



## Your legal guide to cycling injury claims

 **Slater  
Gordon**  
Lawyers

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# Cycling injury claims

When someone is injured in a cycling incident, it can have a significant impact upon their life.

Having specialised in cycling injury claims for many years, Slater and Gordon understand the issues which can arise and the difficulties which can be faced. We strive to make the claims process as easy as possible for everyone concerned and ensure the best possible outcome is achieved.

Our specialists not only ensure you get the maximum amount of compensation, but that you also receive the best available treatment and support, to maximise your chance of recovery and future independence.

This guide is designed to help you understand the legal process and answer any questions you may have when making a cycling injury claim.

Deciding whether to pursue a claim is a very important decision and advice from specialist lawyers who are extremely experienced in this area of law is essential. Slater and Gordon's cycling injury team have many years' experience representing those who've been injured in cycling incidents, during which time they've been involved in a huge number of cases of all types of complexity.

If you wish to speak to a cycling incident expert who specialises in cycling injury claims, simply register your details on our micase platform and one of our experts will be in touch.

**[Click here to register your claim](#)**

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# Cycling injury claims

## What are cycling injury claims?

Every year, thousands of cyclists are injured on Britain's roads, many are seriously injured and tragically, some are killed.

If you've been injured in a cycling incident, where someone else was either fully or partly at fault, you may be able to make a cycling injury claim to seek compensation.

There are many incidents which may cause cyclists to be injured. Some of the most common, which have resulted in cyclists receiving compensation, include:

- + Incidents involving car drivers who were not paying attention to more vulnerable road users
- + Incidents involving drivers of buses and coaches, who were not paying attention to more vulnerable road users
- + Incidents involving potholes and road defects, which had not been adequately dealt with by the local council or highways agency
- + Incidents involving car doors, where drivers had not checked their mirrors for vulnerable road users before opening their car door
- + Incidents involving animals such as cattle, that had not been secured correctly by their owners

Cycling incident cases are not always straightforward, which is why you need to seek advice from a specialist lawyer who deals with cycling injury claims.

## Why would you make a claim for cycling injuries?

Making a claim can deliver accountability which may lead to motorists taking more care when on the road with vulnerable road users, such as cyclists. We focus on not only seeking the compensation you deserve, but ensuring you get the treatment you need to move forward with your life.

### *Treatment and therapy*

There are many different levels of severity to any injury and it's important to get the best possible treatment as soon as possible as the quicker treatment can begin, the better your chance of maximising your recovery and future independence.

As specialists in cycling incidents, we work with highly commended case managers and medical experts to ensure you get the best treatment available. We seek funds as part of the claim not only to pay for immediate treatment, but for also for any treatment you may need in the future.

### *New property / adaptations*

In cases where there are life-changing injuries, it may be that your home is no longer suitable for your needs. In such cases, we ensure the cost of new property or adaptations to your current property are included as part of your claim.

### *Aids and equipment*

Where aids or equipment are required, such as a walking aid, a wheelchair or prosthetic limbs, we also seek to recover the cost of these as part of your claim. This also includes aids and equipment that may be required in the future.

### *Care*

Where you need additional care, such as a carer, whether long term or short term, we seek to recover these costs as part of the claim. Again, this includes any care that may be required in the future.

### *Financial security*

We ensure that any financial settlement you receive doesn't put you at a financial disadvantage and that you have financial security whilst you concentrate on your recovery.

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# The claims process

## Taking those initial steps to start the claim

Taking those initial steps to start a claim can often be daunting. However, we've made the process as easy and straightforward as possible. Initially, you simply have to [register your claim here](#).

## Legal assessment

An expert lawyer who specialises in cycling incident cases will review your details and will arrange to speak to you. We understand that it can often be a difficult time, so they'll arrange to speak to you via telephone, video call or at a face to face meeting at one of our offices, whichever is most convenient for you. In cases where you've suffered serious injuries and would prefer a home visit or hospital visit, we can make the necessary arrangements.

The cycling incident specialist will then provide you with their expert legal advice, talk you through the process and answer any questions you may have.

You'll also be provided with a welcome pack from your lawyer with documents for you to sign so we're able to continue with your claim.

## Medical assessment

In order to proceed with your claim, you'll need to attend a medical appointment where one or more medical experts will assess you and prepare a medical report. This is an essential part of the process as it not only provides us with the necessary evidence of the injuries you've suffered as a result of the cycling incident, but it will also determine what, if any, treatment you need for your recovery.

We'll also need to access your GP and hospital records as evidence of your injuries, so we'll ask you to sign a form of consent so that we can make a request for these.

## Gathering evidence

The medical report provided by the medical evidence together with your medical records will provide us with evidence of your injuries but we also need to obtain evidence to support your version of the incident.

We'll therefore take a witness statement from you, setting out details of the incident, and contact any witnesses to take detailed witness statements from them.

If you or anyone else has photographs of the incident scene and any damage to your bike, we'll request those to use as evidence and if the police attended the scene of the incident, we'll request the police report.

Depending on the nature of the incident, we may have to instruct additional experts, such as forensic experts, to help support your claim.

## Advancing the claim

Once we have the evidence in place, we'll then put your claim to those at fault for the incident, who will then pass the claim to their insurers. The insurers will then review the claim, collate their own evidence and then respond to us confirming whether or not they accept they were at fault. This is known as 'establishing liability'.

If they deny liability, and therefore don't accept they were at fault, we'll negotiate with them to see if liability can be agreed. If after negotiations they still don't accept liability, we may have to attend a court hearing for a judge to decide if they were at fault.

## Instructing a case manager

In cases of serious injuries where rehabilitation and treatment is required, to ensure you get the best possible treatment to maximise your chance of recovery and future independence, we'll instruct a case manager to carry out an assessment and put in place a plan of any treatment and therapy that you require.

The case manager will work with you, enabling you to concentrate on your needs while we deal with all the legal aspects, meaning you won't have any additional worry.

## Seeking interim payments

Interim payments are payments which are made as part of your compensation before the final settlement is agreed. Interim payments can be requested as cases involving serious injuries can often take some time before a final compensation figure is agreed, yet in the meantime, you may need some income to live or money for treatment, property adaptations and aids and equipment which simply can't be delayed.

This is why interim payments are a key part of our strategy in any cycling incident claim involving serious injuries.

## Negotiations

Once you've undergone any treatment and the necessary medical assessments and we know your final prognosis, we'll enter into negotiations with the insurers or legal team of those responsible to determine the final amount of compensation you should receive. Our cycling incident experts are well known for achieving the best possible settlements in cases such as these.


If we're unable to agree a settlement with them, a trial may take place. However, that's extremely rare as, given our expertise in these cases, we're able to settle the vast majority before a trial is necessary.

## Settlement

Once the settlement has been agreed, we'll transfer the compensation into your bank account.

If the claim is on behalf of a child who was injured, it's a legal requirement that the agreed figure has to be put before a judge and approved. This gives vital reassurance that the settlement is 'right' for your child. This is because a child isn't able to agree that they're happy with the settlement figure negotiated on their behalf. Once the judge confirms that they're happy with the settlement figure, the claims process will come to an end.

In cases where you have lifelong injuries, 'periodical payments' may also have been obtained as part of the claim. Periodical payments are payments that are made to you throughout your lifetime, usually on an annual basis.

A close-up portrait of Tracey Patmore, a woman with blonde hair, looking slightly off-camera with a serious expression. A white crosshair is overlaid on the image.

**"It was a breeze because they looked after everything, they did everything, they organised everything."**

Tracey Patmore

## Client story

Tracey has always been a keen road cyclist. One evening when on a bike ride near her home, she was involved in a cycling collision when another vehicle hit her.

Tracey woke up in Addenbrooke's Hospital a week later to discover that she had suffered a broken pelvis, a fractured spine, concussion, a broken cheekbone and a severely damaged elbow which had to be reconstructed. She was kept in a coma for a week while operations were performed on her and she spent a total of six weeks in hospital.

When Tracey was still in hospital, Slater and Gordon's name came up and her partner contacted them. A solicitor visited Tracey and talked her through every single step.

The driver of the vehicle at fault for the cycling accident said that Tracey had 'bunny hopped' her, but a forensics expert was instructed to prepare a report which proved that this was not the case and the judge threw it out of court as it was evident the driver was lying.

Tracey was extremely pleased with the service provided by Slater and Gordon. She said "It was a breeze because they looked after everything, they did everything, they organised everything."

If I had a friend or anybody that I knew who was in the same situation as me, I would recommend Slater and Gordon to anybody as they're there to help you and make the whole process a lot easier."

[Click here to watch Tracey's video.](#)



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# Frequently asked questions

## How much does it cost to make a claim?

We understand that the cost of legal advice can be a worry, however there are options available.

Slater and Gordon is able to offer 'No Win No Fee' funding. What this means is if you don't win your case, you won't have to pay any costs so there's no financial risk to you.

## How much compensation do you get for a cycling injury claim?

Every case is different so it's difficult to say how much compensation you would get for a cycling injury claim. However, compensation comes in three parts:

- + **General damages:** the term 'general damages' is used to describe the amount you'll receive for your pain, suffering and loss of enjoyment/quality of life.
- + **Special damages:** the term 'special damages' is used to describe any costs or expenses you've had as a result of the incident, such as: loss of earnings if you've had to take time off work; damage to property, such as your bike, phone or clothing; and any treatment, care, aids and equipment, adaptations that you've had to pay for.
- + **Future damages:** the term 'future damages' refers to any further costs or expenses you're likely to have in the future, for example if you're unable to work, we can seek loss of future earnings or if you need care and/or treatment throughout your lifetime, we can seek those costs.

## Is there a time limit to bring a claim for cycling injuries?

The law states that most claims must be brought within three years of the date the incident occurred. There are exceptions, such as where an individual lacks mental capacity or a claim on behalf of a child, which has to be brought within three years from the date of the child's 18th birthday in England and Wales or their 16th birthday in Scotland.

If the incident happened in another country, the time limits may be different so it's important you seek expert advice as soon as possible.

## How long will the case take?

A cycling injury claim is not able to settle until we're able to determine what your final prognosis is. This is a prediction of what your final medical condition and its effects will be.

In more serious cases involving children, it's often difficult to predict what their final prognosis will be as they're still developing. This means that unfortunately, some cases involving children can last quite some time.

Although this may sound daunting, please rest assured that we'll be taking care of the case behind the scenes, ensuring you have interim payments and support for everything you need, without you having to worry.

## Will I have to attend a court hearing?

We have a vast amount of experience in representing people who've been injured as a result of cycling incidents, so are able to settle a vast number of cases before attendance at a court hearing is necessary.

If we're unable to agree a settlement, attendance at court might be necessary, however, this is extremely rare.

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# Why choose Slater and Gordon?

## Highly experienced

Our specialist cycling incident team have been representing people who've been injured for decades and have been involved in some of the most complex cycling incident cases.

In addition, we work with a number of charities who support cyclists and those who've been affected by serious injuries and understand the difficulties which can be faced, enabling us to support you every step of the way.

## Strong reputation

We have a strong reputation for achieving outstanding results in cycling incident claims, as well as ensuring that the best available treatment and rehabilitation is also obtained.

Independent legal guides such as Chambers and Partners and Legal 500 have ranked our teams highly over the years and consider many of our lawyers to be leaders in their field.

## National Specialist Interest Group for Cyclists

We have a National Specialist Interest Group for Cyclists which consists of lawyers and other individuals from Slater and Gordon in locations across England, Scotland and Wales.

The Group are passionate about cycling and are dedicated to, not only supporting our cyclist clients, but also fundraising for charities as well as lobbying and campaigning for cycling causes.

## Treatment and therapy

We work with some of the best case managers and treatment providers in the UK to ensure the treatment you receive is the best available.

We seek early interim payments as a key part of our strategy to ensure there's funding to begin as soon as possible, maximising the chance of your recovery and future independence.

## No financial risk

Slater and Gordon can offer funding by way of a 'No Win No Fee' agreement so if you lose your case, it will not cost you anything. This means there'll be no financial risk to you.

## A seamless end-to-end service for all your legal needs

As we're one of the largest consumer law firms in the UK, we have dedicated experts in a wide range of specialist legal services, who can offer bespoke expertise when it's needed, such as Court of Protection, wills and probate, employment law and family law. We also have independent financial planning advisers who can help ensure any compensation is protected.

Having these bespoke services enables us to provide you with an end-to-end seamless service for your legal needs.

**"The experience I've had with Slater and Gordon - it just made the whole situation a lot easier and that does help when you're down on your luck."**

Ian Hatch



## Client story

Ian was a keen cyclist who was training for a 120 mile ride with his son. He was out cycling down a country lane when someone unexpectedly pulled out of their driveway and Ian went straight into the side of him.

Ian woke up on his back to find he had an open fracture to his leg. He was lucky to be alive and was rushed to hospital in an air ambulance to receive treatment.

He had to undergo an operation to have plates in his leg. However, after two months the plates failed so he had to undergo further operations and has been in and out of hospital for over a year.

Initially Ian couldn't walk and was off work for about a year. He wondered whether he'd ever be able to get back to where he was.

Ian went online to find a law firm that could help him and he contacted Slater and Gordon's cycling accident experts. They were able to seek interim payments for Ian to alleviate any financial worries, given that he'd been unable to work for so long.

Ian says: "The experience I've had with Slater and Gordon - it just made the whole situation a lot easier and that does help when you're down on your luck."

[Click here to watch Ian's video.](#)

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# What next?

## Contact us

Given our many years of experience representing cyclists who've been injured on the roads, we understand the issues you're faced with and are here to help.

Our team are highly trained and will provide you with the best possible advice, as well as support and guidance.

Simply register your details and one of our experts will be in touch.

[Click here to register your claim](#)

## Other areas of law

We have experts in all areas of consumer law. Simply visit our website for information about:

- + Personal injury
- + Medical negligence
- + Court of Protection and deputyships
- + Wills, trusts and probate
- + Property and conveyancing
- + Family law and divorce
- + Employment law
- + Collective actions

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## Get in touch

[Click here to register your details on micase today](#)

[Or click here to visit our website, \[slatergordon.co.uk\]\(https://www.slatergordon.co.uk\)](#)

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