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Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence

*A practical guide to Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence:
Your rights, how to claim and compensation*



www.srb.co.uk





Our Practice

Stone Rowe Brewer is a highly respected firm of solicitors who have worked in the Twickenham and Richmond area for in excess of 30 years and we have become the region's leading Personal Injury Specialist.

In addition to Personal Injury our range of services also cover Conveyancing (both domestic and commercial), Employment and Company law, Matrimonial and Family law, Probate and Wills, Taxation and Litigation.

We are a progressive firm but operate with traditional values and believe totally in exceeding our client's expectations in terms of both legal advice and customer care.





Our Personal Injury Service

Our specialist Personal Injury team are here to provide you with a professional, sympathetic, effective and timely means of seeking rightful compensation for your accident or illness.

Based on over 30 years of personal experience our team of three solicitors and their support staff will operate to the highest standards with each and every client:

- Free initial consultation
- Full explanation of chances of success, time-frame and who pays for what
- A guarantee that all urgent correspondence is dealt with in 2 working days or less



Our team of three solicitors are all members of CPIL (College of Personal Injury Law), as well as each being a practitioner member of APIL (Association of Personal Injury Lawyers), an organisation that is dedicated to improving the service provided to victims of accidents and clinical negligence. Additionally, we meet all the requirements of the Law Society's Written Professional Standards.

This booklet answers some of the most common questions you may have about Personal Injury, Clinical Negligence and Compensation. If you feel you might have a claim or would like to ask further questions, please contact us on the numbers at the back of this leaflet.





Your Questions Answered

Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence are subjects that often lead to misunderstandings or exaggerated and misleading stories in the press. We have attempted to explain some of the most common issues below, as well as answering questions that you may have.

What is meant by Personal Injury?

This is an injury, either physical or mental, that happens to you or a family member as a result of an accident that was the fault of a third party. In these circumstances it is possible that you may be entitled to compensation for your injury.

What is meant by Clinical Negligence?

This is when an injury, mental or physical, results from medical care (or lack of it) or treatment that goes wrong due to the negligence of a healthcare practitioner. We can guide you through this complex and difficult area.

What type of accidents are covered?

Any accident resulting in an injury where it is clear that the fault for the accident lies with a third party. Typically these can be road traffic accidents, work-place accidents, sports injuries, clinical negligence or slips and trips on footpaths.

Do I have a Claim?

If your injury was caused either partly or totally by somebody else, *probably* yes! This typically can be an employer, another driver, a local authority, or a healthcare professional, although the list is not exhaustive.

What can I claim for?

In addition to the direct compensation claim associated with the injury, loss of earnings, insurance excesses, and physiotherapy and medical bills are amongst many other expenses that can be legitimately pursued. If, as a result of your injury, you have incurred other associated costs it may also be possible to include them in a claim.

How long after my accident can I claim?

In most instances you have to claim within three years. However there are exceptions to this guidance and in the case of children the law is again different. We will be happy to advise you individually about your potential claim.





What is No Win-No fee?

This is a common expression that applies to a “conditional-fee” agreement. Put simply it does mean that if we win your case we recover all our costs from the third-party.

How much will a claim cost?

Your claim will cost you nothing. If we win your case the costs will be borne by the third party and we recover no costs if we lose. Additionally, unlike some legal practices, we guarantee that 100% of your compensation will go to you at the end of the case.

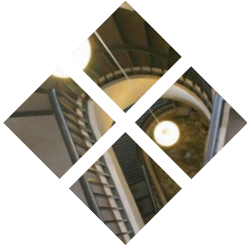


How much will I have to pay if I lose my case?

Nothing. Stone Rowe Brewer has a very successful record in achieving a positive outcome for our clients. If we are not successful we do not recover our costs.

Is there such a thing as guaranteed compensation?

No. In many instances claims for personal injury are not contested whilst clinical negligence claims are nearly always contested. Levels of compensation and speed of process will therefore vary according to individual circumstances. However we will be able to provide guidance on this issue at our first discussion.



How long will it be before I receive compensation?

Once again this will depend on the individual circumstances of your claim. Stone Rowe Brewer will pursue your claim in a manner that will give the best possible chance of correctly compensating you for your injury in a timely fashion. Once again, at our initial consultation we will be able to provide further guidance in this regard.

What is a claims company?

This is a company, such as those you may see in the media, who pass your details onto a solicitor who then pursues your claim. Stone Rowe Brewer is a firm of solicitors and you will be dealing with fully qualified staff directly.

Will I actually be dealing with a solicitor or a claim handler?

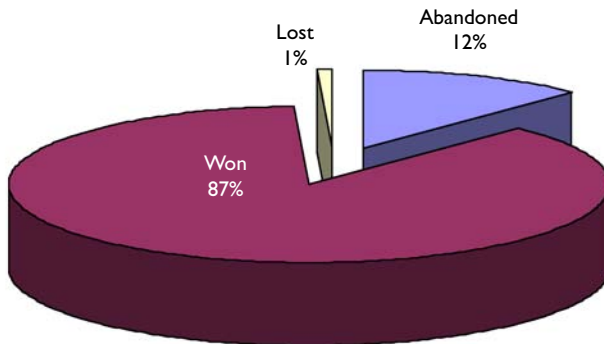
A qualified solicitor. Your claim deserves the full attention of a legal expert and we guarantee this will be the case.



Our Track Record

One of the most frequently asked questions is:
“what are my chances of winning the case?”.

The chart below shows accurate and up to date data for Stone Rowe Brewer as recorded by the leading insurer-Allianz Cornhill*.



87% of all cases resulted in a successful outcome!
12% were abandoned for the reasons below:

- Client failed to pursue the case after referral
- Client did not want to go to court
- Stone Rowe Brewer advised client that the case was highly unlikely to succeed

These facts give you a clear and current indication of how Stone Rowe Brewer excel in providing a highly satisfactory and successful outcome.

**Data up to end Feb 2005 (time of print)
Taken from statistics provided by Allianz Cornhill Legal Protection, a leading provider of legal protection insurance.
Data relates only to Stone Rowe Brewer*



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Free Consultation Voucher

- This voucher entitles the bearer to a Free Initial Consultation with one of the Personal Injury Solicitors in the team.
Please telephone or email using the details overleaf to arrange the consultation.
- It can only be used in matters relating to Personal Injury and/or Clinical Negligence.
- Please complete your details below as well as those of the business where you picked up this brochure
- Please retain the Voucher and present it to the solicitor at the initial consultation

Name

Address

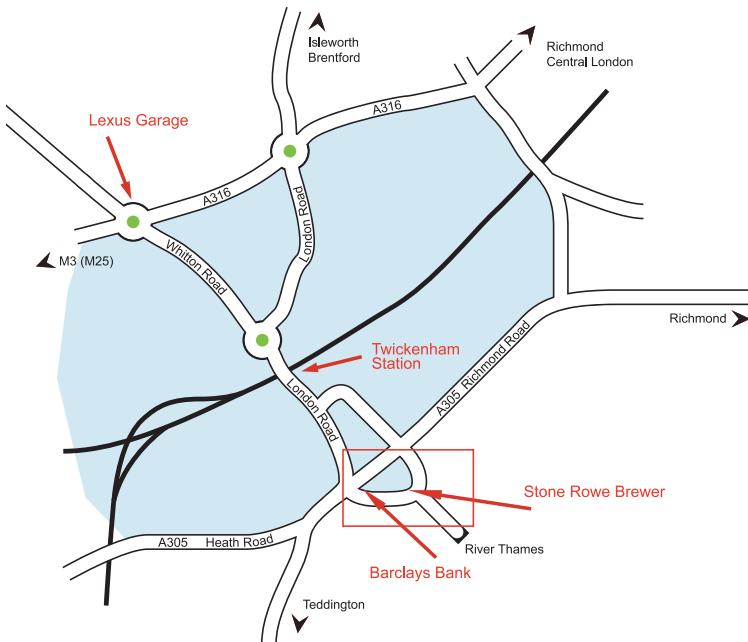
Telephone

Stone Rowe Brewer offer a comprehensive range of legal services that are summarised overleaf. Please phone the main switchboard number if you would like to know more.



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As well as our Personal Injury Service, we also offer the following range of Services:

- Matrimonial and Family Law
- Conveyancing, both Domestic and Commercial
- Employment and Company Law
- Probate and Wills
 - Taxation
 - Litigation

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