

Request Reference: FOI/015/21
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Information requested:

1. What was the spending per financial year on services for the deaf and blind – such as British Sign Language (BSL) and Braille – for your organisation in each of the following financial years:

2015/2016
2016/2017
2017/2018

2. As a response to my previous FOI (February 2021), no data was provided for written translation for the financial years 2015/2016, 2016/2017 and 2017/2018, and you mentioned that "*The information on translation spending was not available.*" Can you please clarify why this information is not available? Can you please ask the finance department if maybe they have a total figure for translation + interpreting (including BSL) for these years? I believe the accounting system should have this recorded, even if not separately.

Response:

1. Although The State Hospital shares the same values, aims and challenges as the rest of the NHS in Scotland, it is unique because it has the dual responsibility of caring for very ill, detained patients as well as protecting them, the public and staff from harm.

The State Hospital is one of four high secure hospitals in the UK. Located in South Lanarkshire in central Scotland, it is a national service for Scotland and Northern Ireland and one part of the pathway of care that should be available for those with secure care needs. The principal aim is to rehabilitate patients, ensuring safe transfer to appropriate lower levels of security.

There are 140 high-secure beds (plus four beds for emergency use) for male patients requiring maximum secure care: 12 beds specifically for patients with an intellectual disability. A range of therapeutic, educational, diversional and recreational services including a Health Centre is provided.

Unlike a territorial health board, which provides a wide range of services to the public within a geographical area, The State Hospital provides a specialised range of services for a very small patient population. Every patient is assessed as part of the admission process and as part of ongoing care and treatment.

Should any additional services be needed to support a patient, carer, or staff member, such as Braille or BSL services, they would be provided.

For the time periods requested we do not have any recorded expenditure for services specifically for the deaf and blind.

Year	Deaf and Blind Services
2015/2016	£0.00
2016/2017	£0.00
2017/2018	£0.00

2. The information was unavailable because our records group translation and interpretation together and therefore we are unable to provide translation figures alone.

The total figures for these years are given below.

Year	Interpreting/Translation Services (ex VAT)
2015/2016	£5498.44
2016/2017	£1969.52
2017/2018	£3904.75

Having reviewed the information relating to these services we have found separate entries for the year 2017/18 in a different record set, which we have provided below.

Year	Interpreting Services (ex VAT)	Translation (ex VAT)
2017/2018	£593.27	£3311.48