

FoI Request Questionnaire

Some of the questions in this questionnaire allow for a quick answer, simply by deleting **Yes** or **No** as appropriate, but others require more detailed answers. We thank you in advance for doing your best to answer the questionnaire in the most complete way you can.

1 What is the size of the resident population that your organisation serves?

Response: [Population](#) | [Thurrock facts and statistics](#) | [Thurrock Council](#)

1.1 What percentage of the resident population in the area that your organisation serves are non-native English speakers?

Response: [Population](#) | [Thurrock facts and statistics](#) | [Thurrock Council](#)

1.2 Does your organisation predict that the number of non-native English speakers living in the area that you serve will increase, reduce or stay the same in the next 5 years?

Response: Projections have not been completed.

2 Does your organisation hire any professional written translation or spoken interpreting services to aid communication with people who may have difficulties understanding English?

Response: Yes

2.1 If your organisation hires professional translation or interpreting services, for what type of material do you use these services?

(E.g., do you hire professional translation services to translate website content, correspondence, legal documents? Do you hire interpreting services for meetings, interviews, anything else?)

Response: All of the above as described, in addition we use translators to support supervised contact between children and families. We also use telephone and video meetings interpreting and British sign Language.

2.2 If your organisation hires professional translation or interpreting services, can you please provide figures for how much was spent by your organisation on these services and what percentage of your total expenditure this amounted to for the last 4 financial years?

Response: Not sure what % of total expenditure requester is referring to.

Financial year	Translation & interpreting expenditure	% of total expenditure
2018/19:	£101,426	%
2019/20:	£79,916	%
2020/21:	£74,650	%
2021/22:	£112,297	%

2.3 Does your organisation predict that the percentage of spending on translation and interpreting services will increase, reduce or stay the same in the next 5 years?

Response: Unable to predict with any certainty however we do know **Population growth** Between the last two censuses (held in 2011 and 2021), the population of Thurrock increased by 11.6%, from around 157,700 in 2011 to around 176,000 in 2021.

The population increased by a greater percentage than the overall population of the East of England (8.3%), and by a greater percentage than the overall population of England (up 6.6% since the 2011 Census). We have an increasingly diverse population.

3	Is machine translation (e.g. a translation app such as Google Translate) used in any way in your organisation?
	Response: Not formally adopted
3.1	If machine translation is used in your organisation, under what circumstances is it used? (Please specify by whom, in which context, using which tools, and the reason of use.)
	Response: N/A
4	Does your organisation follow a formal policy approving, prohibiting or regulating the use of machine translation tools in your organisation?
	Response: This would be subject to a data protection impact assessment
4.1	If your organisation follows a formal policy for the use of machine translation, can you attach a copy of such policy to your response and/or provide a link to where it can be accessed?
	Response: See the answer to Q4
5	Has your organisation carried out a risk assessment of possible consequences, for your organisation and/or for the people the organisation serves, from the use of machine translation?
	Response: No
5.1	If your organisation has carried out a risk assessment of the use of machine translation, please can you specify the risks your organisation identified?
	Response: N/A
6	Do you have an established line of accountability in the event of negative outcomes that may arise from the use of machine translation?
	(E.g., an incident caused by misinformation in an important document, or by miscommunication between staff and member of the public using a phone app.)
	Response: N/A
6.1	If you have an established line of accountability, can you explain how this guides response procedures to a possible negative outcome from the use of machine translation?
	Response: N/A
7	Is any training provided on the use of machine translation in your organisation?
	Response: N/A
7.1	If training is provided on the use of machine translation in your organisation, can you please provide an overview of the training offered?
	Response: N/A
8	Does your organisation have any other procedures in place to adjust your communication strategy for people who may have difficulties understanding English? If so, please explain.

Response: I am not aware of the detail behind this.

- 9 If we would like to follow up with your organisation for the purpose of further research relating to translation and/or interpreting in your organisation, could you please provide the most suitable email address to contact?

Response: No

Thurrock Council
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