

ASLIA Policy Development Policy

Background

ASLIA, as the professional association for sign language interpreters in Australia, maintains a set of policies to assist with advocacy and to provide guidance to our members on matters relevant to the sign language interpreting industry.

Principles

In developing and reviewing policy, ASLIA aims to:

- be responsive to members. Any member can suggest a policy change by writing to the ASLIA secretary, and these will be tabled at the next possible ASLIA Board meeting for discussion;
- acknowledge that policy documents are subject to change and are continually updated and reviewed ongoing to ensure they are up to date
- be transparent. All policies will be available to members on our website at no cost and changes are communicated promptly to members; and
- strive for best practice in all policy decisions, taking account of the interests of our members, the interests of interpreting clients, safety, fairness and accessibility.

Consultation

The Board will give serious consideration to consultation where a proposed policy change:

- is a significant change, affecting most members,
- may negatively impact the working conditions of interpreters,
- deviates widely from current industry standards, or
- involves a significant change to the code of ethics.

Consultation may be by survey, focus groups, approaching experts for feedback or other consultation actions.

The ASLIA Board will carefully balance the need for consultation with the need for efficiency and efficacy. As a volunteer association, ASLIA has limited resources for consultation and may need to develop policy quickly in order to be able to respond to emerging situations and represent the profession well.

If there is no extensive consultation with members, the ASLIA Board will nevertheless communicate the new policy or policy change to members promptly and will welcome ideas for improvements to the policy. Any ASLIA member can suggest a change to policy by writing to the secretary - secretary@aslia.com.au at any time. All suggestions will be tabled for discussion at the next possible ASLIA Board meeting.

Adoption of Policy

New policies and policy changes, including changes to this policy, can only be adopted by a majority vote at a duly convened meeting of the ASLIA Board.