

10th January 2025

Please note below a letter from those organising calls to withdraw service

Dear Colleagues,

We hope you are well and had a restful Christmas and New Year break.

As you are aware, Baroness Morris of Yardley, Chair of the House of Lords' Public Services Committee, sent a very strong message to Sarah Sackman, the Minister of State for Courts and Legal Services, calling for a pause in the re-tendering process for interpreting and translation services in courts as many of the issues raised in over 70 submissions and oral evidence had been acknowledged by the Committee.

<https://committees.parliament.uk/work/8493/interpreting-and-translation-services-in-the-courts/publications/3/correspondence/>

Many colleagues have worked hard to make this happen! The Committee have now gained a better understanding of the reality and issues of interpreting profession, as well of the flawed model affecting court users and the public purse.

However, despite the PI4J submissions, oral evidence given by the NRPSI, CIOL and ITI, interpreters' letters to their local MPs, dozens of submissions to the Committee from national and international professional organisations, academia, individual interpreters, protesting and withdrawing services in solidarity, interpreters are yet to see the MoJ pause the procurement process.

The Fourth Withdrawal of Services between 23rd December - 31st December 2024 has now passed, and we are grateful to those interpreters who took part.

Join our Fifth Withdrawal of Services on the 10th January and 13th January 2025!

We look forward to seeing you on the 10th of January, 2025, at our peaceful protest in Parliament Square from 11:00 till 13.00. Feel free to attend at any point during this time, and for as long as you are able to. There is a cafe booked for 13.15 (The Cellarium Café & Terrace), a short walk from the square. Please join us for a chat in an informal setting - places are available.

If not already completed, it would be appreciated if you could complete this anonymous poll announcing the January protest:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdnPi-sKZW6koqby_8lpJLnQ_7b1BGRk_4PWSFTNWdoEHi-qQ/viewform

All withdrawals mean not accepting any court bookings, whether direct (off-contract) or through TBW/other agencies.

As we approach our fifth month of standing united in the pursuit of better terms and conditions for UK court interpreters, your continued support remains vital.

*Kind regards,
The UK Court Interpreters (Level 6/Level 7)*

ENDS