

Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme

If you have been an innocent victim of a violent Crime and have been injured then you may be entitled to bring a claim for compensation under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme, governed by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA).

The CICA is a government organisation that can pay compensation to people who have been physically or mentally injured in an act of violence in England, Scotland or Wales or were present when someone closely related to them was the victim. There are however strict criteria in order for you to qualify for compensation under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme.

Here is a checklist of things you should do if you wish to bring a CICA claim:-

Report the incident to the Police immediately. You should request the Police Log number for the incident together with the Crime Reference number. You should make a note of the Police Station investigating the incident together with the name and identification number of the Police Officer the incident was reported to.

It is crucial to note that failure to report the incident to the Police 'without delay' is likely to prevent a successful claim being made

Try to speak to witnesses and take down their contact details.

You must cooperate with the Police in their investigations. You should therefore provide a full statement to the Police at your earliest opportunity

Seek medical treatment as soon as possible

Take photographs of any bruises, scars, etc you may have sustained in the attack

Keep receipts for all out of pocket expenses, for example for prescriptions or pain killers

It is helpful if you can 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 the injury affected you

If you wish to bring a claim for compensation for criminal injuries, please contact us as soon as possible as there are very strict time limits involved. We can arrange home or hospital visits as part of our No Win No Fee scheme.