



Police Approved Interpreters/Translators (PAIT)

Thursday 13th May 2021

Agenda

- Introductions
- Context
- Why Was PAIT Developed
- What is PAIT
- Who Was Consulted
- Questions

Introductions

- **Chief Constable Simon Cole QPM**

Leicestershire Police

National Police Chiefs' Council Lead for Language Services

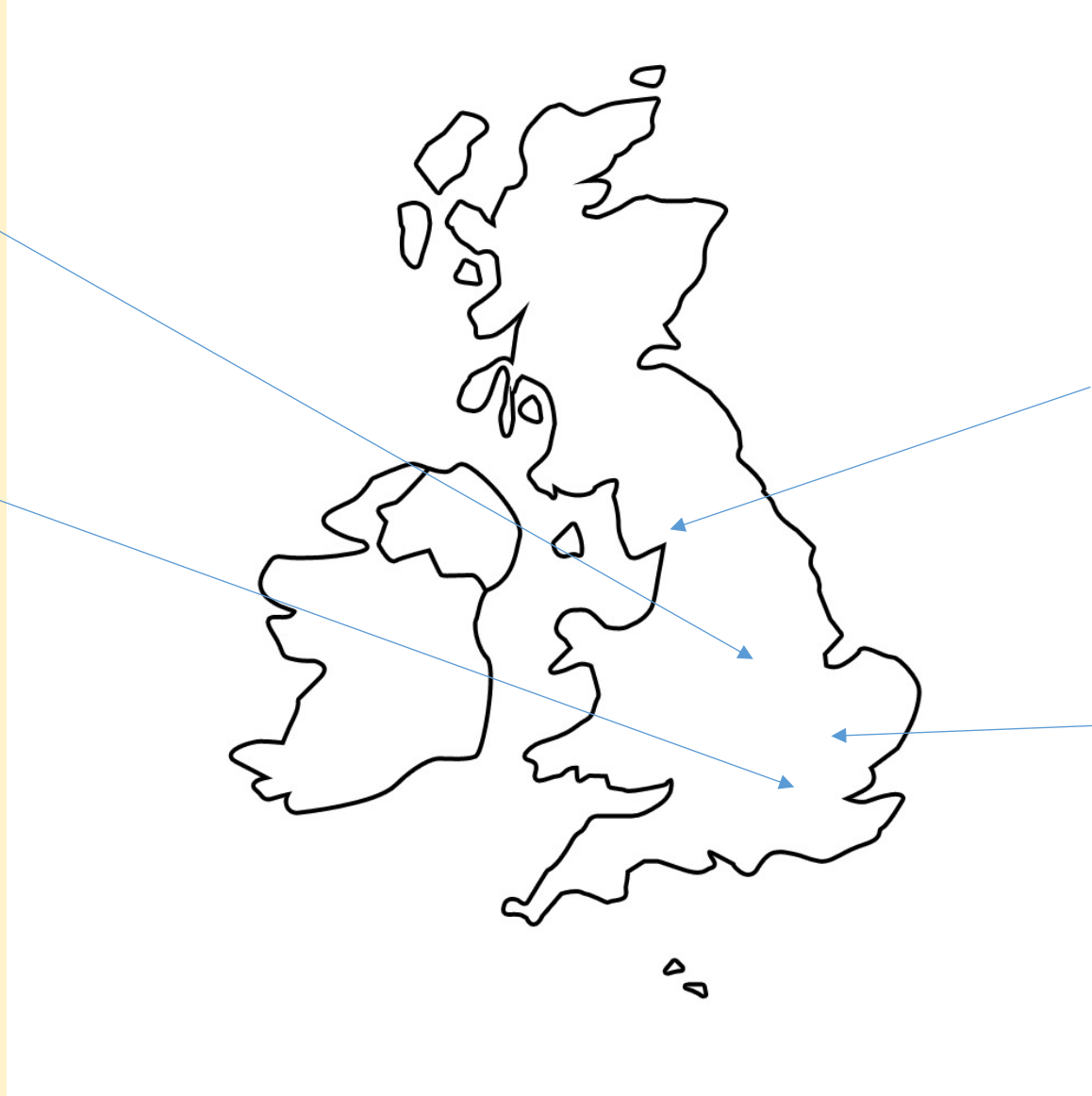
- **Mark Lewis**

Leicestershire Police

National Police Contract Manager for Language Services

Context Jan – Dec 2020

National Picture
Circa £20 Million for all
Language Services Across
England & North Wales



East Midlands Region
10,194 F2F Assignments,
or
28 assignments every day

Metropolitan Police
1.2 Million Minutes of
Telephone Interpreting
Or
For every minute of every 24
hour period of the day/night,
there are two interpreters
assisting police via telephone

North West Region
Spent £876,000 on F2F Interpreting
Or
£2,400 every day

East Region
Spent £1.6 Million on F2F
Interpreting
Or
£4,400 every day

Why Was PAIT Developed

- Only source of guidance was the National Agreement of 2007 – needed updating
- Varying specifications across the UK Police Forces and Regions for Interpreters
Needed clarity across the UK to avoid inconsistencies for both police AND Interpreters
- No oversight of discipline between LSPs or police forces – needed an information sharing agreement
- No ability to remove unsuitable Interpreters nationwide - risks to integrity of investigations and prosecutions

What is PAIT 1/6

- Police Approved Interpreters & Translators Scheme was authorised by NPCC in October 2020
- PAIT clearly defines the qualifications, vetting and experience required to undertake police assignments across the UK
- There are four categories for Face to Face Spoken Language Interpreters
 - Full PAIT
 - Legacy PAIT
 - Rare PAIT
 - Temporary PAIT

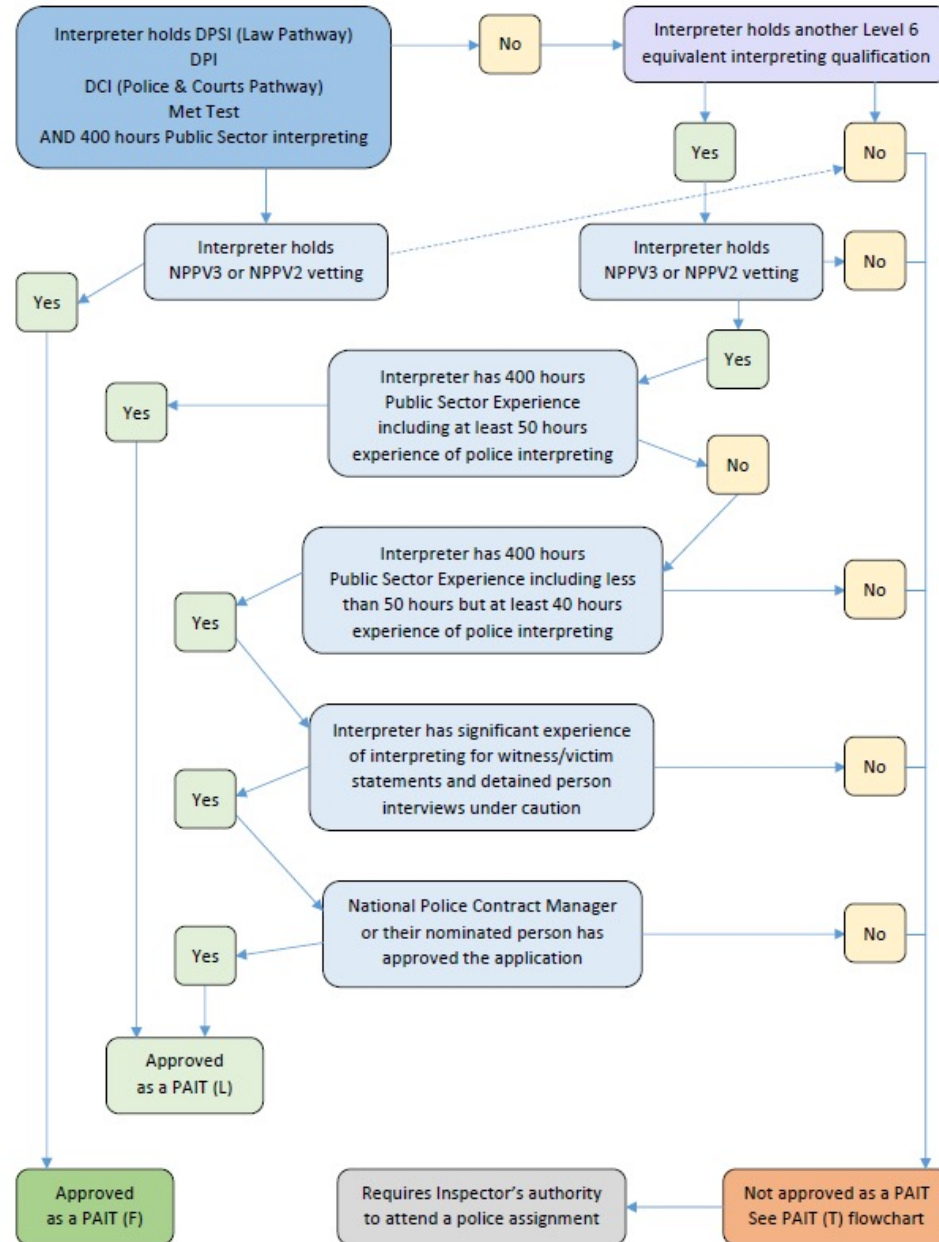
What is PAIT 2/6

- The categories of PAIT cover those who hold a 'Police Related Qualification' (DPSI Law, DCI Law, DPI, Met Test) as well as those who have been allowed to undertake police bookings in the past (regardless of the L6 qualification they hold) and are deemed suitably experienced to continue
- The demand for police assignments may (and often does) exceed the pool of available qualified, vetted and experienced interpreters, therefore the Police can always fall back on the caveat that an Inspector may authorise an interpreter who is not PAIT approved for an individual assignment depending on the circumstances.
- Police do not always have the ability to suspend or defer the requirement for an interpreter to be present for an investigation

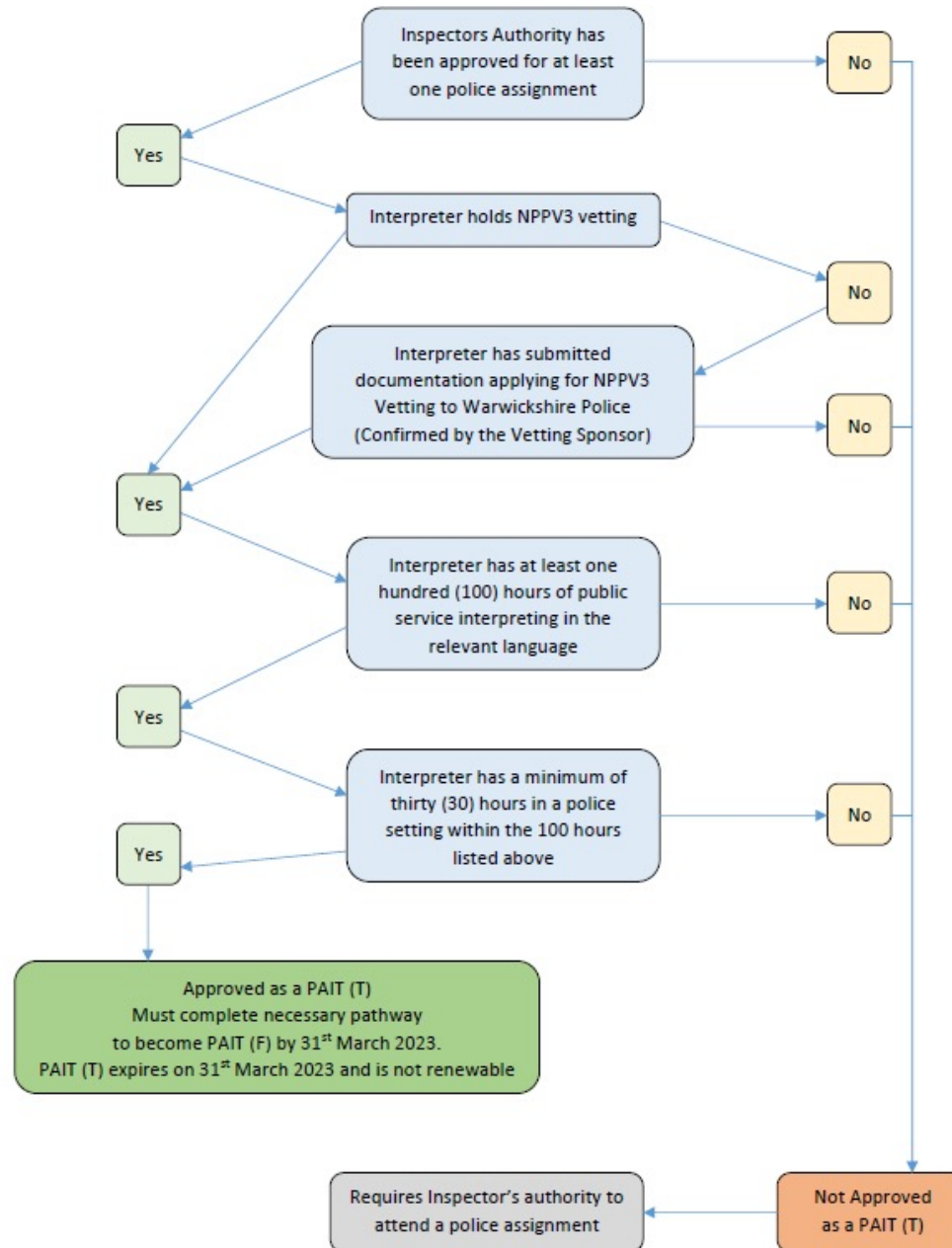
What is PAIT 3/6

- Phased roll out
 - F2F Interpreters 1st April 2021
 - BSL Interpreters 1st October 2021
 - Translators/Transcribers 1st April 2022
 - Telephone Interpreters 1st October 2022

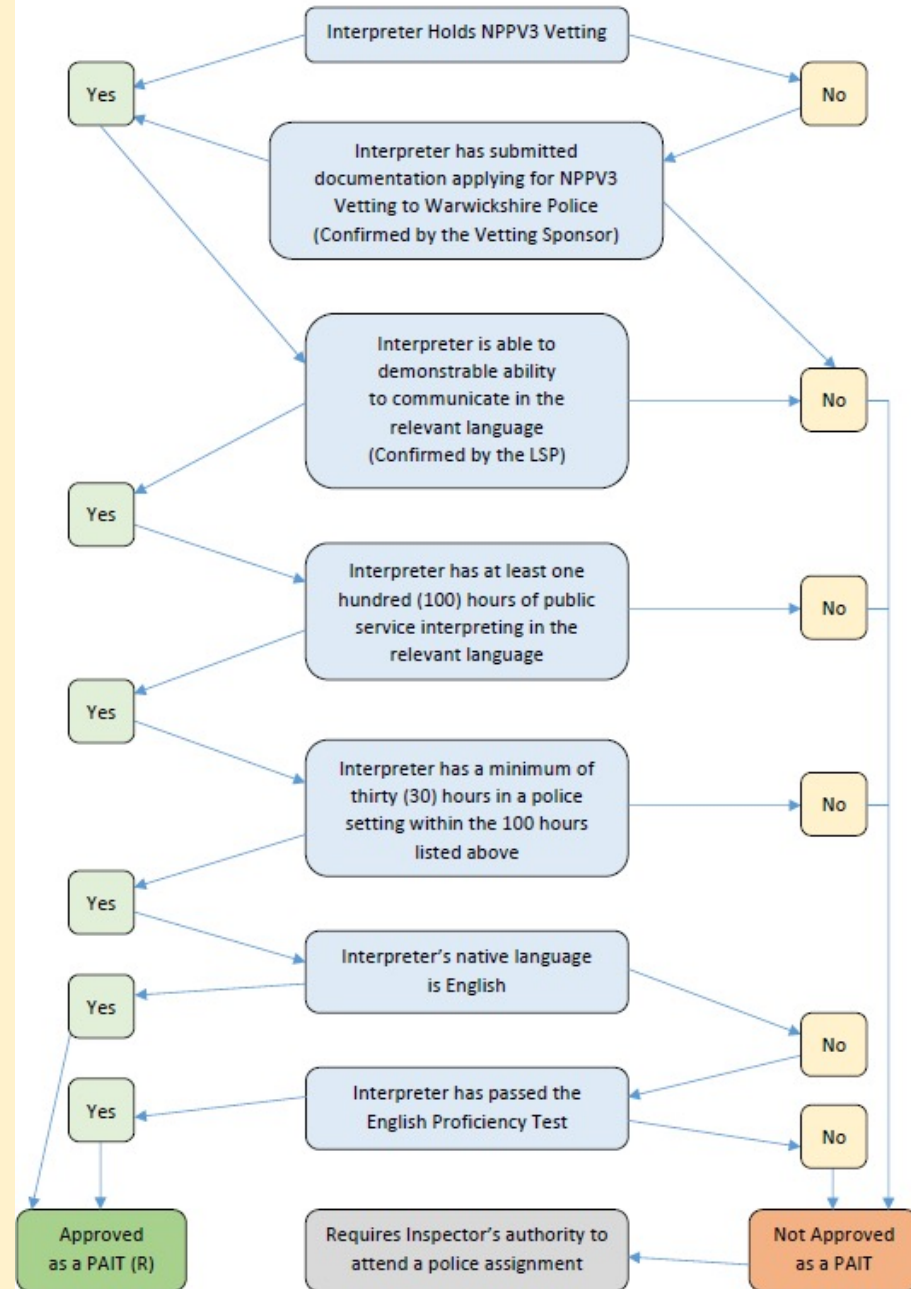
Full and Legacy Interpreter Criteria for PAIT Flow Chart
 Applicable from 1st April 2021



Temporary PAIT (T) Criteria Flow Chart
Applicable from 1st April 2021



Rare Language PAIT (R) Criteria Flow Chart
Applicable from 1st April 2021



Who Was Consulted 1/5

- Early consultation began in 2018 when developing the Police Specific Procurement framework for Language Services
- This was continued from June 2020 when PAIT development commenced
- Three strands,
 - Face to Face Meetings with individuals
 - Presentations and question sessions with Groups
 - Newsletters giving updates and requesting feedback

Who Was Consulted 2/5

Face to Face (or virtual)

- Chartered Institute of Linguists (CIOL)
- National Register of Public Service Interpreters (NRPSI)
- National Register of Communication Professionals for the Deaf/Deafblind (NRCPD)
- Association of Translation Companies (ATC)
- Association of Interpreters & Translators (AIT)
- NPCC Chief Officers
- Individual spoken language Interpreters, BSL Interpreters and Translators
- College of Policing
- Individual Academics with expertise in interpreting and translating
- All Language Service Providers (LSPs) approved to provide language services to police
- NUBSLI

Who Was Consulted 3/5

Presentations

- Various presentations on all aspects of PAIT given between July 2020 and April 2021
- Estimated that over a thousand viewers have taken part in the presentations
- Many presentations were recorded, hosted on platforms such as YouTube and receiving more views
- Interviews with me were also recorded by AIT and published as a series taking people through all aspects of the Police Dynamic Procurement System (framework for procuring) and PAIT

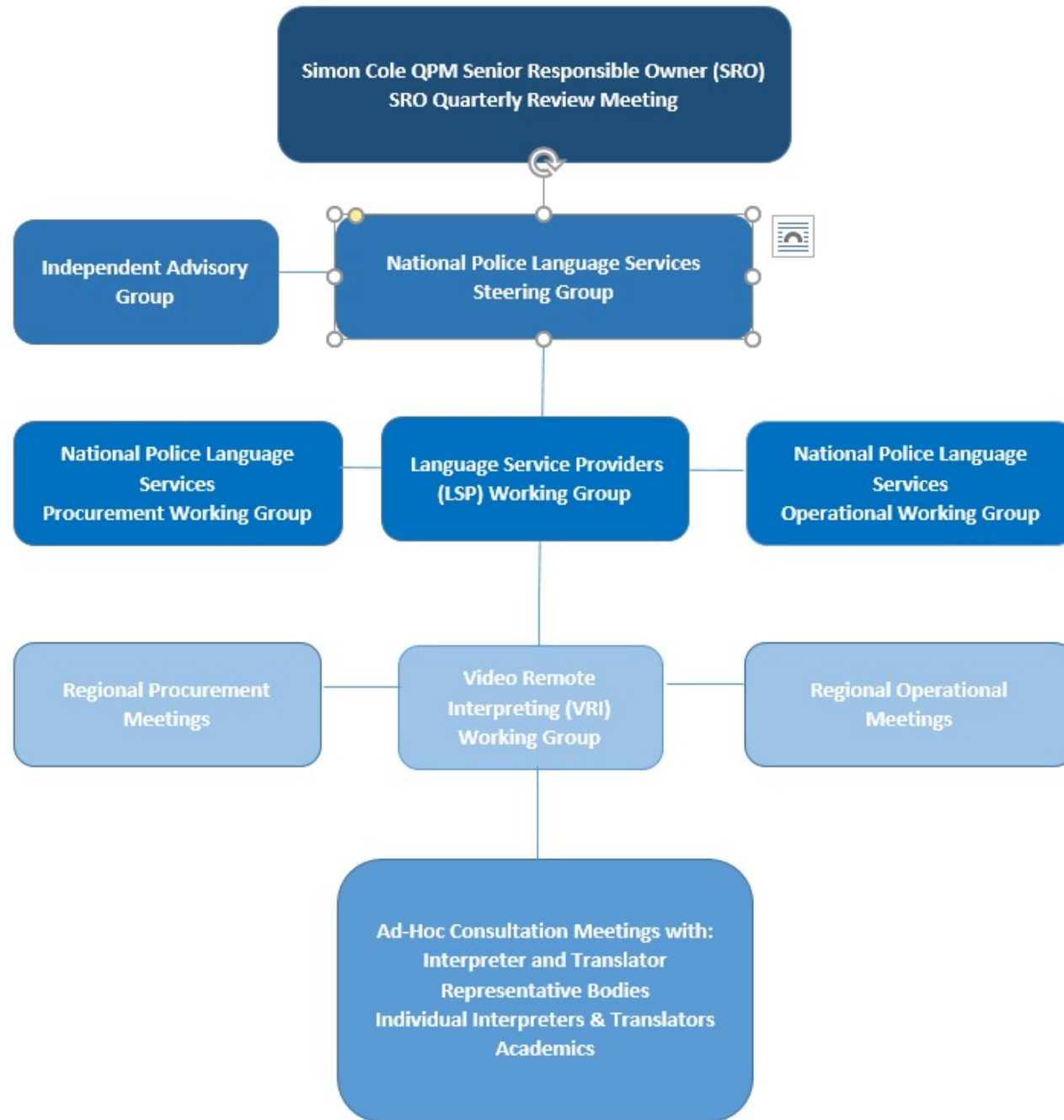
Who Was Consulted 4/5

Newsletters

- NRPSI (Mike Orlov) and AIT (Irina Norton) have been very supportive in providing a platform and audience for regular newsletter updates
- LSPs have circulated to all interpreters on their books
- Now have one corporate newsletter for circulation rather than individual articles for different groups/audiences
- All feedback is considered and responded to (often in partnership with NRPSI/AIT)

Who Was Consulted 5/5

- Formal Governance Structure in Place to ensure all Stakeholder have a voice



Why Was PAIT Developed - Benefits

- Only source of guidance was the National Agreement of 2007 – needed updating
Now have Authorised Professional Practice (Guidance) from College of Policing which provides advice and guidance for officers regarding use of interpreters in line with PAIT specifications.
- Varying specifications across the UK Police Forces and Regions for Interpreters- needed clarity across the UK to avoid inconsistencies for both police AND Interpreters
Now have PAIT Specification which covers all requirements
- No oversight of discipline between LSPs or police forces – needed an information sharing agreement
- No ability to remove unsuitable Interpreters nationwide - risks to integrity of investigations and prosecutions

Working to develop PAIT Discipline Policies and Procedures suitable for the requirements of the Police as well as Interpreters. Info Sharing Protocols already developed

Questions?