

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Police Authorised Interpreters and Translator service (PAIT) – Q & A

Does this mean that Forces have to work differently when using interpreters or translators?

Those forces using a managed contract with a Language Service Provider (LSP) will find that the LSP will do everything that is necessary to comply with the PAIT scheme.

Those forces that currently use the NRPSI register or any other list of interpreters, will need to change to the PAIT list to ensure interpreters and translators are compliant with the PAIT Scheme. The interpreters and translators currently being used may well be suitable for PAIT approval if they hold the required vetting, qualifications and experience.

When will the database be fully up and running?

There will be a phased approach to implementation. Spoken face to face interpreters will be first to be brought on to the PAIT Scheme. It is hoped this will go live in April 2021, but forces with specific requirements may require an extension to ensure service is not disrupted.

How do I access the information and database for the PAIT scheme?

Language Service Providers will manage this for you. The National Police Contract Manager will hold the master list for all forces, but the LSP will source the interpreters and translators in the usual way, but ensuring a PAIT linguist is assigned if one is available.

How do translators and interpreters get in touch to be put on the database?

This will be managed by the LSPs as they do now for forces they had contracts with.

Why was there a need to revise how police work in the first place?

Across the UK, requirements for the deployment of interpreters has been variable. The PAIT Scheme will ensure a professional standard and regulation of interpreters and translators.

The scheme has the approval and support of all members of NPCC as well as all Language Service Providers currently supplying interpreters and translators to police forces. The scheme has been devised after extensive consultation with police regional representatives, interpreter representative bodies, the College of Policing, linguist academics and a number of individual interpreters to ensure its suitability for police assignments.

If I am not an accredited translator/interpreter can I still work for the police?

Once the scheme is operational, any deployment of an interpreter or translator not approved as a PAIT, will need to be authorised by an officer of the rank of Inspector.

How do officers ensure that they are using the right system to get an interpreter?

LSPs will manage this on behalf of forces

What difference will this make to how the service runs at the moment?

Currently there will be no change.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Once implemented, all interpreters and translators will be approved by the scheme in order to ensure police receive fully qualified, vetted and experienced interpreters. This will assure the integrity of the investigation and any subsequent prosecution. This scheme, coupled with the new College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice on police use of interpreters, will ensure a standardised approach across the UK which will benefit both police and the interpreters and translators who deploy to assignments.

=ends=

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED