

# Freedom of Information request 4077/2014

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## Information request

- What AtW written guidance is there regarding BSL interpreters having to provide proof of their qualification to AtW before payment will be made to them? I would like a copy of that guidance and details of when it came into force and for which type of client.
- Is there a national hourly rate that is fixed for BSL interpreters? If so, what is it. Who created the rate and who did they consult with when setting it.
- How many deaf people have been reviewed under the 30hr rule?
- From those who have been reviewed, how many now receive less than 30hrs support per week?

## DWP response

We do not have written guidance with regard to BSL interpreters providing proof of their qualifications before payments can be made to them; advisers may ask for this information to ensure that funding is in line with the support worker's qualification levels.

There is no fixed national hourly rate for support the key consideration is that the support meets the disability needs of the customer; funds are not calculated on a comparative basis.

We do not analyse the nature of the disability for case reviews, so have no data on how many deaf people have been reviewed under the 30hr guidance.

You asked how many of those reviewed receive less than 30 hours support per week. We estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.