



**27 November 2013**

**Stoke Sentinel**

**Re: 'Tackling our 'compensation culture' (27 November)**

We fully support the sentiment of Mike Wolfe that people should not make dishonest compensation claims in his article 'Tackling our 'compensation culture' (27 Nov) but strongly disagree with his suggestion that valid claims are not in the public interest.

Compensation is vital to the injured person whose life will at best be disrupted and, at worst shattered. Any award for damages is only paid out if negligence has occurred and is based on the cost of returning the individual as far as is possible to their pre-injured life including the cost of rehabilitation and future care needs. It's important to remember that, if no claim was made, the victim would require NHS treatment anyway which would be a cost the tax payer.

In the majority of personal injury cases, damages will be paid out by insurers who collect premiums for this exact purpose.

Victims don't ask to be injured and shouldn't suffer any more than necessary, even if it was a taxpayer funded body that was negligent.

Deborah Evans

Chief executive

Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)



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