Appendix 6 – Data and tables from the 2015 survey

The following data is from the 2015 survey. For comparability the data below has been recalculated and reported on using the same methodology as this (2016) survey.

The key differences are:

- Numbers and percentages exclude those who identified only as CSWs and signers in the 2015 survey.
- People responding N/A are excluded when calculating percentages.
- Some questions were amended following feedback from the 2015 survey.
 These differences are noted.

Table 23: Years post qualification experience

How many years' experience do you have post qualification?						
Answer Options	Qualified Interpreter	Trainee Interpreter	BSL Translator or Deaf Interpreter	Response Percent	Response Count	
More than 20 years	52	1	0	12.9%	53	
Between 10 and 20 years	137	4	0	34.3%	141	
Between 5 and 10 years	112	1	0	27.5%	113	
Less than 5 years	97	6	1	25.3%	104	
Number answered question	398	12	1	1	411	

Table 24: Steps taken to leave the profession

If you are leaving the profession, what steps have you already taken? (Select all that apply).						
Answer Options	Qualified	Trainee	Response Percent	Response Count		
I am researching other careers currently	105	8	64.2%	113		
I already do alternative work part-time or voluntarily	45	9	30.7%	54		
I am already looking for alternative work	32	2	19.3%	34		
I am retraining in or studying for another career	20	2	12.5%	22		
Number answered question						

Table 25: Why interpreters are thinking of leaving

NB respondents were not asked to rank, and some options were different or differently worded to the 2016 survey.

If you answered yes or maybe to 'are you thinking about, or will you be, leaving the profession', why are you thinking of leaving? Tick all that apply.

Answer Options	Response count (not ranked by respondent)	Percent responses
The future of the BSL interpreting profession feels uncertain.	181	82%
My earnings / hours have decreased.	101	46%
The profession is too fractured.	101	46%
NRCPD is not an independent regulator (from Signature).	77	35%
I do not have enough work.	65	29%
I do not like working for agencies.	61	28%
I would like a change of career.	38	17%
I am retiring anyway.	9	4%
I have been ill.	2	1%
Other (complete box below).	51	23%
Number answered question	221	

Table 26: Reasons interpreters think they do not have enough work

If you do NOT have enough work (you answered No or Sometimes to 6), why do you think this is? Tick all that apply.						
Answer Options	Qualified Interpreter	Trainee Interpreter	Translator	Response Percent	Response Count	
Agencies will not pay sustainable rates so I cannot accept this work	103	9	0	55.7%	112	
Services do not book interpreters and Deaf people do not get access	75	14	0	44.3%	89	
There is less interpreting work available	69	14	1	41.8%	84	
There are too many qualified interpreters in my area	50	12	0	30.8%	62	
Most of the work goes to trainee interpreters	51	1	0	25.9%	52	
Most of the work goes to CSWs / signers	38	2	0	19.9%	40	
Other (please specify)	63					
Number answered question 201						