

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 4106

Please reply to:
FOI Administrator
Trust Management
Service Centre
Maidstone Hospital
Hermitage Lane
Maidstone
Kent
ME16 9QQ
Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to BSL interpreters.

- 1. How many BSL interpreters are available at each of your hospitals to attend 999 callouts involving deaf people, and to translate for patients inside hospital (please state the number of interpreters and the name of each hospital, if possible)?*
- 2. If BSL interpreters are available, how much did these cost last year (January to December)?*
- 3. If BSL interpreters are not available, what policies or procedures do your hospitals have regarding dealing with emergencies and treatment concerning deaf BSL users?*
- 4. The list of hospitals in which you operate as an organisation.*

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust have two hospital sites, Maidstone Hospital and Tunbridge Wells Hospital at Pembury.

The Trust has a contract with Capita who provide Face to Face Interpreters, Telephone Interpreting, BSL and Written Translations.

The reporting received to date does not allow the Trust to separate BSL interpreters and we are unable to provide the cost of this service.

If you have any queries about this letter please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.