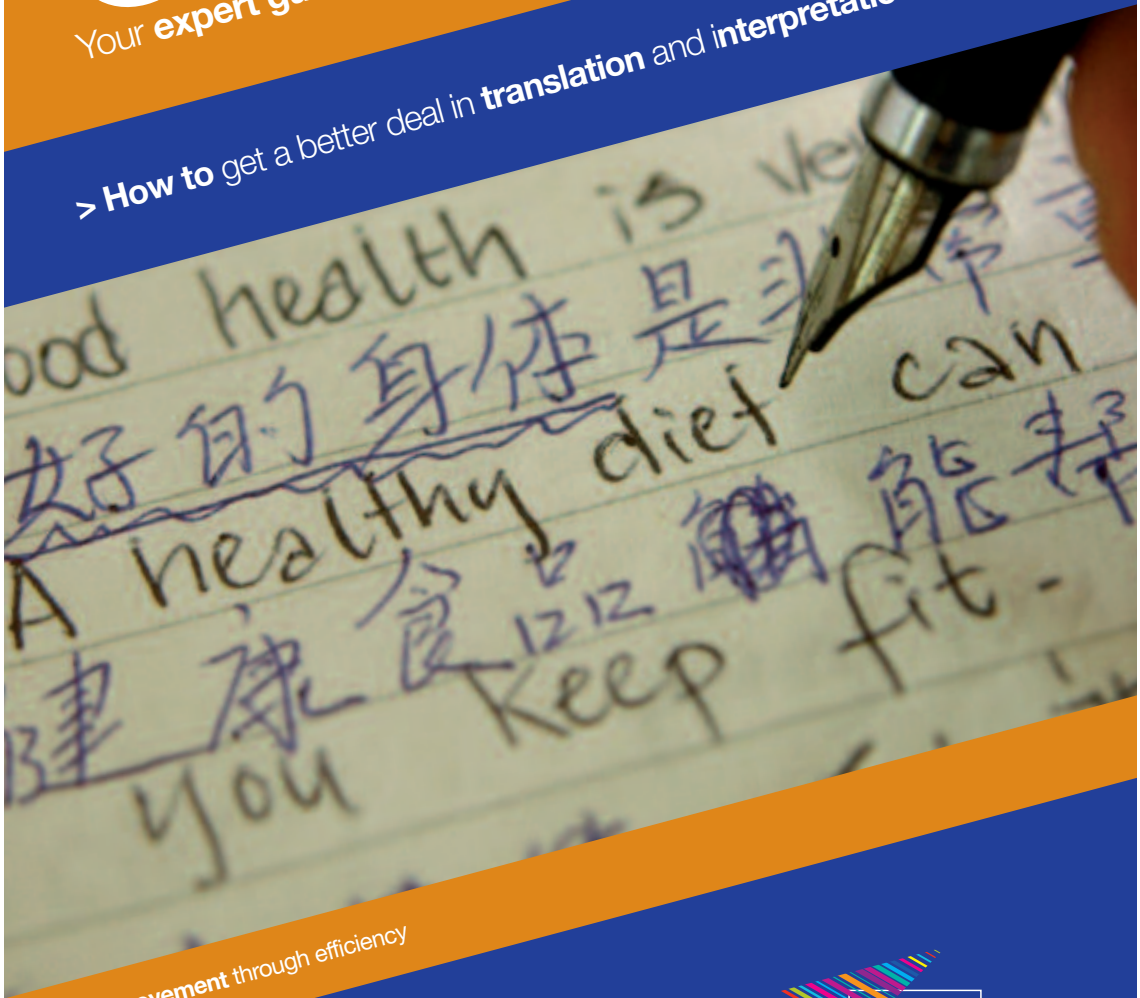


On the money

Your expert guide to saving money by making better deals

> How to get a better deal in translation and interpretation services



Improvement through efficiency



Cut costs and save time

At a time when local government is facing a tough financial future, it's a fact that many councils are paying too much for some commonly bought goods and services. And yet there are deals available which would help them to cut their costs. Unfortunately, councils aren't always aware of these deals or how they can access them – until now.

That's why we're pleased to bring you this guide to help you reduce the cost of your translation and interpretation services. Not only does it highlight two framework agreements but because both are open to all local authorities, you can make substantial time savings by avoiding a lengthy procurement process of your own.

This guide is part of the Regional Centres of Excellence Procurement Programme which is seeking to deliver major efficiencies in the £40 billion plus that local government spends each year on goods and services in order to protect front-line services.

Please read this guide and contact your Regional Centre of Excellence.

Overview

Translation is the conversion of written material to another language, while interpretation is the conversion of the spoken word to another language.

Translation framework

A framework has been let for translation services for which there are two suppliers, K International and thebigword. The framework supports over 100 languages as well as other services including cultural understanding, artwork, studio work, Braille and audio recording.

Interpretation framework

While a framework for face-to-face interpretation is not in place, a framework has been let for telephone interpretation. There is one supplier, thebigword, who can offer up to 150 languages. Telephone interpretations are ideal for short conversations or interviews.

Benefits for you

Both frameworks are OJEU compliant. By using the suppliers on these frameworks, you will receive high standards of service at substantially reduced costs. The suppliers have been through a rigorous process of evaluation and selection.

Average costs of translations have been reduced by 50% on standard prices, while average costs of telephone interpretations have been cut by 70%. There are no hidden charges – the prices quoted are the prices you will pay.

The services are simple to use. No training is required for making use of the translation contract although some basic training is required before you can use the telephone interpretation service.

Honest brokers

The Regional Centres of Excellence are acting as honest brokers by researching and analysing the market on behalf of local authorities. We aim to provide better information so that local authorities can make informed procurement decisions. Other contracts and opportunities to save money may also be available.

Contract details

Description

Translation services

Lead organisation

Home Office

Open to

All local authorities

End date

September 2008 with an option of two further extensions of a year each

Contact

Chris Timms

K International
01908 557922
chris.timms@k-international.com

Robert Timms

thebigword
0870 748 8000
robert.timms@thebigword.com

Description

Interpretation services

Lead organisation

Home Office

Open to

All local authorities

End date

August 2008 with an option of two further extensions of a year each

Contact

Tim Carr

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0870 748 8000
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