



# Communication Tips

## Working with a BSL Interpreter

**A BSL Interpreter is someone who is qualified and has fluency in British Sign Language and at least one other language (usually English)**



### **How many Interpreters do I need?**

Due to the physical and mental demands of interpreting, two or more interpreters may be required depending on the duration and/or intensity of the work involved. We will discuss this with you at the time of booking.



### **Good Chairing Techniques**

Due to the nature of interpreting between BSL and English there may be some minor pauses or delay in information being relayed. You should allow time for the deaf person to be fully informed and for them to interject if necessary.



### **Timing**

Please inform the chair, that a BSL Interpreter will be joining the meeting. A BSL user will receive the message 4 or 5 words behind the speaker therefore please allow time for the them to interject/question and to check in regularly to see if anything needs to be adapted to improve communication.



### **Preparation**

Please provide the following at least 24 hours before the online meeting:

- Meeting notes/slides
- Agenda
- Attendees



### **Breaks**

Breaks must be factored in to meeting times if the meeting is likely to last for more than one hour. These breaks are for both the Interpreter(s) and the deaf user(s).



### **Badge**

All of our BSL Interpreters are NRCPD/SASLI registered and MUST carry their badge at all times. This is to protect both you and the Interpreter.

