

The Sheffield Star series

Re: £16.5m payout claims probed (13 June 2014)

Figures and statistics do not convey the full picture of an injury.

If Sheffield Council believes that it did not cause the injury, or that the claim is fraudulent, then it should of course defend itself. But when a person is injured because someone else did not take, or could not be bothered to take, proper care when doing their job then he has every right to seek redress. Compensation is not a windfall - it is recompense for the pain, disruption, and any costs it took to get the injured person back on his feet.

Government investigations have found that the so-called 'rising problem' of personal injury claims is nothing more than a perception. There is simply not enough understanding that negligence must be proven for a claim to succeed, and too much criticism of injured people who deserve, and are entitled, to try to put things right for themselves.

Deborah Evans

Chief executive

Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)