

Registration of English based LSPs

Meeting between Cathy Barnes, Ann Barnett, Jim Edwards, Jean Gough, Sara Scanlon, Ross Trotter on 21 June 2007.

The ACE/Deafblind Registration Panel is committed to the development and increased effectiveness of the registration system for Language Service Professionals. Following a meeting between Jim Edwards (Chief Executive, CACDP) and Cathy Barnes (Director of Quality and Standards, CACDP) with representatives of the Independent Registration Panel for BSL/English interpreters, a similar meeting was held between CACDP and the Chairman of the ACE/Deafblind Registration Panel and representatives of each of the types of English based LSP that the Panel currently covers (deafblind manual, lipspeaking, speech to text reporting). The discussion was positive and it was agreed that a robust system covering the totality of LSPs was a desirable objective, as long as the various specialisms covered had an equal status and voice.

The meeting agreed that the idea to establish an overall governing body with an independent chair was a desirable objective. Panels with technical knowledge to develop and oversee the practical issues of registration within each specialism would be maintained under this umbrella governing body.

A small advisory group would be established so that developments could be communicated to stakeholders and advice sought. The Chairman of the ACE/Deafblind Registration Panel would represent the Panel on this group but would rely on advice and input from other members. Cathy Barnes will be undertaking the necessary work to develop the proposal. A timescale seeking implementation of the proposals in 2009 was agreed to be feasible.

Those present at the meeting expressed the hope that further categories of LSP, for example note-takers, could be brought within the proposed system.

Comments and suggestions regarding this project would be welcomed, and should be emailed to Cathy Barnes (cathyb@cacdp.org.uk).