

Interpreter and Translation Services

serving the community through the administration of justice

Quarterly Bulletin

Period: October – December 2010

Interpreter and Translation Services Quarterly Bulletin

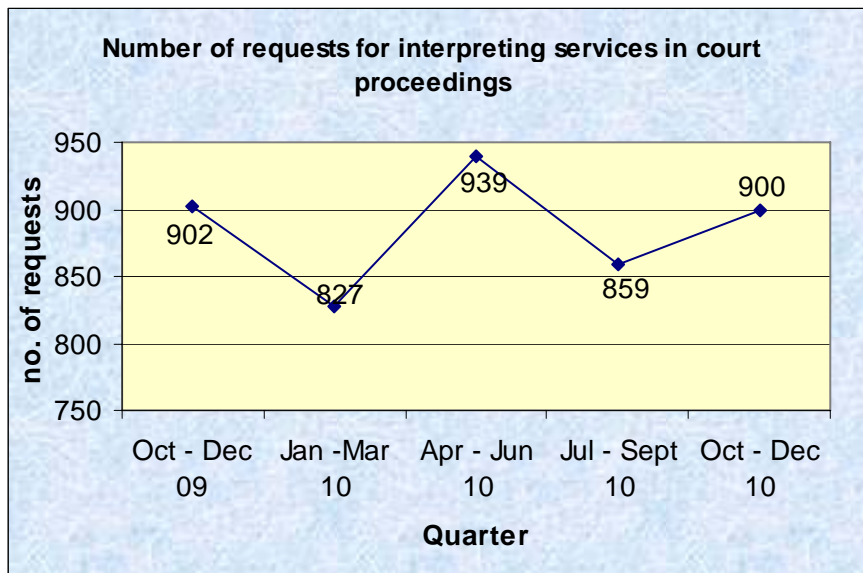
Introduction

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an analysis of business volumes and costs associated with the provision of language interpretation (both foreign language and sign language) and translation services during October to December 2010.

Summary

2. During this period a total of **900** requests were received for interpreter services in court proceedings. The comparable figure for the same quarter in 2009 was 902 representing a decrease of 0.1% (see Figure 1 below).

Figure 1



3. During the period the following requests were received; **7** requests for sign language interpretation **41** requests for translation of documents

4. A breakdown of requests by court type and tier is illustrated in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Breakdown of requests by Court Tier / Type

Court Tier	Oct – Dec 09	Jan – Mar 10	Apr – Jun 10	July – Sep 10	Oct – Dec 10
Criminal Proceedings					
High Court	38	34	33	32	27
Crown Court	93	58	80	58	115*
Magistrates Court	721	691	741	708	633
County Court	23	10	17	8	16
Civil Proceedings					
High Court	0	0	0	0	2**
County Court	0	0	0	0	7***
Extradition Proceedings	7	11	16	15	37
Family Proceedings					
Family Proceedings Court / Family Care Centre	19	22	50	38	61
Coroners Proceedings					
Coroners Court	1	1	2	0	1
Tribunals					
Tribunals	0	0	0	0	1
Total	902	827	939	859	900

*2 of these requests were for sign language interpretation

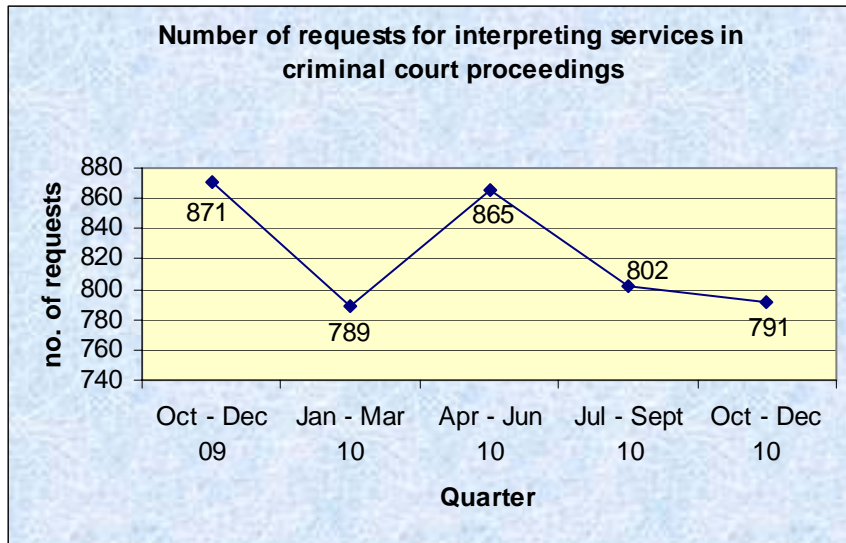
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Language Interpretation – Criminal Proceedings

- During this quarter, a total of **791** requests were received to arrange foreign language interpreter services for defendants in criminal proceedings.
- Business volumes for the previous 12 months are illustrated in **Figure 2** over.

Figure 2



7. A breakdown of requests by court venue is illustrated in **Table 2** below. Further detail on the breakdown of requests by language type for each venue can be found at **Annex A**.

Table 2: Breakdown of requests by court venue

	Oct – Dec 09	Jan – Mar 10	Apr – Jun 10	July- Sep 10	Oct – Dec 10
Antrim	35	21	18	39	28
Armagh	56	40	82	71	67
Ballymena**	44	22	53	0	0
Banbridge*	0	0	0	0	0
Bangor	9	2	3	1	11
Coleraine	17	18	24	25	23
Craigavon	59	82	52	55	54
Downpatrick	22	16	26	16	22
Dungannon	200	163	137	145	145
Enniskillen	25	16	22	30	34
Laganside	93	92	122	189	197
Larne	2	1	0	1	1
Limavady	0	0	1	0	0
Lisburn	29	34	17	15	30
Londonderry	19	6	6	3	9

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Magherafelt	16	16	15	13	24
Newry	139	153	158	109	77
Newtownards	43	38	40	17	9
Omagh	22	35	54	35	22
RCJ	38	34	32	34	28
Strabane	3	0	3	4	9
Total	871	789	865	802	791

* Banbridge Courthouse is currently closed

** Ballymena Courthouse is currently closed for refurbishment. It will reopen Monday 4 April 2011

8. The highest number of requests for interpretation services in criminal proceedings was received from **Laganside Courts**.

9. A breakdown of the requests received this quarter by language type is illustrated in **Table 3** below.

Table 3: breakdown of requests in criminal cases by language type

	Oct – Dec 09	Jan – Mar 10	Apr – Jun 10	July – Sep 10	Oct – Dec 10
Albanian	1	0	0	0	0
Arabic*	5	1	2	4	6
Bengali	1	11	6	6	2
Bulgarian	4	2	10	10	22
Cantonese	11	3	6	5	7
Czech	7	8	13	7	7
Dutch	0	0	0	2	0
Estonian	0	0	0	1	1
French	4	4	2	0	1
Hindi	0	0	0	1	2
Hungarian	7	14	5	16	5
Italian	0	0	1	0	0
Kurdish	0	0	0	2	0
Latvian	28	38	32	24	47
Lithuanian	338	288	315	257	251

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Malayalam	0	2	1	1	6
Mandarin	88	53	86	91	92
Nigerian	0	0	0	0	1
Polish	219	239	227	209	195
Portuguese	44	47	45	38	45
Punjabi	0	4	0	0	0
Romanian	21	1	37	62	16
Russian	52	27	20	22	20
Serbian	0	2	2	0	2
Slovakian	25	11	18	20	32
Somali	0	4	6	8	5
Spanish	1	1	2	0	2
Tetum	12	24	21	7	14
Thai	1	0	0	0	0
Turkish	1	1	0	0	2
Ukrainian	0	0	7	5	1
Urdu	0	4	1	4	3

Vietnamese	0	0	0	0	1
Yoruba**	1	0	0	0	1
Total	871	789	865	802	791

Includes figures for North Africa Arabic and Egyptian Arabic

** A language spoken in Nigeria

10. The top 4 languages requested during this quarter were **Lithuanian, Polish, Mandarin and Portuguese.**

Extradition proceedings

11. During the reporting period a total of **37** requests to arrange interpreter services in Extradition Proceedings were received. The comparable figure for the previous quarter was **15**.

12. A breakdown of requests by language type is set out in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Breakdown of requests by language type for extradition proceedings

Language	No. of requests
Basque	1
Bulgarian	3
Latvian	1
Lithuanian	4
Polish	22
Slovakian	3
Spanish	3

Civil Proceedings

13. There were **4** requests for foreign language interpreters in civil hearings in this period.

Family Proceedings

14. During the reporting period there were **60** requests to arrange interpreter services in Family Proceedings. This compares to **38** for the previous quarter. Details of the languages and locations are contained in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Breakdown of requests in Family Proceedings by court type / venue

Court Type	Location	No. of requests	Language
Magistrates Court – Family	Antrim	1	Polish
Magistrates Court – Family	Armagh	1	Polish
Magistrates Court – Family	Craigavon	11	3 Lithuanian, 4 Polish, 4 Portuguese
Magistrates Court – Family	Dungannon	15	11 Lithuanian, 1 Portuguese, 2 Russian, 1 Spanish
Magistrates Court - Family	Laganside	10	3 Cantonese, 1 Farsi, 3 Latvian, 1 Pilipino, 2 Polish
Magistrates Court - Family	Lisburn	8	1 Lithuanian, 7 Polish
Magistrates Court - Family	Londonderry	1	1 Thai
Magistrates Court - Family	Magherafelt	1	1 Russian
Magistrates Court - Family	Newry	1	1 Polish
Magistrates Court - Family	Old Townhall	5	1 Lithuanian, 3 Polish, 1 Turkish
Magistrates Court – Family	Omagh	1	1 Russian
Magistrates Court – Family	RCJ	5	5 Russian

Coroners Court

15. During the reporting period **1** request were made to arrange interpreting services in a Coroners' Court. The comparable figure for the previous quarter was **1**.

Sign Language Interpreters / Palantypist Requests

16. During the reporting period a total of **11** requests were received to arrange an interpreter for deaf or hearing impaired customers attending court. The comparable figure for the previous quarter was **4**.

17. A breakdown of requests by court tier is set out in **Table 7** below.

Table 7: Breakdown of requests for Sign Language Interpreters / Palantypist by court tier

	Oct – Dec 09	Jan – Mar 10	Apr – Jun 10	July – Sep 10	Oct – Dec 10
Crown Court	0	0	0	0	2
Magistrates Court	4	4	6	3	0
Family Proceedings	8	6	7	0	1
Civil Proceedings	0	0	0	1	4
High Court	0	0	0	0	4
Total	12	10	13	4	11

Document Translation

18. During the quarter **41** requests were received for document translation. The comparable figure for the previous quarter was **45**.

19. A breakdown of requests by location and language type is illustrated in **Tables 8** and **9** below.

Table 8: Breakdown of requests for document translation by location

Location	Number of Requests
Business Development Group	14
Civil Policy	3
Coroners	11
Customer Service Group	1
Dungannon	1
EJO	2
Finance Branch	1
High Court Family	4
Official Solicitor's Office	2
Policy & Legal	2
Total	41

Table 9: Breakdown of document translations by language

Language	Number of Translations
Danish to English	1
English to Portuguese	3
English to Lithuanian	3
English to Polish	18
English to Slovakian	3
English to Romanian	7
English to Turkish	2
German to English	1
Slovakian to English	1
Turkish to English	1
Total	41

Telephone Interpretation

20. A telephone Interpretation facility is available at Laganside, Dungannon, Newry and the RCJ. In the period October - December 2010, **3 calls** were made.

Costs*

* For the purpose of this report, costs are calculated on the basis of payments made in the period rather than requests received.

Criminal Proceedings

21. The Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service [NICTS] is responsible for arranging the attendance of an interpreter to support defendants who require the assistance of a language interpreter at a second or subsequent hearing of a criminal case.

22. The cost of providing interpreters at criminal hearings from October - December 2010 was **£98,222.26**. This compares to **£100,810.83** which was the amount for the previous quarter.

Civil and Family Proceedings

23. Generally, when an action is privately funded, it is a matter for the party requiring the services of an interpreter to make the arrangements and meet the costs. However, where the action is in respect of civil committal proceedings, NICTS has a legal obligation under the human rights legislation to provide an interpreter and meet the costs.

24. The Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service will arrange language interpreters for civil and family hearings in the following circumstances:

Domestic violence, family cases involving children and cases proceeding under the Forced Marriage Act.

25. Because of the sensitivity of these types of proceedings, the NICTS will arrange and pay for an interpreter if required. This is irrespective of whether solicitors are involved or public funding is available.

26. There was no cost incurred for interpreters in civil proceedings during this quarter.

27. The cost for interpreters engaged for family proceedings during this quarter was **£5,502.70**. The cost for the previous quarter was **£5,975.28**.

Coroners Courts

28. There was no cost associated with coroners' courts this quarter which mirrors July to September 2010, however 1 request was made during this quarter we have not been invoiced during this quarter.

Extradition Proceedings

29. The total cost of interpreters engaged for extradition proceedings during this period was **£2,531.19**. The comparable figure for the previous quarter was **£927.05**

Sign Language Interpreters

30. There was a cost of **£450.82** attributed to the booking of sign language interpreters attending criminal cases during this quarter.

31. The Cost for interpreters engaged to assist deaf or hearing impaired customers in civil and family proceedings was **£1,386**. Comparing this with the previous quarter the amount came to **£1,895**.

Document translation

32. The total costs incurred by NICTS for document translation this quarter amounted to **£2,441.85**. The figure for the previous quarter was **£1,671.96**.

Telephone Interpretation

33. The cost incurred for the use of the telephone interpretation facility during this period was **£38.99**. The figure for the previous quarter was **£18.57**.

If you have any comments or queries regarding the content of this report, please contact;

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Annex A

Criminal Interpreting Requests by language and location October - December 2010

	Antrim	Armagh	Ballymena	Bangor	Coleraine	Craigavon	Downpatrick	Dungannon	Enniskillen	Laganside	Larne	Limavady	Lisburn	Londonderry	Magherafelt	Newry	Newtownards	Omagh	RCJ	Strabane	Total
Arabic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Bengali	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Bulgarian	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	13	2	0	0	0	0	22
Cantonese	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	8
Czech	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Estonian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
French	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Hindi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

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Hungarian	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	5
Latvian	0	6	0	3	0	7	0	0	0	4	0	0	6	0	4	16	0	0	0	0	47
Lithuanian	2	34	0	2	1	20	0	74	0	32	0	0	15	4	0	36	5	9	14	3	251
Malayalam	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Mandarin	0	1	0	0	3	0	5	1	0	73	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	92
Nigerian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Polish	17	16	0	3	19	11	11	22	20	51	1	0	5	3	0	3	1	7	5	0	195
Portuguese	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	14	4	5	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	4	0	45
Romanian	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	16
Russian	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	10	0	0	0	0	20
Serbian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

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Slovakian	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	11	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	1	32
Somali	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Spanish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Sudanese	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tetum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Turkish	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Ukrainian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
URDU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Vietnamese	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Yoruba	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	28	67	0	11	23	54	22	145	34	197	1	0	30	9	24	77	9	22	28	9	791