

8 November 2011

INSURERS TOLD TO SET THEIR HOUSE IN ORDER, AHEAD OF PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE

As MPs prepare for another debate on the cost of motor insurance tonight (8 November) a national campaign group has called on the insurance industry to set its house in order.

Not-for-profit Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) has called for clarity in the insurance market and has challenged the insurance industry to end its unwarranted and prolonged assault on injured people.

“Let’s remember what insurance is for in the first place,” said APIL president David Bott. “Its purpose is to ensure that people who are injured by motorists can claim the compensation needed to put their lives back on course.

“Of course that costs money. Injuring people needlessly does cost money and when compensation needs to be paid it is entirely wrong for the insurance industry to deflect attention from its own shortcomings by blaming claimants for costing them money, just because they’ve happened to be injured.

“Motor insurers have enjoyed a captive market for decades, yet their inability properly to price their risks means they are now forcing consumers to pay the price for years of underwriting losses.

At a time when legal fees have been slashed through a new electronic system of dealing with motor claims, car insurance premiums have increased by almost a third,” he went on.



“And, with the Government now planning to ban referral fees, insurers will lose another major source of income, and I fear this could result in premiums rising even higher.

“There are ways of cutting costs without attacking injured people, and insurers need to look closer to home to see what can be done.”

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- For more information please contact the APIL press office on 0115 943 5409 / 0115 943 5416. After 5pm please call 07808 768 623.
- APIL (Association of Personal Injury Lawyers) is a not-for-profit organisation whose members campaign for improvements in the law to help people who are injured or become ill through no fault of their own.
- Visit the association’s website at www.apil.org.uk.