

Police Approved Interpreters and Translators (PAIT) Classifications for Spoken Language, Face to Face & British Sign Language (BSL) Interpreters, Translators, Transcribers & Telephone Interpreters

The table below, sets out the qualifications, experience and vetting required to be classified within the PAIT Scheme.

PAIT Levels and Requirements

Spoken and Non-Spoken Interpreting

PAIT Full Status (F)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPPV Level 3 Vetted Police related qualification (one or more of the following) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPSI Law Full Diploma in Community Interpreting Police and Court Pathway DPI Met Police Test 400 hours Public Service Interpreting experience
PAIT Legacy Status (L)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPPV Level 3 Vetted Level 6 non-Police related language qualification 400 hours Public Service Interpreting experience <i>including</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 in a Police setting or 40 hours including significant investigative interpreting (victim / witness statements or interviews under caution with detained persons)
PAIT BSL Status (B)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPPV Level 3 Vetted Holds Level 6 or equivalent interpreting qualification Registered with NRCPD or RBSLI 400 hours Public Service Interpreting experience including 50 in a Police setting or attended a PAIT approved Police Awareness Course
PAIT Relay Intralingual Interpreter (I)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPPV Level 3 Vetted Recognised Level 6 Qualification 400 Hours Public Service Interpreting Registered with NRCPD or RBSLI Completed a PAIT approved Police Awareness Training
PAIT Partial Status (P)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPPV Level 3 Vetted Police related qualification (see list above) 100 - 399 hours Public Service Interpreting experience including 30 in a Police setting

PAIT Rare (R)

Definition of Rare Language is where a relevant Level 6 qualification is not available in that language!

- NPPV Level 3 Vetted
- Interpreter is able to demonstrate ability to communicate in the relevant language (Confirmed by the LSP)
- English Proficiency Test Passed **or** English is their First Language
- 100 hours Public Service Interpreting experience including 30 in a Police setting

PAIT Temporary (T) Status

- Inspectors Authority has been approved for at least one police assignment
- NPPV Level 3 Vetted
- No qualification held
- 100 hours Public Service Interpreting experience including 30 in a Police setting

Non-PAIT – Requires Inspectors Approval to Assign for Every Job*

- One or more of the following criteria mean that the interpreter does not fit into any of the above classifications
 - Doesn't hold NPPV3 Vetting
 - Lower **or** no qualification of relevance held
 - Limited experience of interpreting in the public/police sector

Translation & Transcription

PAIT Translator (TL)

- Translator must hold NPPV3 level vetting
- Translator must have obtained a degree **or** equivalent in source **or** target language, **or** in translation
- Translator must have one (1) years' experience as a professional translator **or**
- Translator must have translated a minimum of 100,000 words

PAIT Transcriber (TS)

- Transcriber must hold NPPV3 level vetting,
- Transcriber must have obtained a degree **or** equivalent in the transcribed language, **or** in translation.
- Transcriber must have one (1) years' experience as a professional linguist.
- For English transcription only, Transcriber may have English as their first language with one (1) year's professional experience.

PAIT Translator Rare (TLR)

Definition of Rare Language is where a relevant Level 6 qualification is not available in that language

- Translator must hold NPPV3 level vetting.
- Translator must have one (1) years' experience as a professional translator or
- Translator must have translated a minimum of 100,000 words

PAIT Transcriber Rare (TSR)

Definition of Rare Language is where a relevant Level 6 qualification is not available in that language

- Translator must hold NPPV3 level vetting.
- Transcriber must have one (1) years' experience as a professional linguist

Non-PAIT – Requires Inspectors Approval to Assign for Every Job*

One or more of the following criteria mean that the Translator/Transcriber does not fit into any of the above classifications

- Doesn't hold NPPV3 Vetting
- Lower **or** no qualification of relevance held
- Limited experience of Translating/Transcribing in the public/police sector

Telephone Interpreting

PAIT Specification for a Police Telephone Interpreting Service

Introduction

This specification differs to other PAIT specifications in that it is not assigned to a specific interpreter. Records will not be held of the many thousands of interpreters who are signed up with a DPS approved Supplier to deliver TI.

Instead, *the criteria of the specification is aimed at the supplier*. It is they who are required to ensure the interpreters used for police TI calls are compliant with this specification.

Telephone Interpreters

Telephone interpreters may be based in the UK or overseas. Whilst interpreters may hold qualifications, it is the formally structured and documented testing for both English and the target language that are essential requirements.

Testing

All telephone Interpreters must have undergone and passed a consistent selection, testing and induction process. If Telephone Interpreters hold a qualification which covers the English proficiency and target language proficiency, they are exempt from testing.

The LSP must be able to evidence qualifications, testing and training per interpreter upon request. The process must be consistent in application across all interpreters.

The testing process* should include:

- English proficiency test to demonstrate proficiency equivalent to C1 & C2 CEFR **or** IELTS 7
- A test of interpreting skills assessment in both the target language and English

A record of the testing process and the results of this must be held by the LSP.

***Legacy Telephone Interpreters are not expected to complete the testing process.**

Familiarisation

Interpreters should have undergone a basic familiarisation process around police practices and have awareness of elements including:

- the MG11 witness statement form

- the UK phonetic alphabet

Working arrangements

Telephone interpreters must be operating under agreements which include codes of conduct, ethics and confidentiality.

Telephone interpreters must be aware of the possibility that they may be called upon to give evidence/statements around a call.

Telephone interpreters must be aware that calls may be recorded.

Vetting

Interpreters should be cleared to Standard DBS **or** equivalent level for overseas interpreters.

This must be renewed every 3 years, **or** earlier if information is received to question the interpreter's potential vetting status.

Complaints & Quality Assurance Processes

LSPs must have in place an established and documented feedback process, including review/investigation, resolution and escalation pathways.

* Where a decision is made by a Force to accept the use of a Non-PAIT interpreter or translator, then approval must be provided to the Language Service Provider by a Police Officer of Inspector Rank or higher.