

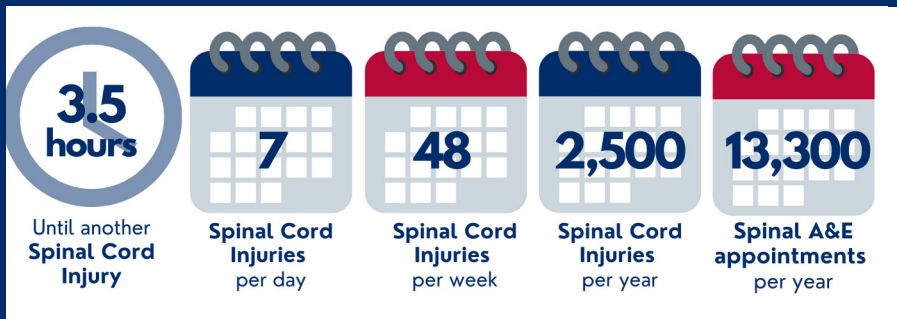
Choosing Brethertons Solicitors For Your Spinal Cord Injury Claim



Spinal Cord Injury Compensation Claims

Spinal cord injury compensation claims are legally complex and will typically involve securing millions of pounds in compensation.

Just as the medical care you need after spinal cord injury is specialised; finding and engaging with a solicitor with genuine and specialised experience and expertise in helping spinal cord injury patients and their families is vital.



'I thought the legal process might be confusing, but it was a doddle because I knew I could trust the team at Brethertons.

They kept in touch regularly with updates and there was never an instance when I disagreed with what they advised me to do, because everything made perfect sense. I was in hospital for a long time, but now I live in adapted accommodation adjoining my parents' house.'

Nic Kane (C6, incomplete tetraplegic ASIA B),
injured in a motorbike accident

Ify Nwokoro (C4, ASIA A), was injured in a road accident. Brethertons helped him secure one of the largest compensation packages ever awarded in the UK.

Ify says, "After the accident, I didn't know how to go on. Brethertons came in and helped me continue my life. They helped me with the emotional and financial side of things, and gave me reassurance everything would turn out well!"

[Watch Ify's video and hear more about his story](#)



Why Brethertons?

The Brethertons spinal cord injuries team has a national reputation for its work in helping spinal cord injury patients. The team has helped people from all over the country secure many millions of pounds of compensation after spinal cord injury.

The team is experienced in helping people who have suffered spinal cord injury in all contexts where there is some suggestion that someone else might have caused the injury (road/traffic collision, injury at work; injury in a public place or through clinical negligence).

The way the team works, its expertise and experience, and the team's focus, passion, and commitment to helping people in the aftermath of spinal cord injury is evidenced by the outcomes and feedback it has secured from clients.

The team has also won recognition and praise from clinicians engaged in helping people with spinal cord injury, and also from Judges, case managers, experts and charity representatives. Individual and team accreditations and award nominations are also testament to the team's enviable track record in helping individual clients and the wider spinal cord injuries community.

We are more than happy to answer any questions you may want to ask us when we meet to discuss how we might be able to help you, but the most common questions injured clients tend to ask are set out on the next page.



Christina Storey (T12 incomplete paraplegia ASIA D) living life to the full after her injury.

The team's understanding of all levels of spinal injuries helped Christina Storey feel her individual situation was taken seriously and she received the correct recognition and rehabilitation for her needs.

Four Important Questions

It can be difficult to compare solicitors when selecting the right one for you. We suggest you ask them these four questions:

1. Do I have a case?
2. What level of compensation will I receive?
3. How long is it all going to take?
4. What is it going to cost me?

Additional Questions

Look for a solicitor who has genuine expertise and experience in helping people claim compensation after spinal cord injury. Here are some more questions that you could ask them:

- How many spinal cord injury cases they have dealt with?
- What the outcomes of those cases were?
- How quickly those cases were resolved?
- Which experts and spinal cord injury professionals they are in contact with that could help with your case?
- How your case and rehabilitation would be paid for?
- What is involved in making a claim?
- What contact will I have with you while the claim progresses?
- Is an early interim payment possible?
- Can you help with my immediate needs - financial, benefits, discharge home, care and case management?

Examples Of Cases We Have Settled...

Motorcyclist, C6 ASIA B complete tetraplegia

Our 20 year old client was involved in a motorbike collision and sustained a C6 fracture resulting in serious spinal cord damage and complete tetraplegia. As a consequence, our client has been left with severely reduced mobility, impaired dexterity and significant musculoskeletal and neuropathic pain and now requires 24 hour care. Following an admission of liability, the Spinal Injuries team obtained significant interim payments which enabled our client to access specialist care, case management, physiotherapy and equipment whilst his claim was ongoing. The damages were awarded, following a Joint Settlement Meeting, by way of annualised payments for care for the rest of his life and a lump sum for the remainder of the damages. The capitalised value of the damages was approximately £16m, based upon our client living for his projected life expectancy. The final settlement consisted of damages for loss of earnings, care, case management, aids and equipment, accommodation, medical costs and therapies.

Driver, C5/6 ASIA C incomplete tetraplegia

Our client was driving her car when the Defendant crashed into the side of her vehicle. She sustained a range of injuries diagnosed as C5/6 incomplete tetraplegia ASIA C. She was unable to work again due to sensory and mobility problems. Although she could walk, she struggled with excruciating pain in her right forearm caused by extensive nerve damage. Our client underwent a pain management programme as a result of the expert evidence Brethertons obtained whilst her claim was ongoing. The claim had been pursued by a previous solicitor and our client had been advised to accept a modest sum when she sought a second opinion from us. We eventually settled the claim prior to Trial for a substantial six figure sum, more than 44 times the amount our client had been advised to accept by the non-specialist solicitor she had engaged initially.

Missed Diagnosis, C6 ASIA C incomplete tetraplegia

Our client suffered her spinal cord injury when she broke her neck following a fall at home. She was taken to the Defendant Hospital where they failed to diagnose the fracture at C6/7. After assessment a stroke was suspected and our client was sent to the stroke ward. After further deterioration a spinal fracture was identified. Had the necessary and correct scans and treatment taken place following her initial assessment, our client would not have sustained a spinal cord injury. Following discharge, our client was unable to return home and now lives in a nursing home. Our client has life-long medical, psychological, care and case management, therapies, equipment, and accommodation needs. She is now looking to move into suitable adapted accommodation. An admission of liability was obtained and the case successfully settled for a seven figure sum ahead of trial.

Spinal Epidural Abscess, T5 ASIA D Incomplete paraplegia

The team advised a client in relation to the delayed diagnosis of a spinal abscess, which resulted in our client sustaining paraplegia. Our client attended her local hospital with a painful lump on her neck. Unfortunately, the correct diagnosis and treatment was not provided and the abscess damaged the spinal cord irreparably. Following an admission of liability, the team secured a significant six figure interim payment to enable our client to begin finding suitable adapted accommodation. The case settled for seven figures allowing the client to have the care, equipment and therapies she required.

What People Say About Us...

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“From the time of my first meeting with Jon Rees while I was in hospital, he has been the most approachable, kindest and understanding person from that time and remains so now. Nothing is too much trouble for him or the team, I can contact them at any time on any matter. I was kept 100% up to date with my ongoing case. I couldn't wish for anyone better to be representing me.”

Client with T10 ASIA D incomplete paraplegia following a road traffic accident

“From the moment we met Jon and his team from Brethertons, we knew we were in good, sound hands. They dealt with my partner's spinal injury claim with compassion, sensitivity, knowledge and expertise, performing with the utmost professionalism at all times. I don't know what we would have done without the team. Nothing was ever too much trouble for them in helping and supporting us through the minefield of the litigation with all its twists and turns. I would have no hesitation in recommending Jon and the team to others who may, unfortunately, find themselves in such life changing circumstances as we did.”

Client with C6 ASIA A complete tetraplegia following a road traffic accident and clinical negligence

“I was unfortunate to suffer an accident at work. The ramifications of the accident turned out to be severe and left me paralysed below the waist. When we met, Jon impressed me with his professionalism and I was happy to appoint Bretherton's to act on my behalf. Senior Associate, Sian Buxton is a caring yet tenacious young lady who has worked extremely hard on my behalf by advising and negotiating to achieve the best possible result. I would have no hesitation in recommending Brethertons.”

Client with T10 ASIA D incomplete paraplegia following accident at work

“The whole team were like a small family. They still help me now that it is all over by keeping in touch with me. I do not think that they forget about their clients. On behalf of my wife, my family and my close friends, thank you from the bottom of my heart for trying to get the [last] four and a half years back. Thanks to the whole team.”

Client with C5 AISA D incomplete paraplegia

“From the get go Brethertons have always been very professional. The team helped me and my family along the way even if things were difficult. I always knew what was going on with my case and trusted their advice. I was very impressed with Sian and how she advised and assisted me along with the support given from her throughout.”

Client with T5 AISA D incomplete paraplegia following clinical negligence

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We're Here To Help With More Than Just Your Claim

If the circumstances of your injury mean you can claim compensation, our specialist Spinal Cord Injuries team can work with you to get this underway.

Even if you do not have a compensation claim, we can still help with:

Personal	Benefits	Employment	Property
Power of attorney	PI Trusts (keeping your entitlement to means-tested state benefits where you have received a compensation payment as a result of spinal cord injury)	Return to work advice	Property ownership
Will writing and estate planning		Discontinuance of employment advice	Sale and purchase of property or land
Relationship breakdown, including divorce and child custody	Access to state benefits	Self-employment	
		Becoming an employer of personal assistants or carers	

Beyond the range of legal services and support you should expect to find in an experienced firm of Solicitor's helping spinal cord injured clients and their families, we can also help with providing or introducing you to counselling, peer support services, benefits advice and assistance, case managers, financial planning assistance, and accommodation experts. We also have connections with organisations who assist with public law advice including judicial review of local authority decisions. Whilst our specialist area of expertise and experience is in spinal cord injuries litigation, we pride ourselves on being able to help any spinal cord injured person or their family wherever we can.



Visit our website for further information and to see videos of our clients talking about what life is like after a spinal cord injury.

Corporate Social Responsibility

In addition to using our specialist legal skills to help individual clients, we are proud to help the wider spinal cord injuries community wherever we can.

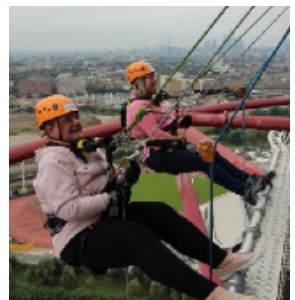
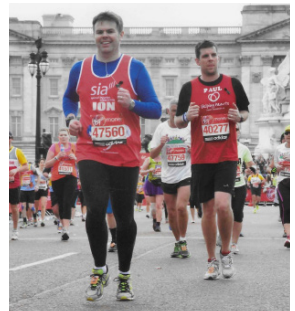
We have contributed significant sums of money to spinal cord injuries charities as fundraisers, donors and corporate partners, but we have also developed a reputation and passion for supporting often smaller, more practical and impactful charities and causes.

We are especially passionate about peer support having seen what an important impact that has had for newly injured people and indeed those who suffered their injury longer ago.

We are thrilled to support Peer Advice Services UK (PAS UK) a unique charitable incorporated organisation that exists to deliver practical support to spinal cord injured people through the sharing of lived experience of spinal cord injury and the provision of practical assistance wherever it might be needed.

PAS supports people from day one following spinal cord injury and from all backgrounds as well as having a unique role in providing peer support services to members of the armed forces community.

We are long term supporters of the Spinal Injuries Association (SIA), and we are also pleased to lend our support to a range of smaller charities and initiatives such as Stoke Mandeville Spinal Research (SMSR), off site rehabilitation programmes and patient groups. We are proud members of the Multidisciplinary Association of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals (MASCIP).



Accreditations and Industry Feedback

We are proud of our corporate associations, professional accreditations, and legal directories recognition (for example Chambers and Partners and The Legal 500) – and of course the feedback we receive from clients and others involved in the spinal cord injuries community.



Chambers & Partners

"Jonathan Rees is a notable figure and specialises in both higher and lower level spinal cord injuries including tetraplegia and paraplegia. Rees has settled numerous significant compensation claims involving spinal cord injury arising from road traffic accident collisions, accidents at work/public places and through clinical negligence. In addition he is adept at advising on other life changing injuries such as amputation and brain injury. Senior associate Sian Buxton is recommended too for her work with people who have suffered serious injuries as a result of clinical negligence and accidents."



"This practice is led by individuals who have a very good knowledge of their client base and work with a team of experts who also understand the nature of the clients' injuries or disabilities".



"Jonathan Rees – a very professional individual who understands the complexities of the clients' needs and works to a professional standard to achieve the best results for the client".

"The people are caring and conscientious".



Legal 500

"Jonathan Rees regularly advises on high-value spinal cord injury claims and will always do his very best for the client and leave no stone unturned to get the best outcome."

"They make the clients feel so supported and guide each of them through very difficult times."



Get in Touch

If you or someone you know has suffered a spinal cord injury and would like to talk to a specialist spinal cord injuries solicitor, Jon and his team are more than happy to help and to visit you wherever you are in the country.

We work on a 'no win no fee' basis. Contact us for a free consultation. The Brethertons Spinal Injuries Team are here to help.

We deal with a select number of claims each year and so the whole team will get to know you personally.

Jon Rees, Partner and Head of Brethertons Spinal Injuries Team, has worked in personal injury litigation since 1996 and has a background in representing claimants in high value serious injury claims and group actions.

Jon is a Fellow of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) and he is one of the few solicitors in the country whose practice area is exclusively focused on assisting people with spinal cord injuries.

Jon has recovered some of the highest awards of compensation made to individuals in the UK, with his team typically achieving compensation awards of seven figures and above.

“ Jonathan Rees regularly advises on high-value spinal cord injury claims. He is well versed in cases arising from RTAs and workplace accidents. Sources say: “He is very intuitive and shows great empathy to his clients’ needs and wellbeing.” and “Jonathan Rees will always do his very best for the client and leave no stone unturned to get the best outcome.”

Chambers and Partners

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