

16th November 2023

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 23.010302

Thank you for your request for recorded data held by South Yorkshire Police.

Response

1. Please confirm your overall spending on Translation and Interpreting Services, for each of the financial years:

a. **2020-2021:** £408,977.14 b. **2022-2023:** £316,233.57

You haven't asked for 2021-2022 but if it's required then £344,377.56

2. Please provide a breakdown of languages for the last 12 months

3. What languages were your suppliers not able to supply in 2022?

No Information Held – this data is not held by South Yorkshire Police it is owned by Language Line Solutions (previously Capita).

4. Which external supplier(s) do you currently use to deliver your interpreting and translation services ?

Language Line

5. Are you able to provide approximate fee / interpreting session for:

a. In-person/face to face interpreting b Telephone interpreting c. Video interpreting

Please see the below exemption

6. If you outsource the provision of interpreting services to an external provider, could you please confirm:

a) **Whether the provider was contracted via a national framework? If so, which one?** ESPO Framework

b) **When does the current contract expire?** - 30th Nov 2023

c) **Is there is an exclusivity clause, which would prevent you from piloting new cost saving interpreting services during the duration of your contract with your existing provider?** No However the Supplier needs to be on the Police National Language Services DPS

7. From which budget within your organisation are interpreting services funded?

The budget for the force for Language Services (interpreters, translation and transcription) sits with the Custody budget. The budget funds the language services provision for custody and districts/departments across the force.

8. Where do you advertise your tenders? If you do not do a full tender / which frameworks would you use?

EU Supply, the Framework we use is Police National Language Services DPS

9. What is the start and end date for either the framework or direct contracts you have with interpreting and translation supplier(s)?

DPS allows Suppliers to join anytime as long as they meet the criteria

10. Please provide the name and email of the contract manager for the service <https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/contact-us/sell-to-syp/>

11. If we would like to engage in conversation with a member of staff in your organisation to discuss the innovation we propose to develop, who would be the most suitable person to approach?

procurement@southyorks.pnn.police.uk

Question 5 - Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Yorkshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt), to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- a. states that fact,
- b. specifies the exemption in question and
- c. states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemptions applicable to your request falls under the following exemptions:

Section 43(2) – Commercial Interests

When a disclosure is made under the Freedom of Information Act, it is a disclosure to the world via a forces publication scheme and not to a single individual. In view of this, we may publish all information released under the Freedom of Information Act on our website in order that any member of the public who may wish to view the information can have access to it.

By releasing this type of information it may be deemed to be commercially sensitive. Such disclosure would undermine the confidence of any current or future supplier to South Yorkshire Police, this is a relatively small market and to provide a costing or fees for sessions may affect competitive tendering.

Considerations favouring disclosure

- Increased awareness of how South Yorkshire Police use public funds when entering into contracts with third parties.
- Public understanding of Translation & Interpreting budgets and how we use it and the amount we have to pay our suppliers.

Considerations against disclosure

- This market is a small market and releasing costings would not encourage a competition in the market.
- The provision of sensitive aspects of particular contracts would undermine the competitive advantage of suppliers and undermine the confidence of Suppliers.

Balance Test

I have carefully considered your request for information. The key test when considering the public interest is to establish whether in all the circumstances of the request the public interest in disclosing information is not outweighed by that in maintaining the exemption or exemptions. I am of the opinion that the maintenance of a strong and effective commercial relationship between South Yorkshire Police and third party suppliers is essential to provide the public with the best use of their funds now and in any future tendering process.

Having weighed up both parts of the public interest test, I have decided on balance that the detail requested in Q5 should not be released via this FOI request.

Police forces do not use generic systems or identical procedures for capturing the data. For these reasons this response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with responses you may receive from other police forces.