

How do we know the insurers are telling the truth and provided the correct information?

All the data provided by insurers was independently verified by KPMG who were appointed by the PIC after a public tender process.

What are special damages?

Special damages are monies awarded to an injured person for tangible losses such as loss of wages or medical expenses.

What are general damages?

General damages are monies awarded to an injured person to compensate them for their pain and suffering.

So the multiple of 4.4 relates to both?

No, Special damages were not looked at as it would be expected that different countries with different health and social security support systems will generate different costs for a claimant. Comparing general damages allows a like for like comparison of the compensation payment for a comparable injury in each country.

What is happening in the UK?

The UK Government is introducing a law to put a maximum amount of money that can be paid for a whiplash injury (the Civil Liability Bill). The situation is stark in the UK with a 50% increase in the number of personal injury claims related to Road Traffic accidents. The Government in the UK is determined to comprehensively address the challenges they face and our average compensation costs in Ireland are 4.4 times those in the UK.

What reforms would help bring down the cost of claims in Ireland?

We need to bring consistency to our award levels and have award levels for pain and suffering that strike the right balance between what policyholders can afford to pay in premiums versus what society determines is an appropriate pain and suffering compensation payment. Similar legislation to that brought in the UK would be effective.



#InactionCosts