

GMB Union News

GMB Interpreters and Translators branch is preparing to file a claim in the High Courts of Justice,

so a ruling is issued and case law created as to:

Which of the court hearings, requiring interpreting, that must be provided by face-to-face interpreters.

On the grounds that such a case involves complex legal issues and it is of high importance to the professional interpreters as well as to the public, the court and prison system and also on the human rights of the defendants, especially those in custody.

It will also be asked the case get resolved with priority, as it is an urgent matter.

GMB Union Interpreters Branch need more volunteer activists to travel to custodial court hearing offers by Thebigword in the country, while yet not being assigned by the time they appear at the venue. And to inform the court that they are available to interpret face2face after the court demand them mandatory from TBW and, when then called by a coordinator, to ask for the travel extra that was given up to a 2025 for long distance jobs (100+ miles away). The most important goal is to alarm the court TBW is wrongly alluding to court there are no available interpreters, while pushing them to convert face-to-face bookings to CVP. So, that evidence is added to the ongoing investigation by HMCTS Directorate.

The interpreters should **not** be from the most common languages (or the rarest), like Russian, Polish, Farsi, Arabic. Spanish, Romanian or Albanian could act successfully in specific areas that are quite remote, like Cornwall or far north... For most other languages such an opportunity reveals roughly every week. Further details, as to how to monitor and recognize such bookings as effective opportunities or how and when to communicate and ask for extra pay for those jobs, will be revealed securely only to union members, so there are no leaks. Therefore, the volunteers need to be part of GMB union Interpreters branch members.

The fight goes on. And we need you!

To become a member go to www.gmb.org.uk/join-gmb There for the needs of the technical grouping of the branch you will have to put down Thebigword as employer - even if you don't work with them often. Put your home address as address of work since self-employed. If you interpret and translate for up to 20 hours a week, you can opt for the reduced (half) membership fee.