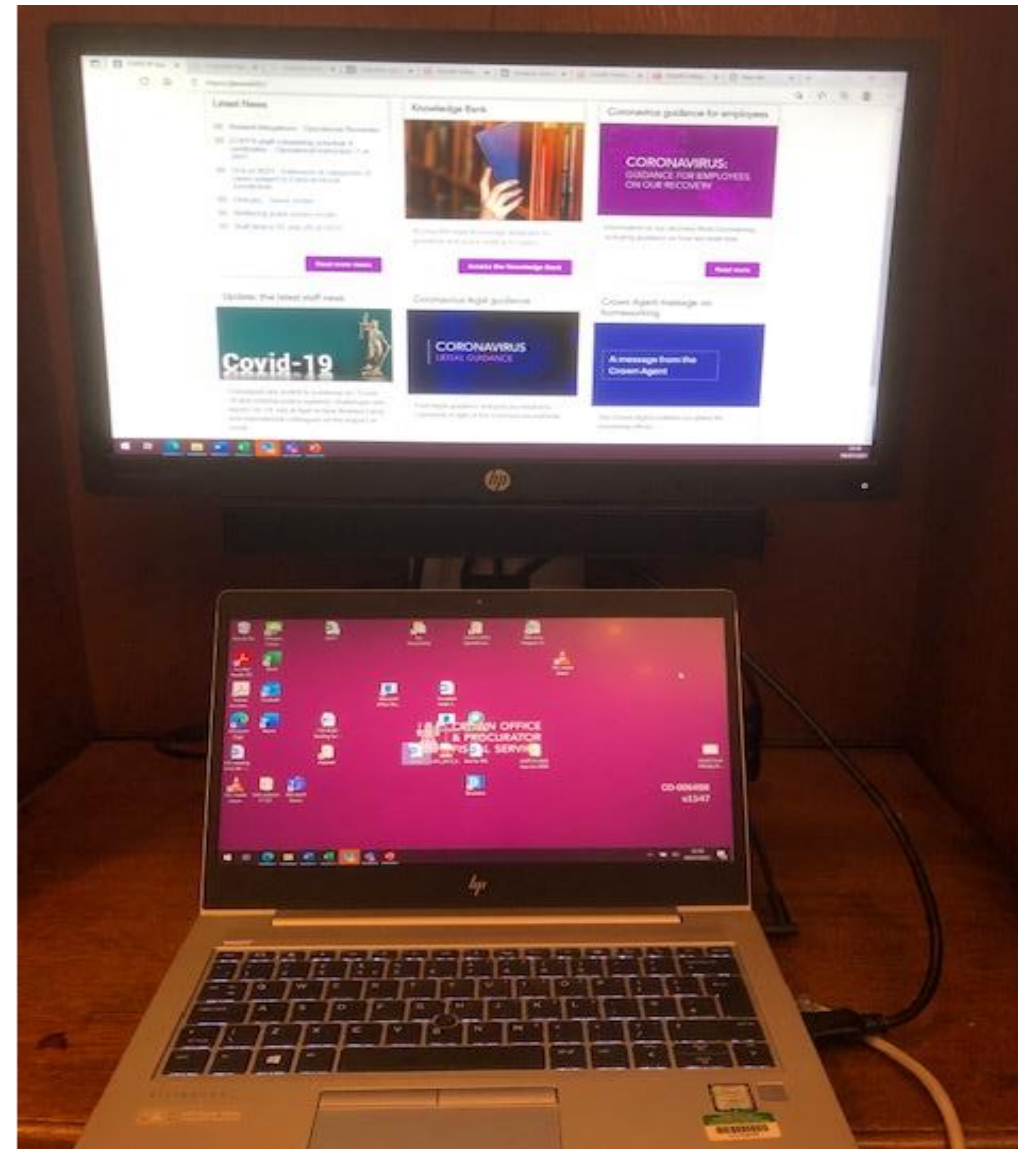
(1) Digital work place strategy

Core tools

- Laptop
- Mobile phone
- Dual screen
- MS Teams

Pre covid – 1% working from home

Post covid – up to 90% working from home



(2) "Virtual courts" and Remote attendance



- Virtual Custodies
- Virtual Appeal courts
- Virtual Fatal Accident Inquiries (FAI)
- Virtual Preliminary Hearings
- Virtual trials without jury



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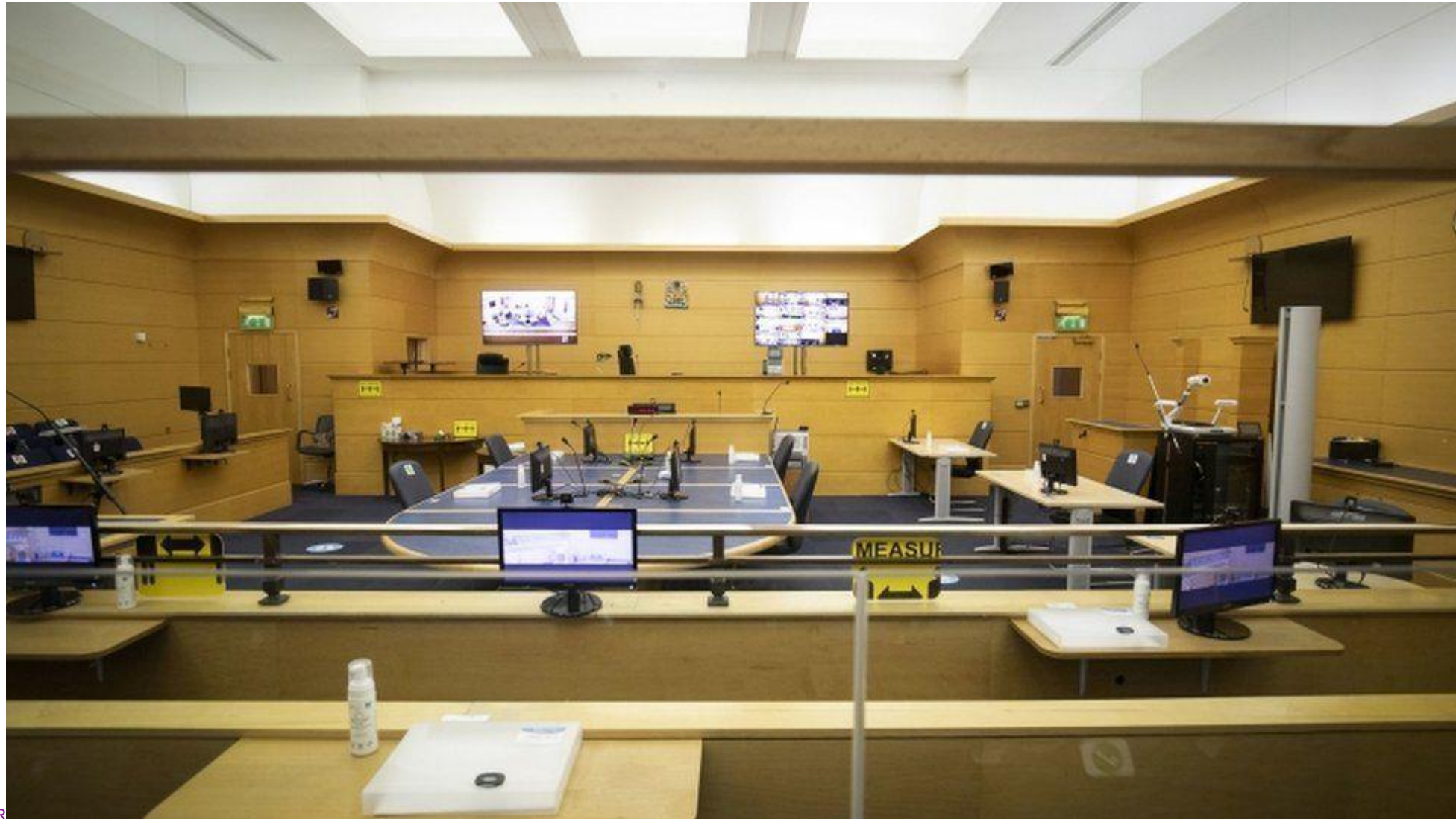
Coronavirus
(Scotland) Act 2020

60% of FAIs, 91% FAI procedural hearings

100% of Appeal business

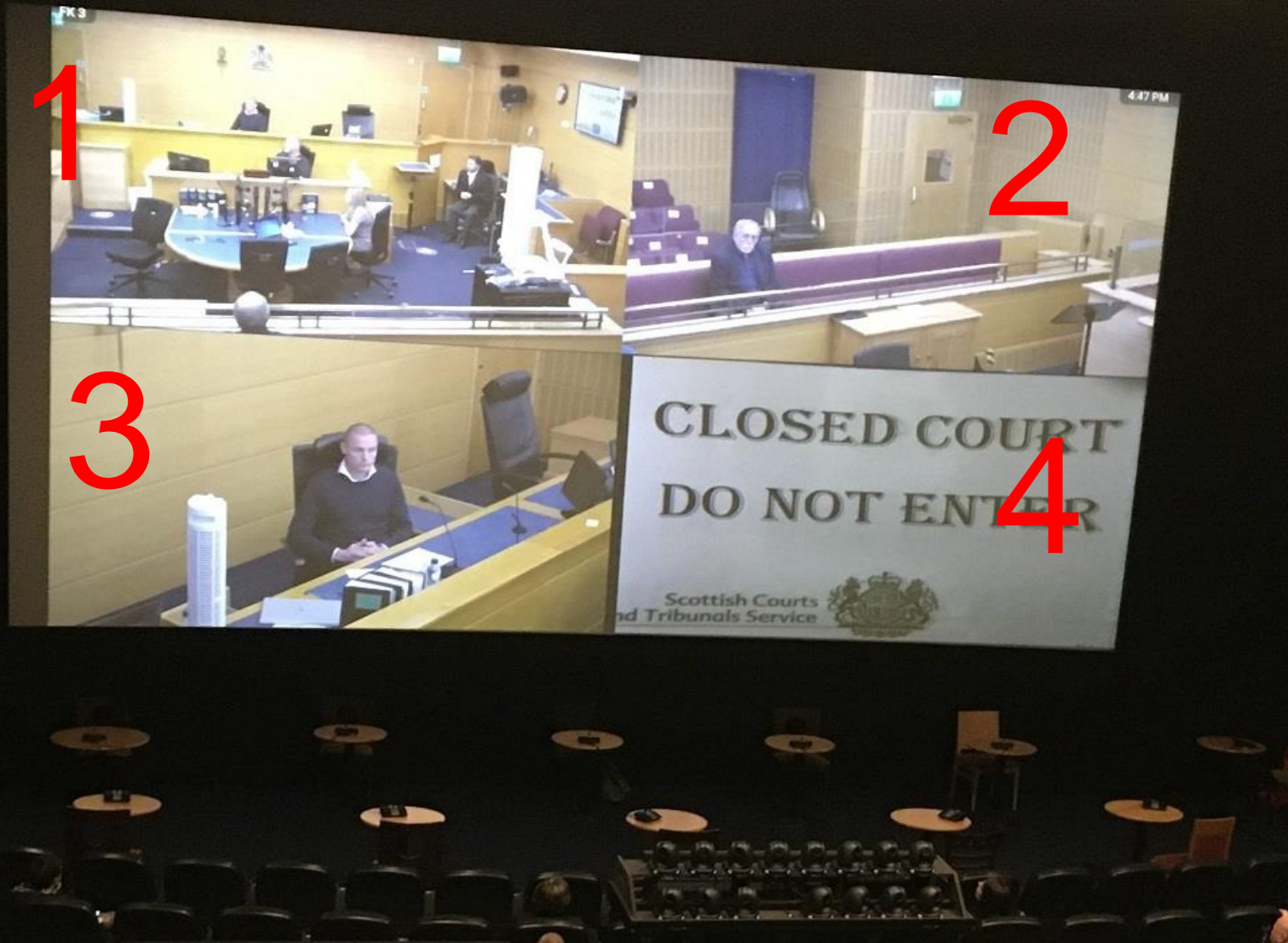


(3) Remote Jury centre approach





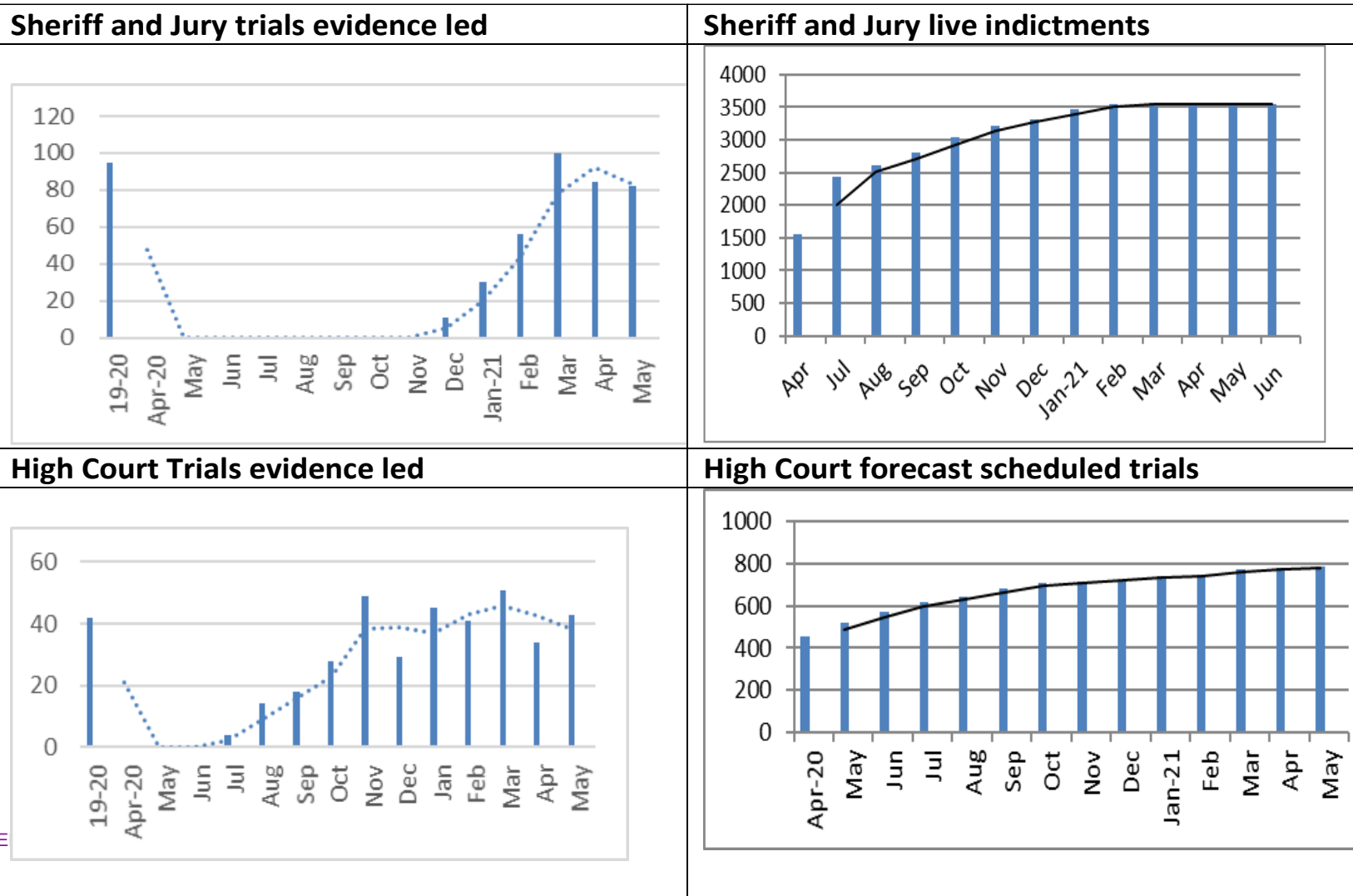
The Remote Jury Centre – Jury's View

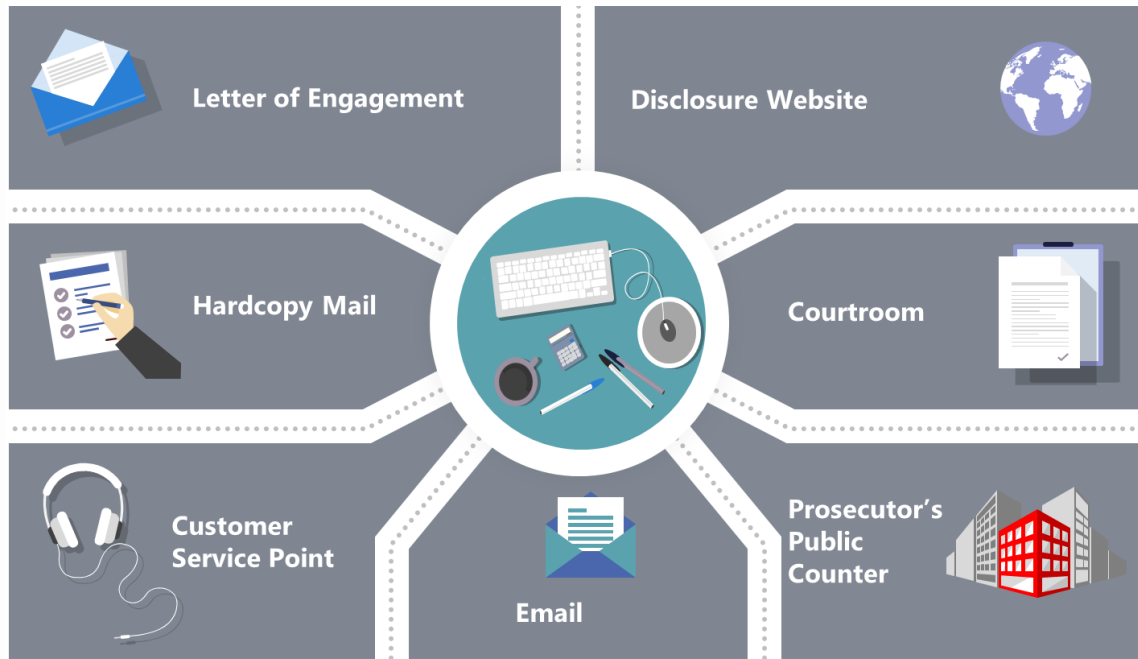


1. Overview of courtroom
2. View from judge
3. Judge/sheriff/witness
4. Evidence presentation system or vulnerable witness



(4) Impact of Measures Taken





Defence Agent Service



Digital Evidence Sharing Capability



Witness Gateway

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