



## **Have you suffered an injury as a direct result of a crime of violence?**

If so, you may be eligible to claim Criminal Injuries Compensation.

## **What is Criminal Injuries Compensation?**

This is a Government funded scheme, administered by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA) to pay compensation in certain cases, to a person who has suffered injuries as a direct result of a crime of violence. Awards can also be made to victims who have suffered serious sexual crimes and to some family members of homicide victims.

### **You might be eligible if:**

- You suffered an injury, physical or mental as a direct result of a crime
- You reported the crime to the police
- You assisted the police with their enquiries, including attending court if required
- You made your claim within two years of the crime you suffered, or from two years from when the crime was reported to the police, in certain cases of historic sexual abuse.

### **You may not be eligible if:**

- Your own conduct contributed to the injuries you suffered
- You have unspent criminal convictions
- You failed to cooperate with the police in conducting their enquiries.

### **IT IS NOT NECESSARY FOR THE POLICE TO HAVE TRACED THE PERSON WHO COMMITTED THE CRIME AGAINST YOU.**

This is a summary of how this scheme works. Further information can be provided to you by VS, including your right to seek advice from a solicitor, should you wish to do so.

## **About Victim Support**

Victim Support is a charity providing emotional and practical help to those suffering crime. It works closely with the police and is commissioned and funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner. VS works to a national Code of Practice for victims of crime.

### **The role of VS in helping people to claim Criminal Injuries Compensation.**

If you have been a victim of crime you will be offered support, to help you deal with the aftermath of the crime both emotionally and practically. Where you suffered injuries as a result of the crime, VS will discuss with you your eligibility and how you may be able to claim compensation.

Should you wish to make a claim, VS will assist you to do so. Claims can be made to the CICA on line or over the telephone.

In some cases, VS will act as your representative following your application, and assist you throughout the claims process, including the first stage of the appeals process.

You may choose to seek the advice of a solicitor, who will also assist you in making a claim for compensation.

For more Information about Criminal Injuries Compensation contact the Victims Assessment and Referral Centre on:

**0808 168 9274**

**or visit:**

**[www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-criminal-injury](http://www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-criminal-injury)**