

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 9202

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

27 June 2024

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, SSE and deaf blind interpreters.

You asked: All questions are shown as received by the Trust.

- 1) BSL/SSE
- a) How many requests have been made to the Trust for BSL/SSE to English interpreters?
- b) How many of these requests were confirmed/fulfilled?

c) How many were fulfilled by staff and how many by agency staff?

- d) What were the main reasons for an interpreter being unavailable to attend any unfulfilled requests?
- 2) Deaf Blind

a) How many requests have been made to the Trust for deaf blind interpreters?

b) How many of these requests were confirmed/fulfilled?

c) How many were fulfilled by staff and how many by agency staff?

d) What were the main reasons for an interpreter being unavailable to attend any unfulfilled requests?

3) Does the Trust employ any BSL/SSE/deaf blind interpreters within the Trust, on a full time staff basis?

4) Does the Trust have a contract with a video relay service? Please provide a breakdown of the above for the years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and Jan - May 2024.

Trust response:

1& 2. BSL/ Deaf Blind – Our data does not have the full split on this and only shows BSL. Please note 2024 is only up until May 2024.

Question	Response '20	Response '21	Response '22	Response '23	Response '24
а	65	41	172	177	110
b	ALL	ALL	ALL	ALL	ALL
С	By interpreter				
	service	service	service	service	service
d	None	None	None	None	None

3. No, the Trust uses an interpreter service that is contracted out.4. Yes, The Trust uses the incumbent and is also looking at other relay services for this.