

National Register of Public Service Interpreters

Q Government Independent Quality Assessment of Capita TI

The government has appointed Matrix Knowledge to carry out the Independent Quality Assessment of Capita TI. NRPSI will be submitting to the consultation that has been set up as a result of criticisms of the outsourcing arrangements by three government committees. Further problems with the contract emerged with the National Audit Office's **Progress update**, revealing that Capita TI had £46,319 of payments withheld by the Ministry of Justice between May 2012 and November 2013 due to poor performance.



Read our statement regarding the fining of Capita TI.

Q Public Accounts Committee review

NRPSI wrote to the Public Accounts Committee ahead of its meeting on 27 January, at which it reviewed progress made by the MoJ against its recommendations regarding the outsourcing of court interpreting services. Our letter highlighted the difference in the way NRPSI and Capita TI are treated in respect of the security vetting carried out by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The MoJ has informed Parliament that Capita TI is vetting all interpreters to Enhanced level. The DBS however initially informed NRPSI that they couldn't foresee any circumstances under which an interpreter would be justified in applying for an Enhanced clearance (moderated slightly in a later communication). There is therefore a clear disparity in treatment between the two organisations. It has also emerged that Capita operates an administration infrastructure and call centre for the DBS.

Q HMRC consultation on 'Onshore Employment Intermediaries: False Self-Employment'

Her Majesties Revenue & Customs (HMRC) is conducting a consultation on the use of employment intermediaries to facilitate false self-employment and avoid National Insurance contributions and income tax. The outcome of the consultation may result in changes to the Finance Bill 2014. Those interested in contributing to the consultation should view the **information** provided by the HMRC. The deadline for contributions is 4 February 2014.

Q Stall in agreement on ISO/DIS 13611.2 − Guidelines for community interpreting

The Austrian mirror committee voted against the adoption of the ISO/DIS 13611.2 draft standard for community interpreting. The reason the committee gave is: "Given the ambiguities in concepts and scope [of the text of the draft standard], Austria votes against the adoption of ISO/DIS 13611.2. International standardisation efforts should first focus on general interpreting services and then break the subject down into specific, well-defined settings." EULITA has subsequently recommended



that the other mirror committees take a similar position. The target publication date for the agreed standard is March 2014.

NRPSI news

Q Reflections on PSI Ethics LinkedIn Group now open to all Registrants

The LinkedIn group **Reflections on PSI Ethics** is a forum for discussing issues relating to the NRPSI Code of Conduct and general ethical issues that arise from working as a public service interpreter in the UK. Initially set up to enable participants of the 8 November 2013 conference on ethics to continue their discussions, the group is now open to all NRPSI Registrants. Please state your registration number when requesting to join.



And a reminder that you are encouraged to follow the NRPSI LinkedIn Company Page, where we publicise the latest developments at NRPSI.

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

With best wishes, Stephen Bishop Executive Director, NRPSI