

March 2011 - Regional newspapers

Sir,

Damages for people who have been injured through no fault of their own have, for many years, been known to be too low.

So it was with great disappointment that I heard the Government had dropped part of a Bill which would have provided an opportunity to explore this issue.

The draft Civil Law Reform Bill offered a platform to bring the law on damages up to date and debate Law Commission recommendations that damages for personal injury should be increased.

It was scrapped, however, because it did not "contribute to the delivery of the Government's priorities", and would be expensive to implement.

I am concerned by this, as are many other members of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL). Though we live in straitened times, as a society we still need to make sure vulnerable people are properly protected.

It is bitterly disappointing that nothing will be done now to bring this part of the law up to date.

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