



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-02168

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: TRANSLATORS / INTERPRETERS

Request and Answer:

Question 1

I would like to know how many interpreters or translators your force has employed over the past year?

Answer

Face to face interpreters provided by Northern Ireland Council for Ethnic Minorities (NICEM)

There have been 3231 individual interpreting sessions requested by PSNI.

Face to face interpreters provided by Royal National Institute for the Deaf (RNID)

There have been 53 occasions when interpreters have been requested by PSNI.

Translation provided by Language Line Services

45 translators have been used for PSNI requests.

Question 2

I would like to know how much the interpreters you employ are paid, and what qualifications they hold?

Answer

PSNI do not directly employ the interpreters therefore cannot comment on how much interpreters are paid. As interpreters are not directly employed by PSNI we do not know specific qualifications, but can assist by saying:

Face to face interpreters provided by NICEM

It is in our contract that interpreters have attained the minimum requirement which is the NOCN level 3 Community Interpreting Qualification.

Face to face interpreters provided by RNID

All interpreters are members of the Register of Sign Language Interpreters or qualified ISL interpreters.

Translation provided by Language Line Services

Translators hold at least a degree on Translations. Translators with a minimum of 3 years working experience are accepted.

Question 3

I would also like to know how many of them are registered with the National Register of Public Sector Interpreters (NRPSI).

Answer

As we are not the direct employers we are unable to comment on how many of them are registered with the National Register of Public Sector Interpreters.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this email.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing FOI@psni.pnn.police.uk

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <http://www.psni.police.uk/>

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.