



Re: Car insurance up by 34pc to pay whiplash cheats (*Daily Telegraph* 21 January 2011)

Sir,

The insurance industry blames everyone but itself for rocketing motor premiums.

Among one of the first pieces of evidence heard before a recent session of the Transport Select Committee was that the motor insurance market had been making a loss for years, and that the recent price hikes were part of a "correction".

Simon Douglas suggests the rising cost of premiums is down to personal injury claims, but he does not explain why there are a growing number of insurers actively pursuing injured people and offering them compensation within hours of an injury when they have not even considered making a claim.

Mr Douglas also fails to mention the new industry agreed process of dealing with road traffic accident cases which aims to cut costs in up to 75 per cent of all personal injury claims. It would be interesting to see if these savings will be passed on to motorists in the form of lower premiums in a year's time.

Yours sincerely,

Denise Kitchener
Chief executive,
Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)