

**NB – ONLY APPLIES UNTIL 31 MARCH 2013**  
**"NO WIN - NO FEE"**

**CONDITIONAL FEE AGREEMENTS**

A conditional fee agreement is often called a "no win – no fee" arrangement. We are only paid for our work if you win your claim. And then we will not charge you more than we obtain in costs from your opponent.

So you have nothing to pay if you stick to the agreement.

Sticking to the agreement for you means allowing us to do our work – for example giving us instructions or going for a medical examination when asked.

Sticking to the agreement for us means giving you our best service and advice.

Under the agreement we also pay any expenses (called "disbursements"). Examples are court fees or fees to expert witnesses such as doctors or surveyors. .

We give you a copy of the agreement you sign with us. You should read that for the full terms. This information sheet is just a summary and reminder.

**What happens if you win?**

If you win your opponent will normally have to pay your legal costs.

Your legal costs are, first, our charges calculated at our normal hourly rates, what the agreement calls our "basic costs". Second, we are paid a success fee. The success fee is a percentage of our basic costs. The percentage in each case depends on our assessment of your chances of winning.

The success fee in your particular case is set out in the agreement you sign.

We also have to charge you vat at the going rate, which at the moment is 20%. And, of course, your legal costs also include any disbursements and a premium for costs insurance – see below.

This is an example of how it works:

	£
Basic costs	5,000.00
Success fee 30%	1,500.00
Total fee	6,500.00
Vat @ 20 %	1,300
Costs insurance	750.00
Fee for medical report	600.00
Total costs	9,150.00

We will limit our fees and expenses to whatever we recover from your opponent. Therefore, nothing will be deducted from your compensation.

**What happens if you lose?**

We have advised you about your chances of winning or losing and we would not take on your case if we thought you would lose. However, all litigation has some risk.

If you lose you will have to pay your opponent's legal costs.

You can cover yourself against the risk of paying your opponent's costs by taking out insurance. Usually that will not cost you anything. We will obtain costs insurance for you before starting court proceedings. If, for any reason we cannot obtain costs insurance you can pull out of the agreement at that point without paying us anything.

**ANY PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS**  
**ask your caseworker**

