

SS17100 – Market Engagement regarding Interpreting Services for D/deaf and Deafblind People

March 2018

Introduction

- Kent County Council's Sensory and Autism Services team would like to engage with both suppliers and Language Service Professionals to understand the marketplace and the range of service offerings in relation to interpreting services for D/deaf and deafblind people.
- Information gathered through this market engagement will be used to inform a commissioning strategy for the redesign of these services in Kent.

Background

- KCC has a Kent partnership with the following organisations, who all use the current BSL Interpreting Contract
 - Kent Police
 - Kent Fire & Rescue
 - Kent Community Health Foundation Trust
 - Kent & Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust
 - Dover District Council

Kent Demographic

- 480 people are known to KCC as being Deaf without speech.
- Prevalence rates are known to be around 1000
- 444 live in Kent and the remaining are out of County
- Deaf people live across the whole of Kent, but there are particularly higher numbers in Thanet due to the Deaf School being located there for a number of years.
- Approximately 50% live in East Kent with 25% located in West Kent and 25% North Kent.

Demand for Interpreting Services in Kent

Partner	Jan – March 2017	April – June 2017	July – September 2017	October – December 2017
KCC	68	62	76	49
Kent Police	10	2	9	6
KMPT	5	12	17	26
KFRS	1	0	5	3
KCHT	43	37	74	57
Dover	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	127 bookings	113 bookings	181 bookings	141 bookings
	All partner bookings were for BSL Interpreters only	All partner bookings were for BSL Interpreters only	All partner bookings were for BSL Interpreters. KCC also had 1 DRI booking (to accompany a BSL Interpreter)	All partner bookings were for BSL Interpreters. KCC also had 6 DRI bookings (to accompany BSL Interpreters) and 1 Lipspeaker bookings. KMPT had 1 DRI booking (to accompany a BSL Interpreter)