



Department of
Justice

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Compensation Services



Arrangements for Administration of Awards to Applicants under the Age of 18



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Under the Northern Ireland Criminal Injuries Compensation 2002 Scheme and 2009 Scheme, Compensation Services has the discretion to make arrangements for the administration of money awarded as compensation. The arrangements for the administration of awards made to applicants/victims under the age of 18 are as follows:

- Once an award of compensation has been agreed and a Form of Acceptance has been signed, Compensation Services will open an interest bearing account in the name of the victim/child with the Bank of Ireland. This will be operated jointly by Compensation Services and the nominated bank.
- This award will be held in the interest bearing account until the child reaches the age of 18. The full award together with any interest accrued since the opening of the account will then be released to the victim.
- Advances may be made from awards held in the account at the discretion of Compensation Services, **if it can be shown that the funds will be**

used solely for the victim's advancement, education or long term benefit. Requests should be supported by full details of the way in which the advance will be used, together with estimates/invoices for the product/service required. If the advance is authorised, we will arrange to make payment normally within 7 working days. In some cases, Compensation Services will arrange to make payment directly to the product/service provider.

- Compensation Services may release funds held in Trust to cover legal expenses, but we must be satisfied that the expenses being sought represent reasonable legal costs. We are guided in this by the fees set out in the section of the County Court Rules which details the appropriate fees in respect of criminal injury claims under the Criminal Injuries (Compensation) (NI) Order 1988.

Any queries in relation to this leaflet should be addressed to:

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