

Dear Colleagues,

Further to our previous withdrawal of services (23rd-27th September, 2024) we would like to update you on the following:

As mentioned on the NRPSI website, it seems that the government is set to continue with their earlier decision to choose outsourcing. The government, of course, never expected us to stand together! We continue to fight for insourcing, believing that by cutting out the middle man we are giving the MOJ back the opportunity to use only qualified interpreters at the same budget (if not lower).

Should the government confirm they would only consider outsourcing, we shall continue withdrawing our services until all parties involved understand that we, the interpreters, have to be invited to the contract negotiation table and will not accept work at abusive rates from the current/new supplier. As we all know, no contract can operate without interpreters!

DA Languages have already started sending e-mails offering £13 per hour. Last week (and possibly on many prior occasions) TBW used an interpreter at £16 per hour for a court assignment. This is a clear example whereby it preys upon the vulnerability of certain interpreters willing to undertake assignments at degrading rates.

We now invite you to join our next withdrawal of services. Unfortunately, at this present moment in time, we are sure that the disruption of the daily operation of courts is our only avenue to make our stand known.

Withdrawal of services 28th and 29th October 2024 (alongside those who have already done so and will continue to withdraw services): **On these dates, we will not accept any bookings through the TBW who avoid an open dialogue with us as opposed to what they claim in The Guardian, The Law Gazette, The BBC etc. On these dates we will be accepting bookings both directly from courts and from other agencies who, as we see, pay better rates.**

This will send a strong message to the current supplier and any potential one, that abusing qualified (and NRPSI regulated) interpreters is to become a thing of the past!

Should our views not be taken into consideration, our withdrawal of services would become a regular occurrence - several days at the time.

Please check below the impact of our first withdrawal of services where we raised the awareness that "there is no available interpreter" is a lie that TBW uses to cover up their refusal to reduce their profit and offer interpreters an adequate remuneration. Consequences of course fall on the Public purse and only make prison overcrowding worse.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/linguist-lounge_sonia-watson-26092024-bbc-sounds-activity-7245007122248208386-58_E?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_ios

<https://www.theguardian.com/law/2024/sep/23/court-interpreters-in-england-and-wales-to-withdraw-labour-for-a-week>

<https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/news/disgruntled-court-interpreters-withdraw-services/5120945.article>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwyl0483jw0o>

Please sign the petition below and when you do, ensure it is confirmed in your inbox/spam, so that your name registers to be counted:

[Sign the Petition](#)



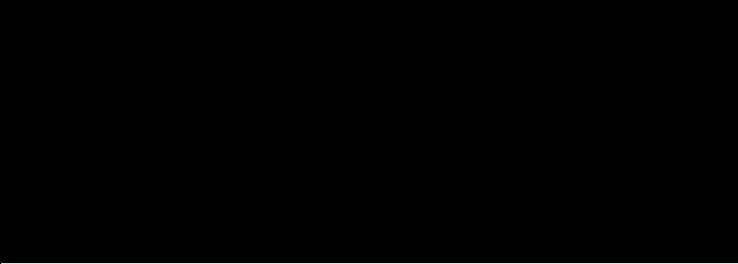
[Sign the Petition](#)

[STOP THE SALE OF MoJ INTERPRETERS TO A GREEDY CORPORATION - SAVE PUBLIC FUNDS!](#)

And last, but not least:

Please see the link below which shows the extent to which TBW is prepared to go in order to replace fully qualified interpreters:

[thebigword visits HMP Wealstun Prison in Wetherby - thebigword](#)



thebigword visits HMP Wealstun Prison in Wetherby - thebigword

Employees from global language solutions provider, thebigword, have visited HMP Wealstun Prison in Wetherby to e...

"The outcome of the visit was overwhelmingly positive, identifying several areas for further exploration. These included: training opportunities for inmates aimed at fostering their potential to become linguists"

THANK YOU!