Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.20.1658
Date Received: 23rd September 2020

Information Requested:

1. What types of language services are currently used by the Trust? spoken interpreting, non-spoken interpreting (BSL), document translation, telephone interpreting, video interpreting?
   - Face to face interpreting services
   - Telephone interpreting services
   - Written translation services
   - Audio translation services

2. How many appointments require a face to face interpreter annually?
   963 (figure for the last calendar year September 2019 – August 2020)

3. How many instances of a telephone interpreter being used are there annually?
   0 (figure for the last calendar year September 2019 – August 2020)

4. Are you currently engaged in a contract with a language service agency/multiple agencies?
   The Trust can confirm that it has previously received similar FOI requests regarding translation and interpreting services (reference numbers EPUT.FOI.20.1619 and EPUT.FOI.20.1638). All EPUT FOI requests are published on its Publication Scheme. The Trust therefore believes that the information above is publicly available on its Website and is applying Section 21 exemption of the Act (Information accessible to applicant by other means).
   
   The links to the Trusts Publication Scheme documents are:
   https://eput.nhs.uk/publication-category/august/
   https://eput.nhs.uk/publication-category/september/

5. What date does the contract end on?
   Please see response to Question 4

6. What is the trust’s total spend annually on language services?
   Please see response to Question 4

Applied Exemption:

Section 21 (Information accessible to applicant by other means):

(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)—
(a) Information may be reasonably accessible to the applicant even though it is accessible only on payment, and

(b) Information is to be taken to be reasonably accessible to the applicant if it is information which the public authority or any other person is obliged by or under any enactment to communicate (otherwise than by making the information available for inspection) to members of the public on request, whether free of charge or on payment.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1), information which is held by a public authority and does not fall within subsection (2)(b) is not to be regarded as reasonably accessible to the applicant merely because the information is available from the public authority itself on request, unless the information is made available in accordance with the authority’s publication scheme and any payment required is specified in, or determined in accordance with, the scheme.

Publication Scheme:

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT’s Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link https://eput.nhs.uk