

## What you need to know if you been injured in a slipping or tripping accident

If you have suffered an accident whilst in a public place, for example in a supermarket or in the street and wish to bring a claim here is a checklist of **things you should do**:-

- Report the accident immediately. If your accident was in a shop or supermarket, ask for the manager and request an accident report form. If your accident happened in the street or in a public place then telephone the council and make a note of the date, time and the name of the person you speak to.
- It is not always easy to think clearly when you are in shock, but if you can speak to anybody who saw you fall and take down their contact details this will help to provide useful evidence.
- If you fell on the public highway, ie in the street, try and obtain details of people who know the area well (eg people who live close by). Ask them if they know of the defect that caused your accident, and how long it has been there.
- Take photographs of the defect and measurements as evidence as soon as possible as often the Council or owners of the land will repair the defect soon after an accident is reported; which may mean an important piece of evidence is lost. As a rule of thumb the depth of the defect on a public highway needs to be at least 1 inch.
- You should make a note of where you were going, where you had been, what the weather conditions were, the date and time of day etc as soon as possible as memories can fade and in tripping and slipping cases details are very important.
- You should seek medical attention as soon as possible and keep a note of who you saw and when.
- Keep receipts for everything you have had to pay for relating to the accident, including prescriptions, pain killers, travel costs to go to the hospital and/or to see your GP.
- If your injuries are serious, it is helpful to keep a daily diary of the progress you are making and how you are feeling day by day, this can be used later as evidence of how your injury affected you.
- To give your claim the best possible chance of success contact us as soon as possible. We offer home and/or hospital visits as part of our No Win No Fee service.