

# FREE personal injury support

Personal injury claims can be complicated and time-consuming but with the help of specialist solicitors the process can be made much simpler and quicker.

**Community provides free legal advice and support to members and their immediate families who have been injured through no fault of their own. It has a nationwide network of solicitors on call to serve members for free. With unscrupulous private solicitors charging astronomical rates per hour or offering dubious 'no win, no fee' services – which means they may take part of any compensation you may win – you simply can't afford to be without the union.**

## Road accidents

Whether you were the driver, passenger or pedestrian, you could be entitled to bring a claim for compensation for your injuries. The injuries suffered in road accidents may vary from minor to extremely serious injuries. Whatever your injuries may be, Community's network of solicitors is equipped to offer you the best advice and assistance with your claim.

You can claim compensation for injuries that you have suffered up to three years ago.

## Workplace injuries

Your employer has a 'duty of care' to ensure, as far as possible, your health, safety and welfare while you are at work. If you have been injured in an accident at work, or you suffer a mental health issue through bullying or an unreasonable workload, you may be entitled to make a claim for compensation. Your employer must not treat you unfairly just because you are making a claim for personal injury. The union is here to ensure your rights as an employee.

## Industrial disease

Due to your working environment you may have been exposed to harmful substances or conditions. As a result of this exposure you may have suffered from a work related condition for which you may be able to claim compensation. For example:

- Asbestos-related diseases
- respiratory diseases
- dermatitis
- industrial deafness/tinnitus
- vibration white finger

## Clinical negligence

If you have been injured as a result of medical treatment or clinical negligence, Community's network of specialist solicitors may be able to help you claim compensation. Doctors have been found negligent for, among other things:

- a failed or delayed diagnosis
- failing to warn you of treatment risks
- failing to obtain proper consent to treatment
- medication errors
- careless surgical procedures
- delaying your referral to specialists.

Negligence can also arise out of system errors in the hospital where the treatment took place.

If you were treated as a private patient, and paid the doctor, either yourself or through your medical insurer, you may also be able to claim for breach of contract if your medical treatment was substandard.

## Public liability

If you have been injured in the street or within a public building, for example, in a supermarket or restaurant, you may be entitled to make a claim for compensation.

Landlords and owners of land and property accessed by members of the public have a duty to take reasonable care for the safety of all visitors. Landlords also have a duty of care to their tenants. Community's specialist solicitors are on hand to provide advice and assistance.

**For further information, or to register a claim for compensation, please contact Community's Member Service Centre on FREEPHONE 0800 389 6332 or email: [servicecentre@community-tu.org](mailto:servicecentre@community-tu.org)**