

## News Release

6 October 2010

### Speeding up Compensation Claims

A new legal protocol to speed up compensation pay-outs for traffic accidents and personal injury claims has been hailed a success by Warrington law firm, Forshaws Davies Ridgway LLP.

Six months ago a new system to fast-track low value claims up to £10,000 was introduced by the Ministry of Justice. The new protocol sets limits on response times and enables solicitors to obtain medical evidence without having to resort to lengthy correspondence over medical records.

Warrington property developer Philip Howell is one of the first to benefit from the new system. He suffered whiplash and back injuries after his stationary car was hit by a Warrington Council van reversing at speed on a town centre side road. And he is still undergoing physiotherapy for his injuries.

Although the Council's insurance company dealt with repairs to the car, Mr Howell decided to seek compensation for pain and suffering caused by the accident – a process that could take many months under the old system.

He said: "I am really pleased. I have just received a cheque for £2,600, only four months after first lodging the claim. The solicitors have been absolutely brilliant. There has been no mithering and no stress."

Howard Porter, from Forshaws Davies Ridgway, added: "The new protocol is working very well. I think many people who were the victims of accidents in the past used to be put off making claims because of the frustration. The whole process could sometimes take over a year to settle fairly minor cases. Now people can receive compensation much more quickly, which has got to be good news."

For more details of the 'no win, no fee' offer from Forshaws Davies Ridgway, please contact Howard Porter on 01925 230000 or email [howard.porter@fdrlaw.co.uk](mailto:howard.porter@fdrlaw.co.uk).

**EDITOR'S NOTES:**

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**About Forshaws Davies Ridgway LLP (FDR)**

- FDR is a full service legal practice with five offices in Cheshire and Warrington
- 18 Partners
- Over 120 staff
- Top 15 practice in NW
- Top 200 practice in England & Wales
- Mortgage Strategy Awards 2009 & 2010 'Best Conveyancer' Runner Up
- Services include: Commercial Law, Conveyancing, Criminal, Family, Litigation, Wills & Probate

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