

National Register of **Public Service Interpreters**

Registrants' Newsletter July 2016

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Q House of Lords debate

The House of Lords debated the subject of 'Courts: Resourcing and Staffing' on 14 July 2016. NRPSI was invited to provide a briefing for Baroness Coussins', Co-Chair of The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Modern Languages, address on the use of interpreters in the Criminal Justice



System. The Baroness referenced NRPSI directly in her speech, which covered a range of issues: the possible implications on the residency status of large numbers of interpreters following

the Brexit vote, the difficulties that interpreters experience in obtaining security clearance, and the quality standards to be applied in the Ministry of Justice contracts.

Q Current research: Interpreters' responses needed

Sara Moroni, a student of Interpretation and Translation Studies in Perugia, Italy, is conducting research on whether speakers having unfamiliar accents could influence the interpreter's performance, and how such difficulties could be overcome. To take part, please complete the anonymous questionnaire by the first week of August.

NRPSI news

Q NRPSI advice: Working with the police

Based on feedback that we are receiving, there seems to be some confusion about the role of interpreters in police interviews. The NRPSI's position is that the interpreter should assist the Police Officer in taking a statement: the interpreter should not take the statement themselves. Different forces take different approaches to taking statements - the College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice (pp 233-234) details two options. Whichever approach is taken, however, it is clear that the interpreter should never be left alone with the interviewee or expected to take the statement, as this could affect their impartiality and conflict with the NRPSI Code of Conduct.

Q NRPSI Annual Review of Public Service Interpreting in the UK 2015

We now have all the data ready to analyse for the third edition of our Annual **Review**. Once the analysis is complete, we will again publish the registration and complaints statistics about interpreters on the National Register. This will be of interest to Registrants and interpreters in the profession, academics and researchers, and those using the services of interpreters.

Q NRPSI at Language Show Live, Olympia London, 14-16 October 2016

The Language Show organisers have informed us that both of our seminar submissions have been successful. We will be providing two presentations: 'A day in the life of an interpreter' and 'The professional's guide to government frameworks'. In addition to having stand 711 in the exhibition hall, we will also be hosting a panel discussion on 'Continuing professional development: why, what, how and when?'.



Q Continuing professional development events

We continue to update the dedicated continuing professional development (CPD) events section of our website with the latest courses and conferences of interest to professional interpreters. NRPSI has agreed to help London Metropolitan University develop a one-day CPD event on the Code of Conduct, so look out for further news on this and please email any topics that you would like to see covered to feedback@nrpsi.org.uk.

Additional facilities in the Interpreter's Room

We have now added details of the security clearances held by Registrants to the **Interpreter's Room**. With all information in one place, you can check your record more easily. You can use this facility to ensure that your security clearances are up to date. Remember, you need your username (the email address on your record) and your password (sent to you when you registered) to log



in to the Interpreter's Room. If you need a reminder, you can get this at any time of the day or night by clicking on the red 'Login to your Account' box that appears on every page of the NRPSI website and selecting the 'Need help with Email Login/ Password?' link that appears underneath the 'NRPSI Registered Interpreter' section.

I hope you find this issue an informative and enjoyable read. If you have a suggestion for inclusion in the newsletter, email admin@nrpsi.org.uk.

Stephen Bishop, Executive Director, NRPSI