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16 November, 2004

OUTRAGE OVER “CYNICAL” PLANS TO CUT CRIMINAL INJURY COMPENSATION

Home Office plans to slash compensation payments for victims of crime are a vicious blow to victims at their most vulnerable, said lawyers responding to press reports today.

“This Government clearly recognised the need to raise compensation for many criminal injury tariffs only three years ago, and has since pledged its support for victims of crime,” said Colin Ettinger, president of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL).

“A U-turn like this is almost breathtakingly cynical and, once again, leaves injury victims paying the price in the drive to cut costs.

“The system for paying compensation to victims of crime is already unfair and inflexible and comes nowhere near compensating people for the failure of society to protect them from crime in the first place,” he went on.

“Far from merging criminal injury tariff bands to cut compensation, the Government should be looking at making them more flexible to take people’s individual circumstances into account when making these awards.”

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