

LEIGH DAY

A photograph of an older man with a grey beard and hair, wearing a grey t-shirt, sitting in a wheelchair. He is smiling broadly and holding a basketball with both hands. In the background, a younger man in a grey t-shirt and white shorts is also smiling and looking towards the camera. The setting appears to be an outdoor basketball court.

**Spinal cord
injury claims**

Legal support from specialist spinal cord injury lawyers



Introduction

When someone sustains a spinal cord injury, we understand that their life and the lives of their family change instantly.

It is really important that advice and support is sought at an early stage from specialist lawyers, to ensure that the very best rehabilitation and professional support is accessed from the outset.

Anybody sustaining a spinal cord injury in an accident should seek specialist legal advice as they may have a claim for compensation. Any accident type can lead to a claim for compensation, but examples include road traffic accidents, accidents at work, accidents caused by dangerous buildings and land, sporting accidents and public disasters.

Compensation will provide financial support for you and your family, relieving the financial stress that can accompany a spinal cord injury.

The legal process can seem daunting and complex, but our specialist spinal cord injury lawyers will be with you at every stage of the way to guide you through it and ensure that your compensation is maximised.

“The Leigh Day PI team is outstanding. The team members are knowledgeable, personable, organised and efficient.”



Why choose Leigh Day?

If you or a family member has sustained a spinal cord injury, you will need experts to guide you through the legal process.



We are one of the largest and most experienced teams of specialist spinal cord injury lawyers in the UK, having spent many decades helping people to rebuild their lives after a spinal cord injury.



Our lawyers are highly experienced in running challenging cases and have a deep understanding of the impact of a spinal cord injury on the injured person and their family. We regularly achieve multi-million-pound payments of compensation for our clients with a spinal cord injury to help rebuild their lives, fund their ongoing needs and ensure financial security throughout their lives.



For over 35 years we have been rated the best in the UK at what we do, for the care we provide and the complexity of the cases we take on. We have an understanding of what needs to be done to maximise our clients' compensation, and we work with the leading experts and barristers in the country in order to achieve this.



The Law Society

We are very effective at immediately accessing privately funded rehabilitation so our clients have the best chance of maximising their rehabilitation, and in securing part payments of compensation to provide financial security from the outset.

“Leigh Day were fully determined to do the best for me with regard to all outcomes, not just financial, yet remained practical at all times, never giving me unrealistic expectations, which is equally important.”

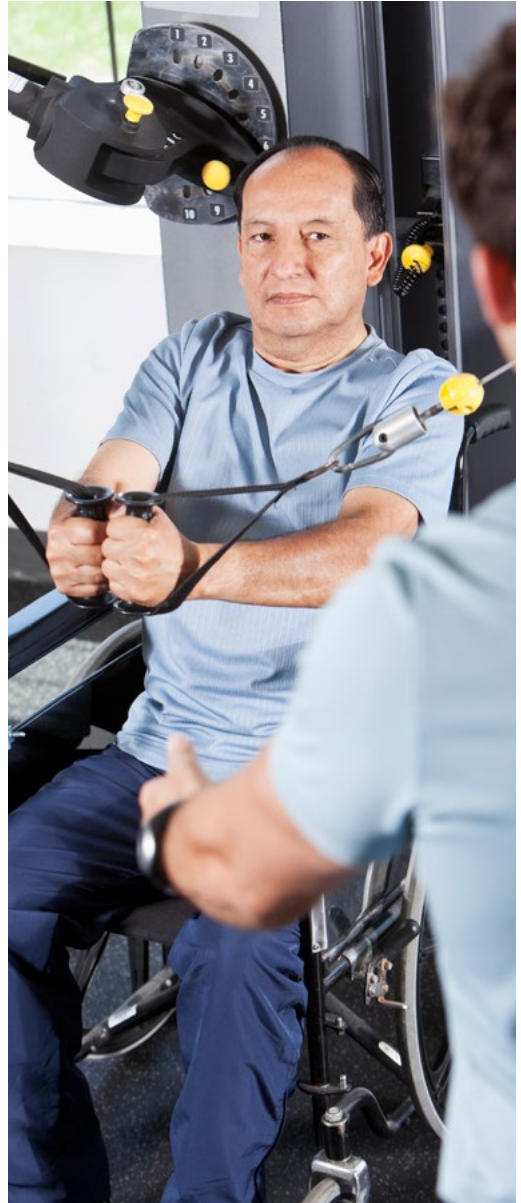
Client

We understand the importance of not just high-quality legal advice, but also of a personal service, empathy and support. We take great care to listen to our clients and we understand that every client and their family is different and has their own set of personal circumstances.

You can call or email us to find out more about how we can help you on a completely no-obligation basis and in strict confidence. We are happy to provide you with advice on whether you have grounds to bring a claim, the claims process, how the no-win no-fee structure works and to answer any other queries you may have.

“Leigh Day provide the utmost diligence, professionalism, sympathetic nature and communication.”

Chambers and Partners



THE TIMES #1

Joint 1st Personal Injury firm in The Times list

**We are on the legal panel for several of
the country's Major Trauma Centres.**

2025 Chambers AND PARTNERS

"Leigh Day has an illustrious claimant team regularly instructed to act in catastrophic personal injury cases against a range of parties, including governments, public bodies and large corporations."

Chambers and Partners

**"Thank you James, for your support, skill and
determination in pursuing my claim for me
and for the outcome you have achieved. You
helped me get through the darkest of times,
which will never be forgotten."**

Client



"I chose Leigh Day on recommendation and can't thank them enough, especially Beth Sanders. From our first conversation to the conclusion of my case Beth has shown compassion, patience and understanding and given guidance in what has been a difficult period since my accident."

DJP via Trustpilot

Band 1

In the Chambers and Partners Guide and Tier 1 in the Legal 500 guide for personal injury.

Our lawyers have been involved in some of the country's leading personal injury cases, for example Swift -v- Carpenter which formulated how accommodation claims are calculated in serious injury claims.



Trusted Legal Partners for significant spinal cord injury charities including Spinal Injuries Association and Stoke Mandeville Spinal Research.

What could you claim for?

We have secured many multi-million pound compensation awards for clients to help them and their families move forward with their lives following a spinal cord injury.

If you have sustained a spinal cord injury as a result of an accident that was completely or partially somebody else's fault you may be entitled to compensation.

Compensation in a spinal cord injury claim is claimed to cover things such as:

Rehabilitation therapies and treatment: The cost of your private medical care, therapies such as occupational therapy, physiotherapy and psychological therapy to maximise and maintain recovery.

Care: The support provided by family and friends to reflect the help they have provided, in addition to the cost of private care.

“Having had a spinal cord injury three years ago my life was turned upside down. James and his team did a fantastic job helping me get through the worst of it, not only with the legal side of things but also emotional support which I am truly grateful for.”

Client

Case management: A specialist spinal cord injuries clinician such as an occupational therapist, physiotherapist or nurse to help you set up and maintain the right professional support network, including your care and therapy regime.

Equipment: Such as electric wheelchairs. This includes the maintenance and replacement costs of the equipment.

Assistive technology: Such as environmental controls. This includes the maintenance and replacement costs of the technology.

Rehabilitation technology: Such as exoskeletons (walking devices), standing and exercise devices.

Transportation: Including adapted vehicles.

Accommodation: Adapting your existing home or buying/renting more suitable accommodation with specialist therapy pools and equipment. This will also include related expenses.

DIY, gardening and household services: If you are unable to do jobs around the house as a result of your injury, the cost of tradespeople to undertake the work can be claimed.

Loss of earnings and pension loss: Salaries or wages, including missed promotions and bonuses. In some cases, this can also include lost pension that you could have earned if you were still at work.

Increased cost of holidays: Such as premium flights, adapted accommodation, the additional costs of taking carers on holiday with you and adapted motorhomes.

Re-training: Funding for re-training to help you return to work where possible.

Other expenses: Such as travel and medication costs.

How to make a legal compensation claim

1 2 3

Key stages of a spinal cord injury claim:

1 Your accident: Time in hospital and then a spinal injuries rehabilitation centre are the first stages of your recovery.

2 Engaging a solicitor: You may not have considered making a claim immediately but speaking to a specialist spinal cord injury lawyer as soon as possible will ensure that we can help you to start rebuilding your life. We often see people in Major Trauma Centres very soon after their accident. We can provide immediate practical advice on employment issues, dealing with urgent financial situations, entitlement to welfare benefits, exploring

entitlements under any existing policies of insurance, setting up powers of attorney and on your right to community care services. We can also put you in touch with our partner charities who can support you and your family.

3 Interim payments: We seek to secure interim payments (part payments of compensation) shortly after instruction, so that you and your family are financially secure, and that funding is available for private rehabilitation and support. Interim payments may also cover loss of earnings, adapted accommodation and other financial expenses you incur.

Identifying who was at fault at an early stage will make the process of your claim easier and quicker. Often people don't realise that somebody else is partially at fault until they consult with lawyers, so even if you think the accident was your fault, it is still worth seeking advice from specialist lawyers. We will listen to your story, advise on whether you have a claim and explain the next stages of the process.

4 5 6 7

4 Case management: We will introduce you to expert case managers who can provide tailored treatment, support and therapy plans, as well as sourcing any aids and equipment you might need. They will help plan your discharge, including ensuring that your accommodation is suitable on discharge.

5 Rehabilitation: We believe that access to early rehabilitation is vital in order to maximise your recovery and we will prioritise this.

6 Building your case and negotiating a settlement: We will gather evidence from medical records, witness statements and experts so we can fight your corner and ensure you receive justice and the maximum amount of compensation as quickly as possible.

7 Going to court: Most cases are settled well before trial. If court proceedings are necessary, we will explain and support you through every stage of the process.

Nathan's story: spinal cord injury

Nathan came to Leigh Day for support after he was seriously injured in a road traffic collision in 2020. He was a back seat passenger in a vehicle which left the road and spun multiple times before stopping. He sustained a complete spinal cord injury at T11, leaving him paralysed from the waist down.

He was an inpatient in a specialist NHS spinal unit for several months. Nathan struggled to come to terms with his injury and benefited from talking therapies and support sessions with peers who also have spinal cord injuries.

Whilst investigations into the collision circumstances were ongoing, the Defendant Insurer was approached early on to work together to focus on Nathan's rehabilitation under the Serious Injury Guide (a set of guidelines for solicitors and insurers to work to in cases of the utmost severity).

A local, specialist SCI Case Manager was chosen to assess Nathan's needs. Following this assessment, a full team of private specialist therapists, including neuro-occupational therapy and neuro-physiotherapy, were taken on to start his community-based rehabilitation.

Nathan did not want to go into a residential rehabilitation unit, as he wanted to stay at home with his family. His case manager was able to set up an intensive intervention package at home, care support and domestic assistance were also provided.





“Very helpful and quick at getting things into place for me and my family. Any issues were dealt with. Very trustworthy. Always polite, friendly and understanding.”

Nathan’s partner via Trustpilot

Various pieces of equipment were purchased for Nathan to aid his mobility and give him the best chance of rehabilitation. This included an FES bike, a power assist attachment to his manual wheelchair and a specialist standing device. As well as physiotherapy, Nathan also had weekly hydrotherapy, which was incredibly beneficial in easing his pain and tone. He was able to move more freely in the water and it helped to reduce spasms.

Before the collision, Nathan and his family lived in a two bedroomed local authority property. Nathan and his partner have two young children and after he was discharged from hospital, he needed new accommodation. A new, single storey property was sourced for rent, to meet his housing needs temporarily until his longer-term home could be found. A significant interim payment (an advance on his compensation) was obtained, which meant that Nathan was able to buy a suitable bungalow to be adapted to meet his particular needs, now and in the future.

Following negotiations, Nathan’s claim was resolved, with compensation agreed. The settlement included (amongst other things) compensation for the injury itself, care, case management, his loss of earnings, ongoing therapy, equipment, accommodation needs and the additional costs of holidays following the spinal cord injury. Nathan has been able to return to his hobbies of snooker, fishing and going to watch his local football team.

Bethany Sanders, partner in the Leigh Day Personal Injury Team, represented Nathan in his claim, assisted by Katherine Wilkinson, senior associate solicitor.

Bethany said: “Nathan sustained such serious injuries in the collision, and it was incredibly important for us to secure early funding to enable him to move into suitable accommodation and access specialist rehabilitation as soon as possible. Nathan has worked so hard on his rehabilitation, and I am pleased to have been able to secure him such a substantial settlement which will enable him to continue his rehabilitation, whilst living in suitable accommodation with his young family.”

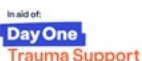
Charities and partners

A spinal cord injury can affect every aspect of your life. Organisations such as **Spinal Injuries Association (SIA)**, **Day One Trauma** and **Stoke Mandeville Research** can help you with education and training, support and advice. They also campaign on issues affecting people with spinal cord injury.



We support these charities in practical ways, for example:

- We are an SIA Trusted Partner and sponsor of their Support Coordinator service.
- We are a partner of and support spinal injury research at Stoke Mandeville Spinal Research.
- Members of our cycling team have cycled thousands of miles across the UK and Europe to raise money.
- Raising money through sponsored events.



We offer a helping hand so they can lead the way in improving the lives of those that have been affected by spinal cord injuries.

“We are incredibly proud to be a trusted partner of the Spinal Injury Association. As we know the passion and effort that they put in to changing the lives of people living with a spinal injury.”

Sally Moore, Joint Head of Personal Injury

Meet the team

For a free, no-obligation conversation about your situation, please contact:



Sally Moore
Partner – London
020 7650 1231
smoore@leighday.co.uk



Clare Campbell
Partner – Manchester
0161 393 3551
ccampbell@leighday.co.uk



James Glasper
Partner – London
020 3780 0203
jglasper@leighday.co.uk



Laura Murphy
Partner – London
020 3780 0427
lmurphy@leighday.co.uk



Bethany Sanders
Partner – Leeds
020 7650 1149
bsanders@leighday.co.uk



David Preston
Partner – London
020 7650 1325
dpreston@leighday.co.uk



Ged Horton
Partner – Manchester and Liverpool
01619 380 615
ghorton@leighday.co.uk



Katherine Wilkinson
Senior Associate
Solicitor – London
020 7650 1270
kwilkinson@leighday.co.uk

“They’re absolutely a first-rate firm. They have huge experience in dealing with personal injury claims with significant international and complicated components. Leigh Day have unparalleled experience in this. They know the law inside and out, are practical and have the resources to run those cases.”

Chambers and Partners

**Contact us for a free,
no-obligation and
confidential discussion.**



London

Panagram
27, Goswell Road
London
EC1M 7AJ



Leeds

1 City Square
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS1 2AL



Manchester

Central Park
Northampton Road
Manchester
M40 5BP



020 7650 1200



seriousinjury@leighday.co.uk



www.leighday.co.uk



[@LeighDay_Law](https://twitter.com/LeighDay_Law)