

"NO WIN - NO FEE"

CONDITIONAL FEE AGREEMENTS

A conditional fee agreement is often called a "no win – no fee" arrangement. If you stick to the agreement you only pay us for our work if you win.

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 normally ask that you pay for any expenses (called "disbursements") as we go along. Examples are fees to expert witnesses such as doctors or surveyors.

If you can not afford to pay those we can usually come to an arrangement.

You have a copy of the agreement you signed 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 all, or most, of your legal costs.

We will warn you in advance if, for any reason, you might not recover all of your costs from your opponent. If that happens you can ask the court to assess how much you have to contribute from your compensation.

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 signed.

We also have to charge you vat at the going rate, which at the moment is 17.5%. 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 @ 17.5%	1,137.50
Costs insurance	750.00
Fee for medical report	600.00
Total costs	8,987.50

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 own expenses of the case, but not our fees.

Normally you will also have to pay your opponent's costs.

You can often cover yourself against the risk of paying your opponent's by taking out insurance. We will advise you about costs insurance before starting court proceedings. Sometimes costs insurance can also cover your own expenses.

If you win you can normally obtain what you pay for costs insurance from your opponent (see above).

**ANY PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS
ask your caseworker**

