

Lincolnshire Language Services – A chat with the co-ordinator

James: Ok, I'm here with Ian Pepperdine from the Lincolnshire Language Services. Ian, I just wondered if you could tell us a little bit about the Language service and its background.

Ian: Sure, the language services is hosted by the community foundation, it's a project supported by the community foundation. It has been in existence for 4 years now, and initially was kick started with some funding from capacity builders change up funding which enabled 15 migrant workers within the county to undertake a diploma in public service interpreting. We now have a cohort of people who are qualified in Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Lithuanian and Slovak languages, and we supply interpreters to a range of organisations.

James: Who are some of the Organisations you work with?

Ian: They are mainly statutory sector but not exclusively, so we work for our acute mental health trust within the county, Lincolnshire Primary Care Trust, criminal justice agencies, Lincolnshire County Council and the District councils. We also provide some services for private sector, and companies ring us on occasion to handle disciplinaries with people who don't have English as a first language, and that is fairly typical of the kind of work that our interpreters are called to provide.

James: So it seems like it's a pretty comprehensive service. What would you say the main benefits are to the community?

Ian: Well we've done what we set out to do which is to provide a local interpretation service. So our interpreters live within the county therefore the travelling time and the mileage cost is cheaper than agencies that provide interpreters from outside of our county.

James: How do people get in touch with LLS?

Ian: You can call me on 01469 533966 or 07918 667592, you can email ian.pepperdine@btinternet.com

Visit www.lincolnshirecf.co.uk for more information.