



Re: *Fighting for a payout too far* - Yorkshire Post

Sir,

Psychiatric harm goes far beyond grief and sadness, a fact which your reader (*Fighting for a payout too far* - 11 March) has missed.

Losing someone you love in a tragedy which could and should have been avoided, because someone else was negligent, is an unthinkable injustice. But in some cases the mental torment becomes a diagnosed mental illness, and can devastate every corner of a person's life. Some people never recover from the life-altering effects of psychiatric injury. There is no justified reason, in a modern and enlightened society, as to why someone suffering mental illness in these circumstances should not seek recompense from those who caused it.

The law on compensation for psychiatric harm was unfit for purpose when it was enshrined in the case following the Hillsborough disaster, and has remained inflexible and unfair for a quarter of a century. It is time the law-makers put it right.

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