

District Court Criminal Practice Note 17
AVL CALL-OVER FOR CIRCUIT SITTINGS

INTRODUCTION

1. This Practice Note replaces the procedure in respect to the telephone call-over for the listing of trials set out in Practice Note 2.
2. The use of Audio Visual Link ("AVL") is intended to facilitate the efficiency and effectiveness of call-overs for listing trials in circuit sittings.
3. At all times, AVL call-overs constitute formal Court hearings.

APPLICATION

4. An AVL call-over system applies to all country venues except Newcastle, Lismore, Tamworth, Armidale, Dubbo, Gosford, Wollongong, and Wagga Wagga.
5. Matters which have been committed for trial to the District Court will be listed for an AVL call-over on the first Wednesday occurring after one month has elapsed from the committal for trial.
6. The prosecutor and the legal representatives for the accused (or the accused if unrepresented) are required to be present at the AVL call-over.

PROCESS

7. The AVL call-over will be conducted each week on Wednesday at 9 am.
8. Practitioners must commence connecting to the AVL call-over at 8.50 am.
9. Practitioners will be asked to mute their microphone until their matter is called.
10. Practitioners will be contacted prior to the AVL call-over with details on how to connect. Practitioners will have the following options for connecting:
 - a. If the practitioner has access to hard coded video conferencing (AVL) facilities, he or she will be provided with the courtroom connection details.
 - b. If the practitioner does not have access to hard coded video conferencing (AVL) facilities but has a PC or tablet with camera facilities, he or she will be provided with a Jabber Guest software link and technical details on how to use the link.

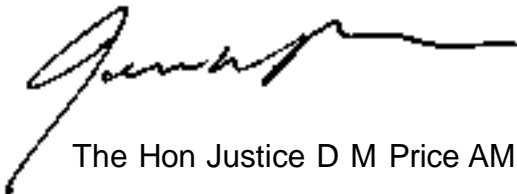
c. If the practitioner does not have access to hard coded video conferencing (AVL) facilities or a PC or tablet with camera facilities, he or she will be provided with an option for telephone connection.

11. If an accused person is not legally represented, he or she will be provided with an option for telephone connection only.

12. During the call-over, the Court may make any such orders, determinations or findings, or give such directions or rulings, as it thinks appropriate to identify the issues in contention and for the efficient management and conduct of the trial.

COMMENCEMENT

13. The first AVL call-over will take place on Wednesday 6 February 2019 at 9am.



The Hon Justice D M Price AM
Chief Judge of the District Court

5 November 2018