



## **Information on Online Platforms May 2020**

A number of members have been in touch with NZAC asking for advice about security in relation to online platforms. We are providing this list of links to information that may assist members in their decision-making about and management of online work.

It is important to note that the New Zealand Association of Counsellors cannot dictate which online platform its members should use, and we are not experts in the field of online security. The links below are from official sources, but members are responsible for their own research when choosing which online platform to use.

Please also keep in mind the general advice found in the most recent COVID-19 Guidelines, accessible from the home page of the NZAC website. And remember that the greatest risk with online security is human error – yours and your client's!

This article is by Kathryn Dalziel, a lawyer with a special interest in privacy issues: <https://kathryndalzielbarrister.co.nz/articles/videoconferencing-skypeing-and-zooming/>

Zoom Security Advice for Public Servants, note in particular the advice about using wherever possible your computer, rather than a mobile device. This is something you may wish to discuss with clients and supervisees also. <https://www.ncsc.govt.nz/assets/NCSC-Documents/GCISO-Zoom-User-Advice-April-2020.pdf>

NZ Telehealth website Tech section has comments on a variety of systems used in health settings: <https://www.telehealth.org.nz/tech/>

Guidelines from the Victoria State Government (Australia): <https://fac.dhhs.vic.gov.au/covid-19-telehealth-consulting-and-conferencing-privacy-and-security>

The Australian site this comes within has a wealth of information on mental health issues at present. The link below refers specifically to working online and may be especially useful if this is a new way of working for members. <https://www.counsellingconnection.com/index.php/2020/03/26/setting-up-online-counselling-not-just-a-couple-of-clicks/>

*We plan to update this information, if more comes to hand.*