

NRPSI STATEMENT ON THE REGULATION OF NHS MANAGERS

1 September 2023

As the voluntary regulator of public service interpreters, NRPSI supports the call from The Shadow Health Secretary, The British Medical Association and some senior Conservatives for the regulation of NHS managers initiated by the recent Lucy Letby case. (See The Guardian: [‘Labour vows to make NHS managers accountable after Lucy Letby failings’](#), 28 August).

We believe in safeguarding the public and providing them with access to the very best that our public services exist to provide – including our health service.

This involves supporting public sector professionals to do their jobs as effectively and efficiently as possible, free from the fear of being undermined or let down by the incompetence or misconduct of those facing little or no regulation who work in related fields.

The only way to accomplish this is through greater accountability, which can only be achieved via independent regulation of those professionals that doctors, nurses and other medical practitioners rely on in order to be able to do their job.

Independent regulation isn't about restriction, nor should it be about over-complication, it is about enabling people to do their job with confidence, knowing that a transparent system and procedure exists to protect them and others should things go wrong.

NRPSI has been campaigning for only Registered Interpreters with the requisite qualifications and practical experience to be engaged in healthcare settings for some time. We, therefore, welcome the recent [commitment from the Department of Health and Social Care \(DHSC\) to undertake a review of community languages translation and interpretation \(CLTI\) services](#) across the NHS and the invitation to consult on this. It is only right that this takes place immediately to ensure those interpreters working with NHS medical professionals are held to equally high professional standards.

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<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2023/aug/28/labour-vows-to-make-nhs-managers-accountable-after-lucy-letby-failings>

<https://www.nrpsi.org.uk/news-posts/The-NHS-s-Healthcare-Inequalities-Improvement-team-will-be-leading-a-language-services-scoping-review-see-the-letter-dated-8th-August-2023.html>