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## **Public Access – Personal Injury Claims**

If you have had an accident which was not your fault and you wish to make a personal injury claim, or someone is claiming against you and it wasn't your fault, I can advise and represent you, subject to the rules of the public access scheme for barristers.

### ***Timescales***

Timescales for your claim may vary depending on factors such as my availability, the complexity of your claim, the need for additional documents and the other side's approach. However, more straightforward cases will ideally settle within six months of a claim being made. If a trial is required, as a guide the courts tend to have a hearing date within two years of a claim being made.

### ***Fees***

My rates for Personal Injury Public Access cases worth up to £25,000 – including, for example, meeting with you, providing written advice on your claim, drafting a statement of case, representing you at trial are from £175 per hour plus VAT at the prevailing rate (currently 20%). If you have a more complex claim, for example with a value greater than £25,000, my clerk will be pleased to speak with you to provide suggestions and fee quotes once sufficient information is provided.

If your claim is successful the other side will normally reimburse your “additional costs” such as court fees (the level of which depends on the value of the claim) and the costs of obtaining expert evidence (which depend on the specific fees charged by an expert and separately quoted by that expert). You may not, however, be able to recover all of your legal costs from the other side.

If your claim is unsuccessful, you will still have to pay my fees, but you may not necessarily have to pay the other side's legal fees or costs. However, you will still need to pay your own other costs. If you do not already have legal expenses insurance, (for instance as an “add-on” with your home contents insurance, you may therefore wish to take out an “after the event” insurance policy to cover these costs.

### ***Contact Us***

All information is correct as of 01 January 2020, but fees are estimates only. For a quotation, please contact my clerks at Goldsmith Chambers on 0207 3536802, choose option 3 (or e-mail [clerks@goldsmithchambers.com](mailto:clerks@goldsmithchambers.com)). Please also contact the clerks if your claim is for more than £25,000.