



Injured in a public place?

Your right to claim compensation

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Can I claim compensation?

The Paul Rooney Partnership is a leading law firm with a national reputation in the field of Personal Injury.

Over the past three decades we have helped tens of thousands of accident victims who suffered injury through no fault of their own and recovered many millions of pounds on their behalf, helping them get back on their feet.

You may be surprised to learn that most people who suffer injury which is someone else's fault still do not claim. If you are not sure if you have a claim you should obtain advice from a Solicitor who has considerable experience in dealing with compensation claims.

In legal terms a solicitor must prove that someone else was at fault in causing your accident.

A common type of claim is the tripping accident. Compensation for tripping accidents is most commonly sought from Local Authorities who have a legal duty to inspect, maintain and repair roads and pathways. Unfortunately changes in public spending priorities sometimes means many roads and pathways are neglected and people are injured by tripping on cracked or uneven pavements and potholes in the road.

Injuries can range from cuts and bruises to fractured limbs and in some cases head injuries.

Slipping accidents are also common and many occur in shopping centres or shops. For example you may slip and fall on a wet floor or debris that has not been cleared.

Other examples of claims include accidents at swimming pools, places of education and any other place that has public access.

What will it cost me?

If we believe that your claim has good prospects of success and you have no other means of paying for the case then we can act for you under a Conditional Fee Agreement (No Win No Fee).

How much can I expect to receive?

General Damages

These are the damages which will be awarded for the injuries which result from your accident. A medical report will be needed to describe the injuries you sustained and any continuing effects. The amount of compensation you receive will then be determined by reference to what has been awarded in previous similar cases.

Some typical examples:

A simple fracture of the forearm	£4000.00
Loss of a little finger	£4750.00
Crushed big toe	£5250.00
A simple nose fracture	£1300.00
Loss of two front teeth	£2500.00

Special Damages

These are the damages which compensate you for your past and future financial loss caused as a direct result of the accident and would typically include loss of earnings, medical expenses and travel expenses. If your injuries mean that you have received help and support from family and/or friends or you have had to alter your accommodation or even move house, you may be able to recover extra compensation.

Wherever possible you should retain documentation to prove your losses e.g. receipts etc.

What do I do next?

You need proper advice to establish whether you have a claim. At the Paul Rooney Partnership we have solicitors who are members of the Law Society Personal Injury Panel, the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers and the American Trial Lawyers Association. We have the expertise and experience to help you.

What will we do?

We will thoroughly investigate your claim and amongst other matters: -

- We will ask you to fully describe what happened before, during and after your accident.
- We will want to know if your accident was reported to anyone and if it was, who it was reported to.
- We will want to see any photographs that are available.
- We will want to know if anyone witnessed your accident and if they did what are their names and addresses. We will want to obtain statements from your witnesses to assist your case.
- If you are unable to come to our office because of your injuries we will gladly come to your home or hospital.

Will my case go to court?

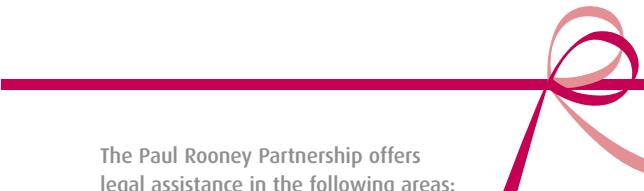
After your claim has been investigated and assessed, a formal letter containing full details of your case will be sent to the organisation or person responsible for your accident and their insurance company will then get involved.

The insurance company then has a period of three months to investigate the claim and confirm whether or not they accept responsibility for your accident.

If agreement cannot be reached with the insurance company over who is to blame and how much the claim is worth then court proceedings may be started. Your solicitor will give you advice on what this involves. Most cases are settled before or after court proceedings are started and very few go to a trial.

TIME LIMITS - Be Careful.

From the date of your accident you have three years in which to commence court proceedings against the person or organisation responsible for your accident. Unless you were under 18 at the time of your accident in which case you have until your 21st birthday.



The Paul Rooney Partnership offers legal assistance in the following areas:

- Road Traffic Accidents
- Personal Injury
- Employment Law
- Criminal Injuries
- Conveyancing

Call 0151 227 2851 for details