

Lincolnshire Language Service

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Background:

Lincolnshire Language Services (interpretation & translation) is a project managed by the Lincolnshire Community Foundation on behalf of the multi agency consortium, "Integration Lincolnshire". *Integration Lincolnshire* supports people from black and ethnic minority groups.

The Foundation does lots of work with ethnic minorities, especially "new arrival" communities from Eastern Europe [up to 10% of the County's 670,000 population is from foreign Countries, especially Poland, Portugal, Lithuania & Latvia. We manage the "Catalyst" programme: £130,000 a year to multi-cultural projects involved with sport, arts, music and community businesses.

The need for Interpreters:

Migrant workers do not have easy access to health, housing, banking, employment advice, benefits and so on. The most obvious gap is in the provision of foreign language interpretation. There are up to 70,000 migrants in Lincolnshire from 40 Countries, speaking 60 languages and dialects. Our criminal justice agencies (police, prisons, courts, probation etc) buy in over £500,000 a year of interpretation from adjoining Counties. There is no Interpreter Service in Lincolnshire. So, Integration Lincolnshire raised over £30,000 to recruit, train and organise our own interpreter work force.

The DiPSI Course:

We have worked with Boston College and the Chartered Institute of Linguists to develop the first interpreter course (Diploma in Public Service Interpreting) ever run in Lincolnshire. We have 14 students (from Poland, Portugal, Lithuania, Russia & Slovakia) enrolled on the course. Tutors are Yuriy Ushakov (yuriy_u@mail.RU) and Law Tutor Adrian Gostelow.

Lincolnshire Language Services:

Until it becomes self-sufficient, the service is managed by the Foundation who are also the purse holders. We operate from the Joseph Banks Centre, Horncastle: 01469 533966; lincls@btconnect.com; co-ordinator Ian

Pepperdine ian.pepperdine@btinternet.com.

Our target for the business is to create a “social enterprise” (not for profit with a “social mission”) and to organise the member interpreters as a Workers’ Co-operative”.