

Such information would be of great assistance in addressing the much required improvements in areas such as:

- Research into (the outcomes for) the other 'user-client' (i.e. other-language speaker requiring the interpreter) i.e. not the agents of the CJS
- Training: Pre- Post Qualification: Mentoring – Shadowing, since none of this occurs currently in a systematic, recognised, accredited fashion. It may be the case that there should be an interpreter for the defence as well as one for the prosecution, which currently occurs in high-profile trials and tribunals, the former thereby monitoring the latter. The adequacy – or otherwise – of the current monitoring form also requires serious consideration.
- Continuous CPD (regulated, acknowledged and accredited) - none of this occurs in a systematic, recognised, accredited fashion.

This enquiry should be mindful of the potential for the Scottish Government to review their stated criteria requirements, the current effect of the operation of the tender and the effectiveness of the current tender holder.

We further contend that the terms of the contract regarding quality-quantity (DPSI) have not been met, thus constituting a breach of contract. Therefore we would posit that, in the interim, the contract should be moved to the second supplier on the list pending the result of this investigation. However, our contention remains that the best quality interpretation – and incidentally, that which incurs the lowest cost - will only ever be achieved by hiring highly qualified linguists directly.

I look forward to a response to this letter, which I will share with the SITA members and trust that it will contain positive responses to the issues raised.

Yours sincerely

*M U M Beaumont*

Melanie Beaumont  
**President, SITA**

