



## Tips on how to work with an Interpreter

*First of all **RELAX** – the Interpreter will make you feel at ease and guide you along the way*

✓ The room:

- Make sure that there is good lighting in the room and that the interpreter/s is not sitting in front of windows. The light from the window shadows the interpreter's face and body shadowed, thus not enabling the Deaf person to lipread, see facial expressions, and signing

✓ If working in a group/meeting:

- Talk at your normal pace. There is no need to speak slower and if there is, the Interpreter will tell you
- Ask people to put their hands up if they wish to communicate, so that the Deaf person knows who is talking
- It is better for the Deaf person if the room is arranged in the circle so that they can see everyone at there
- The interpreter and the Deaf person will need frequent breaks, consider building this time into the meeting
- Make sure that the group is well managed and only one person speaks at a time

✓ The Interpreter...

- Will work at a slight delay whilst they are translating the information. Should a comment be missed, they will ask, but make sure that you are allowing enough time in between comments for the Interpreter to translate the information
- Is there to solely facilitate the communication, therefore it is better not to ask they views about any aspects of the meeting