

Your Personal Injury Claim

Thank you for choosing our firm to represent you. This leaflet provides information to help you with your claim.

Winston Solicitors are a firm of solicitors based in Leeds, West Yorkshire. We specialise in personal injury claims and have a dedicated team of experienced professionals ready to help you.

Since 2002 we have advised thousands of clients across England and Wales. Winston Solicitors are here to help you obtain the compensation you deserve.

Key members of your Personal Injury Team



Amanda Evans

Amanda has built up a wealth of knowledge in road traffic accident claims whilst working for both insurers and solicitor practices.



Celina Zatonska

Celina is a Polish legal advisor who helps Polish nationals living here in the UK. She will guide you through the various stages involved in making a claim including a full translation service.



Martin Nolan

Martin who is a partner in the firm, is an established member of the Personal Injury department. He has been helping injured accident victims in a career spanning 20 years.



Michelle Fieldhouse

A specialist PI solicitor who concentrates on more complex road traffic accident cases, accidents at work and slipping and tripping accidents



Neil Farrar

Has over 20 years industry experience with both Defendant insurers and for the Claimant side. This has provided him with in-depth PI claim knowledge.



Samantha Pottock

Samantha is your first point of contact who will assess your claim and direct it to one of our specialist solicitors.



Shaun Walker

With 14 years experience in acting for Personal Injury claimants, he specialises in occupational illness and high value/complex Personal Injury claims.



Stuart Winston

Works within the PI Team specialising in criminal injury claims (CICA). Assists victims of criminal assault in obtaining the maximum allowable compensation.

Your contact is:

Shaun Walker

Our phone number:

0845 890 2277

“No Win, No Fee”

With Winston Solicitors this means exactly what it says!

If we don't win your case - we do not have any right to recover a fee.

If we do win your case, we will seek payment of our costs from the Defendant and you will not have to pay a penny* nor do we deduct any money from your compensation.

You get 100% of all compensation received from insurers.

*Except MIB untraced and CICA Claims, which are dealt with on a different cost basis.

Every year we win significant amounts of compensation for accident victims across the UK



Useful websites:

Citizens Advice Bureau - www.citizensadvice.org.uk

The Law Society - www.lawsociety.org.uk

NHS Direct - www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

GP Information - www.patient.co.uk

Physiotherapy - www.csp.org.uk

Your claim process starts here



① Starting your claim

We send a "letter of claim" to the responsible party's insurers. The letter sets out why the claim is being brought and what injuries have been suffered. It gives the insurer a detailed overview of your claim.



② Liability

There is a "Personal Injury Protocol" which ensures that solicitors and insurers must act fairly during a claim. It allows the insurer nearly four months from the date of the "letter of claim" to admit or deny liability. If liability is to be denied the insurer must supply evidence in support of their arguments. They simply cannot refuse to deal with your claim.



③ Medical evidence

In order to prove that you suffered an injury as a result of an accident it will be necessary for you to attend a medical examination. You will be examined by an independent medical expert in your local area. The expert will then provide a medical report on your injuries.



④ Compensation

Once the medical evidence is received we will check the content with you. The report is sent to the insurers and we assess the level of compensation that you are likely to receive. It is generally divided into two areas as follows:



4a) General Damages

This award compensates you for the suffering you have encountered, usually in its physical form. It is compensation for pain and suffering including loss of amenity. It is also possible to be compensated for other symptoms, eg psychological distress or post traumatic stress disorder.



4b) Special Damages

Please keep a note and receipts of anything you have to buy as a result of your injury. You may receive compensation such as loss of earnings, car hire expenses, care and services, doctor or hospital visits, damaged clothing, prescription charges etc.



⑤ The Settlement

Following the release of the medical report, most claims are capable of settlement without going to Court. We negotiate a full and final award, including the damages as mentioned in 4a and 4b, for compensation. We seek to recover your legal costs from the insurers. You receive 100% of any compensation awarded whether by settlement or through Court.

Case studies

Accident at work

Mike worked as a kitchen hand in a busy hotel restaurant. He slipped on water that was leaking from a faulty hose and suffered soft tissue injuries to his ankle and wrist. He was off work for one week but recovered fully within three months of the injury. With our help Mike won £1,210 in compensation.

Cycle Accident

Brett was knocked off his bicycle by a car that came out of a side street directly in front of him. He suffered a simple fracture to his wrist and also damaged his bike. Liability was at first denied but Winston Solicitors argued successfully for the claimant and won the case. Brett received £3,850 in compensation.

Air Travel Incident

Joanne was on board an aircraft when a cabin steward spilled hot coffee on to her lap causing a severe scalding injury. The airline, which was not based in the UK, agreed to settle the claim. Joanne's injuries healed well and we helped her recover £4,500 in compensation.

Road Traffic Accident

Helen was knocked down by a car in London and suffered a fracture to her right leg and right arm. It was necessary to obtain reports from orthopaedic psychiatric and physiotherapy experts and draw up detailed schedule of her financial losses. The initial offer from the Defendants was £15,000 but the case eventually settled for £20,000 following lengthy negotiations.

(All names have been changed to preserve anonymity)

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