

## **Update meeting between representatives of NRCPD and ASLI**

London – 26 February 2014

In attendance: Jim Edwards, NRCPD and David Wolfenden, ASLI

### **PSA update**

NRCPD confirmed that ASLI's concerns regarding Standard 1 in the PSA documentation were satisfied. There is no suggestion that pursuance of this strategy would inadvertently lead to a reclassification of the sign language interpreting profession as a Medical, Clinical or Health Care profession. Instead, it would mean that an NRCPD regulated interpreter would contribute to the wellbeing of patients by providing a quality, regulated communication service.

NRCPD Board will meet at the beginning of March to consider the recent stakeholder event and next steps, issues such as the concern over Standard 1 would be part of the consideration.

### **CPD logging system**

The Interim Registrar and the Registration Support Officer joined the meeting by telephone to discuss continuing to accept ASLI's CPD logging system for revalidation purposes.

The following issues were raised:

- If an ASLI member were to complete ASLI's points-based system, would there be an automatic conversion of this into the hourly format required by NRCPD?

**Answer:** No, that would be up to the individual registrant to do.

- If an ASLI member indicates at revalidation that they have completed ASLI's CPD requirements and are then subject to a random audit, what happens if their CPD file does not record sufficient structured or unstructured hours (for 2014 renewals requirement is 12 hours of each)?

**Answer:** ASLI will publish a reminder of NRCPD's requirements in this respect and will stress that it is the individual's responsibility to make sure they comply with the revalidation requirements.

- ASLI members may prefer to log their CPD activity on ASLI's system. This may allow them the ability to provide richer data for their own personal and professional development, over and above that required by NRCPD. We clarified NRCPD's requirements: an indication of the number of hours of structured and unstructured CPD activity, an indication of the number of hours completed that registration year (ASLI's membership year does not always coincide with the NRCPD registration year).
- It is important to emphasise that, irrespective of which logging system a registrant chooses, it remains the sole responsibility of the registrant to keep a comprehensive record of CPD files should they be required by NRCPD at audit. ASLI take no responsibility for this.

NRCPD is also interested in receiving non-attributable top-level data on the types of activities generally undertaken by the profession, and other statistical data with which to enable regular review of the CPD policy to identify trends in the registered profession and to enable them to approach training providers to meet identified needs.

- There are clear instructions on the Revalidation page of the NRCPD website on how ASLI members may indicate that they have completed CPD with the association. ASLI will copy that text on to it's website for members to use when they are ready to revalidate. It is not accurate to say that ASLI members may simply "tick a box" at revalidation.

The Interim Registrar and Registration Support Officer left the meeting.

### **David's involvement in future meetings with NRCPD**

Jim and David agreed that it was appropriate for another ASLI director to be present at these meetings with a view to handing over this association's representative role to them whilst David is co-opted to the NRCPD Board.

For similar reasons it was agreed that David would not be available to act as Professional Standards Adviser to NRCPD with immediate effect

## **NHS England**

David asked whether ASLI ought to be involved directly with NHS England in their plans to revise the standards of information access. NHS England is considering the appropriate levels of care at which regulated professionals are required within the NHS system. Jim cited an example of a third follow-up appointment with a chiropodist where the discourse would be easily anticipated, would not necessarily require a registered interpreter.

David suggested that ASLI may wish to take a stronger line since our profession is beginning to see any health setting assignment as extremely important.

Jim felt that was an appropriate role for ASLI in such a relationship.

## **BDA Special Interest Group on Interpreting**

We discussed the implications of the BDA Roundtable event and the potential for defining and refining the process by which a trainee becomes a good interpreter. ASLI has yet to decide its level of involvement.

## **DBS**

Jim confirmed that it is possible for registrants to have an up-to-date DBS record on a secure website (DBS update system) to which registrants would be able to refer a potential employer. Currently the system does not permit a voluntary regulator such access. It may therefore not be of use to NRCPD who are discussing this with their lawyers.

Of more potential use is the Fit Persons Declaration made by each registrant on application/revalidation. Whilst this is an individual promise of suitability, if anything were to change, the NRCPD would be able to take action.

Unless the DBS issue is resolved there is no other option at the moment.