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Thank you for signing up to this Newsletter and the NRPSI website. This enables you to access the NRPSI Register of accredited interpreters (along with over 2,200 other organisations working in and for the public services). It helps us if, when you contact interpreters from our website, you mention that you obtained their details from the National Register.

### **Changes in provision of police interpreting**

There are changes to the way that police forces engage the interpreters they need. Under the Home Office CLEP programme, every force is being encouraged to review their current approach. This is resulting in changes to the commercial agencies used, or in some cases police forces using agencies for the first time.

A languages advisory group has been set up by NPCC lead Chief Constable Cole to provide guidance to the police forces in their decision making. The Chair of the Working Group, Chief Inspector Sarah Shrubshall of Suffolk Constabulary, has issued the recommendation to all police forces:

'we would encourage you to include a requirement for all interpreters under any new contract to be a National Register of Public Service Interpreters (NRPSI) member. This offers a degree of protection to both the interpreter and the police as they hold a list of suitably qualified and vetted interpreters, they are able to investigate any issues over quality or vetting etc – at no cost to us, and it helps us to acknowledge that we are keen to support the professionalization of interpretation in the criminal justice sector.'

NRPSI would be happy to provide guidance or advice to any police force procurement that is reviewing its language services, and to hear from any forces where the above recommendation has not been followed and unregistered interpreters are being used. Please email me in either case [stephen@nrpsi.org.uk](mailto:stephen@nrpsi.org.uk).

### **QR codes speed up checks on Registrants**

To help users to check NRPSI Photo ID Cards, a QR Code is now printed on the reverse of the Card. Scanning the code will go straight to the Registrant's record on the National Register, or if they are not currently registered it will show 'This interpreter is not currently on the Register'.

This will be particularly useful if you did not engage the interpreter yourself but they were supplied on your behalf, for example, through a government-contract supplier. This will enable you to easily see the information on the interpreter's record, eg their security clearance.

What is a [QR code](#)? It is like a bar code which links through to relevant information on the internet, and can be scanned by anyone by downloading the free software onto a mobile phone or tablet. Search your online apps store for 'free QR Reader' and you will find there are many apps to choose from.

We are adding the QR codes each month as Registrants renew their annual registration and are provided with their new ID Cards, so it will take about a year for every ID Card to display the QR Code.

Of course if you prefer, you can still tap the Registrant Number into the 'Verify Registration' box that appears on every page of the website, in order to verify the Registrant's credentials.

For further information on what to look for when checking the Photo ID Card visit the [Clients of Interpreters](#) section of our website.

### **National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Interpreting Review**

Thank you to all those who responded to the first-stage consultation of the review. Instructus – the organisation managing the review – reported a high response rate (with the notable absence of respondents based in Northern Ireland) and have taken the comments on board. There have been several Working and Steering Group meetings since to produce the draft revised NOS Interpreting units.

If you responded to the previous round, Instructus will contact you directly to invite you to take part in the next survey in April to comment on the units. It is important that all concerned with interpreting take part as NOS are used as the basis of producing qualifications for professional interpreting, to develop apprenticeships etc.

### **Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA)**

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 resulted in a review of the GLA's role and remit and as a result the GLA has evolved to become the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA).

The GLAA retains its licensing and regulatory function over temporary labour but has a much broader role in terms of addressing labour exploitation across the entire labour market. This will include police-style powers under the Modern Slavery Act (forced or compulsory labour) to protect all workers, regardless of employment status. This new role will be described at the GLAA's [National Conference](#) on 11 October 2017 at Edgbaston Stadium, Birmingham.

The GLAA's publication 'Labour Exploitation: Spotting the signs' has been produced as a reference to assist anyone who comes into contact with individuals who may have been trafficked and/or are suffering from labour exploitation. It includes the important recommendation (supported by NRPSI): when assisting victims 'don't use unofficial interpreters or friends of victims to interpret, they may have their own agenda'.

Follow the NRPSI [Company page](#) on LinkedIn for other developments of interest in professional interpreting and at NRPSI.

With kind regards,

Stephen Bishop  
**Executive Director**  
National Register of Public Service Interpreters  
[www.nrpsi.org.uk](http://www.nrpsi.org.uk)  
a not-for-profit organisation

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