



**1 March 2013**

**APIL and MASS: Fixed fees judicial review**

**Court finds in favour of Secretary of State for Justice**

Many vulnerable victims of injury will now find it impossible to obtain independent legal representation as a result of today's bitterly disappointing judgment in the Administrative Court.

As the Government has now decided to slash lawyers' fees in the road traffic accident claims process, many people will be left on their own to negotiate with insurers for fair and proper compensation for their injuries.

The vast majority of injured people have no knowledge of what their injuries are 'worth' in terms of damages, so such negotiations will inevitably be biased in favour of the insurers. A recent independent survey found, for example, that 70 per cent of people would not know what level of compensation to claim for a whiplash injury.

This is a dark day for people who are injured through no fault of their own. We can only hope that the Government does not take this judgment as a license to continue to ride rough-shod over the needs of vulnerable people in the future.

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Notes to editors:



- APIL (Association of Personal Injury Lawyers) is a not-for-profit organisation whose members are dedicated to campaigning 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](http://www.apil.org.uk)
- Follow us on Twitter: @APIL