

## Mesothelioma

A guide to compensation

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#### Introduction

This guide is written for you if you are suffering from mesothelioma or have a family member or friend who is suffering from mesothelioma.

Mesothelioma is nearly always caused by exposure to asbestos dust.

If you have mesothelioma you will be entitled to compensation.

You get one chance at claiming compensation.

This guide aims to help you use that chance and tells you about the compensation you could get through the Courts and from the Government.

We will provide you with the expert legal advice you need to ensure that you receive the compensation you are entitled to.

## Why Choose The Asbestos Law Partnership LLP?





The Asbestos Law Partnership has been set up to act for asbestos sufferers. We have over 50 years' experience of representing people who suffer from asbestos diseases and their families.

> All the solicitors in the firm specialise in asbestos disease cases.

We only deal with asbestos cases to make sure that we have the necessary expertise and specialist knowledge to maximise the prospects of successfully pursuing your case.

Prior to setting up The Asbestos Law Partnership, all our solicitors had been partners in the specialist disease firm, John Pickering and Partners LLP.

We have previously been involved in most of the important test cases relating to asbestos disease claims and have constantly fought to promote and preserve the rights of asbestos disease sufferers.

If you ask us to deal with your case we guarantee:

- 1. Your case will be dealt with by a qualified solicitor who is a specialist in asbestos cases.
- 2. We will come and visit you anywhere in the UK.
- 3. We will not ask you to pay anything for the work we carry out.
- 4. We will not deduct anything from the compensation we obtain for you.
- 5. We will always communicate with you in plain English and avoid legal jargon.
- 6. We will assist you in obtaining Government benefits.
- 7. We will not act for Defendants.



## What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral that has been mined for hundreds of years.

Asbestos fibres are fireproof and very durable and have been manufactured into many different materials.

An asbestos fibre is 50 to 200 times thinner than a human hair, can float in the air for a long time, can be invisible to the naked eye and can be breathed into the lungs.

Working out how and when you breathed in asbestos dust can be difficult.

We will help identify where you could have breathed in asbestos dust by going through your family and work history with you.

Exposure normally happens when a product containing asbestos is disturbed and asbestos fibres are released into the air.

Asbestos was manufactured in a large number of products in the UK particularly between 1930 and 1980. These are some of the products which contained asbestos:

- Corrugated roofing sheets
- Soffits, guttering and downpipes
- Insulation around pipework and boilers
- Insulation board e.g.
   Asbestolux
- Sprayed asbestos coatings
- Ceiling tiles
- Vinyl floor tiles
- Asbestos rope
- Asbestos partitions
- Artex
- Asbestos insulation quilts
- Asbestos clothing

Throughout the 20th Century, the knowledge of the dangers of asbestos in the UK increased, but it wasn't until 1999 that the use of asbestos was banned in the UK. This timeline sets out some of the key dates.

1906

Dr Montague Murray gives evidence to the Departmental Committee on Industrial Diseases of the death of a man from an asbestos related condition. 1924

Nellie Kershaw, first reported death due to asbestosis. Nellie had worked at Turner Brothers Asbestos in Rochdale. 1928

Government Factory Inspector notes cases involving asbestos exposure causing asbestosis. 1930

Government
Factory Inspector
report by Dr
Merewether and Mr
Price makes link
between asbestos
exposure and
asbestosis in the
asbestos industry.

1931

Asbestos Industry Regulations 1931 seek to control the amount of asbestos dust in factories. 1938

Factory Inspector Report: "It is not many years ago when the dust of Asbestos was regarded as innocuous, while to-day it is recognised as highly dangerous".

Compulsory ban on white asbestos.

1993

Groundbreaking case, Margereson and Hancock v J W Roberts held that from 1933 J W Roberts should have known **children** playing near their asbestos factory in Armley were at risk of developing asbestos related diseases.

1987

Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations give greater protection to employees at work.

1985

Compulsory ban on blue and brown asbestos.

1983

UK Government introduces further Asbestos Regulations.

1982

Yorkshire TV's prime time documentary, Alice - A Fight for Life, ignites public and political debate around asbestos use in UK.

1980

Voluntary ban on brown asbestos.

1971

Groundbreaking World in Action documentary focuses on Cape's Acre Mill factory in Hebden Bridge and its dangerous use of asbestos.

1970

Voluntary ban on blue asbestos.

1969

UK Government introduces further Asbestos Regulations seeking to control exposure to asbestos dust.

1965

Front page Sunday Times article reports the link between low level asbestos exposure and mesothelioma.









## 1952

Nora Dockerty's family first in the UK to receive compensation for her death from an asbestos related disease. Nora had worked at Turner Brothers Asbestos in Rochdale for 13 years.

## 1955

Eminent Scientist, Sir Richard Doll, reports a link between asbestos dust and cancer.

## 1960

Pathologist, Chris Wagner, reports link between asbestos exposure and mesothelioma.

## 1960

Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing Regulations seek to control the amount of asbestos dust in the shipbuilding and repairing industry.

## 1961

Factories Act seeks to control the amount of dust in factories.

## 1965

Dr Muriel
Newhouse and her
colleague Hilda
Thompson report
a link between
washing husband's
dusty asbestos
overalls and
mesothelioma.







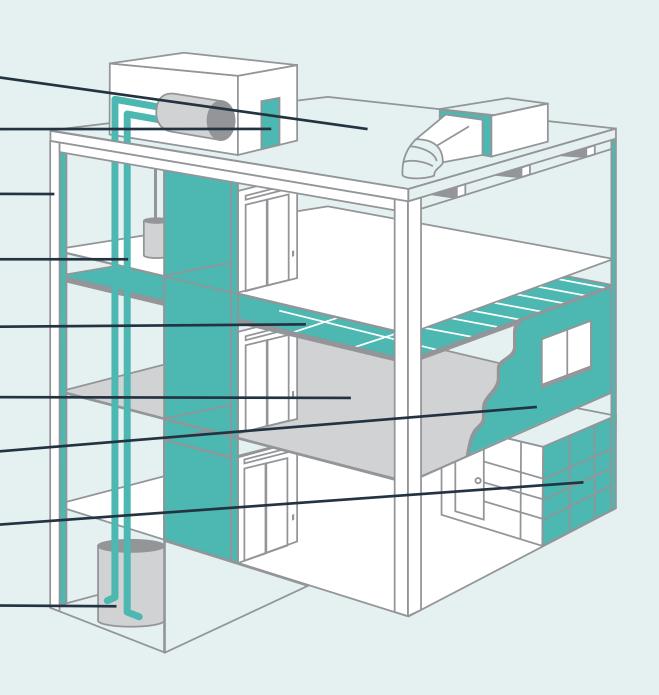


# Where have I been exposed to asbestos dust?



Asbestos roof
Fire doors insulated with asbestos boards
Sprayed asbestos fire-proofing insulation
Lagged pipework containing asbestos
Asbestos ceiling tiles
Asbestos floor tiles
Asbestos textured paints and plasters
Asbestos partitions
Lagging on boilers containing asbestos





## What is Mesothelioma?



### Mesothelioma is a type of cancer that develops in the outer lining of a number of internal organs.

Approximately 75% of mesotheliomas occur in the chest. The tumour develops in the lining of the lung which is called the pleura. This is called pleural mesothelioma.

Most other mesotheliomas occur in the lining of the abdomen. This is called the peritoneum. This is called peritoneal mesothelioma.

#### What causes Mesothelioma?

The only known cause of mesothelioma is breathing in asbestos dust. This will have happened anywhere between 10 and 70 years ago. Mesothelioma is not caused by smoking.

## What are the symptoms of Mesothelioma?

#### Pleural Mesothelioma

- Chest pain
- Shortness of breath
- Feeling tired

- High temperature
- Sweating
- Loss of weight and appetite
- Difficulty swallowing

#### Peritoneal Mesothelioma

- Stomach ache
- Swelling in abdomen
- Nausea and being sick
- Loss of weight and appetite
- Diarrhoea or constipation

## How is Mesothelioma diagnosed?

#### 1. The role of the GP

If you have been exposed to asbestos dust and develop one or more of the symptoms listed you should see your GP.

Your GP will refer you for a chest x-ray if you have one or more of the following symptoms: Cough, tiredness, short of breath, chest pain, weight loss or loss of appetite.

If you have chest pain or shortness of breath your GP should refer you to a specialist urgently. There are no NHS guidelines for referral to a specialist for peritoneal mesothelioma.

It is always very important to let your GP know that you have been exposed to asbestos dust in the past.

#### 2. The role of the Specialist

To reach a diagnosis some of the following procedures are carried out:

- X-ray of chest or abdomen
- Ultrasound of abdomen
- CT scan of chest or abdomen.
- Drain any fluid around lungs or abdomen and send off to be tested.
- Thoracoscopy/ Laparoscopy.
   This is done under local or general anaesthetic. A small cut is made in the chest/ abdomen wall and a tube with a camera is inserted. A small sample of tissue called a biopsy is taken and sent off to be tested.





 PET scan. This is used to see if the mesothelioma has spread outside the lung.

When mesothelioma has been diagnosed further tests may be carried out to see how the mesothelioma has progressed and spread so that the appropriate treatment can be considered.

## What treatment is available?

There is no known cure for mesothelioma and treatment is aimed at extending and improving the quality of life for as long as possible.

#### Chemotherapy

Anti-cancer drugs are generally given intravenously to destroy cancer cells. This is normally given weekly or once every 2 to 3 weeks. The aim of chemotherapy is to control symptoms and to shrink and slow down the growth of the cancer.

#### Radiotherapy

Radiotherapy uses high energy rays to destroy cancer cells. This is normally only used for pleural mesothelioma. It is used to try and slow the cancer down, prevent the spread of the cancer, and in advanced cancer to try and control pain.

#### **Pleurodesis**

This is often carried out at the same time as a biopsy sample is taken for pleural mesothelioma. This involves sticking the pleura together to prevent the build up of fluid in the pleura. This will often relieve symptoms of breathlessness.

#### Cordotomy

Under local anaesthetic a needle is used to destroy some nerves carrying pain in the neck. The procedure is used to provide pain relief for mesothelioma patients with one sided chest pain.

#### Types of surgery

The following surgery is sometimes undertaken for pleural mesothelioma. It is not a cure but aimed at extending

and improving the quality of life. Surgery for peritoneal mesothelioma is very rare.

#### 1. Pleurectomy

This is the removal of the lining that coats the inside of the ribcage.

#### 2. Radical Pleurectomy

This is the removal of as much of the tumour as possible. The lining that covers the inside of the ribcage, the lining of the lung, part of the lining of the heart and the diaphragm are removed.

#### 3. Extrapleural Pneumonectomy

This is the removal of the whole lung, the lining of the lung, part of the lining of the heart and part of the diaphragm on the affected side.

#### 4. Decortication

This is the removal of the lining of the lung.

#### **Clinical Trials**

Trials are carried out to find new and better treatments for mesothelioma. These are constantly changing. A list of current trials is kept on:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/mesothelioma/pages/clinical-trial.aspx

# What equipment might help me?



You may need equipment to help you in the home. Sometimes this is provided free of charge by local authorities or charities but there can sometimes be long waiting lists for certain equipment for example a stair lift.

If you believe that you need equipment in the home, you can ask your local authority to carry out a care and support needs assessment. Even if they do not provide any equipment, they should be able to provide you with details of other organisations that can help and details of the equipment that may help you.

If you choose to buy any equipment, we may be able to recover the cost of this for you in your claim for compensation. We can advise you about this. What equipment you may want or need varies from one person to the next.









The things you may want to consider include:

- Pillow protectors
- Mattress protector
- · Bed fleece
- · Heel/elbow protectors
- Adjustable table
- Motor rise reclining chair
- Commode
- Non-slip tray
- Walking stick
- Grab rails
- Additional hand rails on the stairs

- Stair lift
- · Portable scooter
- Wheelchair
- Adjustable single bed
- · Sock/stocking aid
- Pill dispenser

It is also sometimes necessary to make adaptations to your home such as for example installing a walk-in-shower rather than a bath. It is sometimes possible to claim the cost of these adaptations from your opponent and we can advise you about this.



# How might respite and hospice care help me?



Respite care provides planned short-term breaks for families and other unpaid carers.

Respite care can be provided in various ways. It may be provided by a local authority following an assessment or by a hospice or other charity.

If you are finding it difficult to cope with caring for a loved one, it is important to get help as soon as possible by speaking to your doctor or specialist nurse. They will be able to help you obtain the help you need.

Respite care can involve the sufferer going into a hospice or nursing home for a short period of time before returning home. It can involve day-sitting services where someone comes to your home during the day so that a carer can go out or take part in activities or interests they enjoy.

It can be for just a few hours or a full day. Respite care can be a night-sitting service to allow the carer to get some much needed rest. For further information visit http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/ social-care-and-supportguide/Pages/what-is-socialcare.aspx

Or contact Carers Direct Helpline on 0300 123 1053

#### Hospice care

Hospice care aims to improve the lives of people whose illness may not be curable.

Many people think of hospices as providing care just in the very final stage of their illness but often hospices can provide other help and support in the earlier stages. They can assist with helping to control symptoms and improving a sufferer's quality of life. Hospices can also help families during their bereavement.

Hospice care is provided free of charge. Hospices are often part funded by the NHS and part funded by donations.

The services offered will vary from one hospice to another but may include:



- Medical and nursing care
- Pain and symptom control
- Rehabilitation therapies
- Physiotherapy
- Complimentary therapies
- Occupational therapy
- Respite care
- Spiritual support
- Practical and financial advice
- Bereavement care

Whilst hospice care is provided free of charge, it is sometimes possible in a claim for compensation to reclaim from your opponent the cost of the care provided by the hospice. This money can then be paid as a donation to the hospice to help them provide care to future patients.

For further information on hospice provision in your area visit https://www.hospiceuk.org/



## Claiming compensation for Mesothelioma through the courts



If you were exposed to asbestos dust and are diagnosed with mesothelioma, then you may be entitled to bring a claim for compensation through the courts.

Bringing a mesothelioma claim is very much like putting a jigsaw puzzle together.

There are various parts to the puzzle that have to be

investigated and hurdles that have to be overcome before the jigsaw puzzle fits together.

In a case where exposure was at work you have to prove:



#### Defendant

Identify the employer or its insurance company.

#### **Employment**

Prove the sufferer
was employed by the
Defendant using witness
evidence and/or documents,
e.g. HMRC Employment History,
Apprenticeship Deed.

#### Exposure

Prove the sufferer was exposed to asbestos dust during the employment using witness evidence from the sufferer and others.

#### **Breach Of Duty**

Prove the Defendant broke the law that applied at the time.

#### Causation

Prove the exposure caused the mesothelioma by obtaining independent medical evidence.

#### Value

Prove the value of the claim by gathering witness, expert and documentary evidence.

## Questions you may have

#### My employer exposed me to asbestos but no longer exists so how can I bring a claim?

You can, but we need to trace the employers' liability insurers on cover at the time of the exposure as they will pay out your compensation.

#### I am not sure where or how I was exposed. Is there any point in contacting a solicitor?

Yes, because our solicitors have expertise, experience and knowledge gained over many years from other cases and could help you identify your asbestos exposure.

## How much compensation will I receive?

Compensation is normally between £100,000 and £300,000, but in some cases it can be a lot higher.

Each claim is assessed individually.

The aim of compensation is to make sure that you and your family don't suffer financially as a result of the mesothelioma.

There are two parts to the compensation claim:

- 1. Compensation for the illness and its impact on your life. This is called compensation for your pain, suffering and loss of amenity. This is normally between £50,000 and £100,000.
- 2. Compensation for your specific financial losses and expenses caused by the

mesothelioma. This includes loss of earnings, loss of pension and the cost of providing care.

#### How long will my case take?

Our aim is to finish your case within 3 to 6 months of seeing you. Some cases with complex or unusual issues can take longer to finish.

## Will my case go to Court? Will I have to attend Court?

The vast majority of cases settle before any final court hearing.

## How will my case be paid for? We will make sure that you are protected against baying to

protected against having to pay legal costs.

We will talk to you about the different ways your case can be funded and which is the most appropriate for you.

Most cases are funded on a 'No Win No Fee' basis. You will always receive 100% of the compensation we obtain for you.

If we carry out investigations in your case but cannot make a claim for any reason then we will not charge you for the work we have done.

#### What happens if I die before the case is finished? What if someone I know has died of mesothelioma but had not made a claim?

If you die part way through the case then the executors of your will or your dependants if you didn't make a will can carry on with your case.

If someone you know died of mesothelioma but didn't bring a claim, then their executors or dependants can contact us. If the deceased died without giving any information about their asbestos exposure, then immediate investigations will have to be carried out, so you shouldn't delay in making a claim.

## How long do I have to bring a claim?

There are strict time limits for bringing a claim through the courts. The general rule is a court case has to be started within 3 years of the diagnosis of mesothelioma.

If a sufferer dies of mesothelioma, then it is usually 3 years from the date of death. If you think the 3 year time limit has expired then it may not be too late to claim.

If there are good reasons for the delay then the court might let you bring the claim outside the usual time limit.

If you are outside the time limit it is always worthwhile discussing this with a solicitor.

It is important that you seek urgent advice from a solicitor if you don't know when you were diagnosed or think the time limit has expired or is about to expire. The quicker you act the more likely you will be allowed to pursue a claim.

# What will have to be done if I decide to bring a compensation claim?

We understand mesothelioma sufferers and their family members may be worried about bringing a claim.

We understand you may not have brought a claim before or spoken to a solicitor for anything other than buying or selling a house or perhaps making a will. We want to reassure you that by instructing The Asbestos Law Partnership you will be in very good hands. We will guide you through the legal process.

There are some steps where we need your input.

However there are many steps where a specialist asbestos

solicitor who has the necessary experience and knowledge gained from other cases can simply get on with the claim with minimal or no input from you.

Our aim is to provide you and your family with as much financial security as possible, as quickly as possible.

Stage 1 Investigation We will obtain your HMRC employment history, medical records and any other relevant documents.

You have an important role here as only you can tell us about your work and family life and how you may have come across asbestos dust. We will then put this in a statement for you.

We will visit you at your home and discuss this with you.

We will carry out numerous investigations to try and find an opponent to claim against.

We will gather evidence in support of the value of your case including witness statements from family members caring for you and any relevant documents. We will try to obtain witness statements to support your exposure to asbestos dust either from your old workmates or people who worked for the same employer but didn't know you.

We will obtain a medical report from an independent doctor to support your case. The report is in almost all cases prepared on a review of the medical records and other papers and you do not need to be examined.

## Stage 3 Court Claim

We will prepare the court papers and start a court action using the fast track procedure for mesothelioma claims.

Within a few weeks there will be a hearing at which the court will fix a timetable for resolving the case. You won't need to attend this hearing. We will inform you what the timetable is. The court sometimes enters judgment which means the only issue left to decide is how much compensation you are entitled to. If this happens the court is likely to tell your opponent to make a part payment to you of £50,000. If judgment is not entered then the judge will timetable your case to a trial.

### Stage 2 Negotiation

Once stage 1 has been completed we will advise you on the prospects of winning your case and what compensation you will receive.

We will send the evidence we have obtained to your opponent and invite them to settle your case without taking it to court.

If your opponent makes any offer then we will contact you and advise you what to do.

We will always advise you on your options and the best course of action. There may be some negotiation before we can settle your case on terms favourable to you.

If we are unable to settle your claim at this stage then we will move to stage 3.

If your opponent discloses any documents, witness statements or expert evidence then we will discuss these with you and obtain your comments on them. If the case is being disputed the court might order that you give your evidence at home or at some other convenient place before the trial.

Your opponent will provide us with their valuation of your case. We will update our valuation of your case and advise you.

If your opponent makes an offer we will discuss this with you and advise you on the best course of action.

In the vast majority of cases we reach an agreement with your opponent. If we are unable to reach an agreement then the court will assess what compensation you are entitled to.

# Am I entitled to help from the Government?



There are a number of Government benefits and payments for people diagnosed with mesothelioma or whose family member has died from mesothelioma.

If you make an application for these benefits or payments then it is usually fast tracked which means you will receive a decision and your benefit or payment very quickly.

We can assist you with applying for these or put you in touch with benefit advisors with experience of working with mesothelioma sufferers.

Most of these benefits are not means tested and so your income and capital are not taken into account. However these benefits can affect any other means tested benefits you are receiving which is why you need advice before applying.

## Weekly or monthly benefits

#### Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB)

You will be entitled to IIDB if you are diagnosed with mesothelioma and were exposed to asbestos dust whilst employed.

If someone has died from mesothelioma then the deceased's representative can make an application but this has to be done within 12 months of death.

## 2. Attendance Allowance (AA) or Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

If you need help with personal care and/or mobility then you might be entitled to one of these benefits. AA is paid to people who are over 65 and PIP to those under 65.

#### 3. Constant Attendance Allowance (CAA) and Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance (ESDA)

If you receive IIDB and need daily care and attention then you might be entitled to CAA and ESDA. There are 4 payment rates for CAA. If you are in either of the top two rates then you may also qualify for ESDA.

## One off lump sum payments

#### 1. Pneumoconiosis Etc (Workers Compensation) Act 1979

If you receive IIDB you can apply for a lump sum payment under the 1979 Act. How much you receive will depend on your age when you were diagnosed.

You can't receive this payment if you have already started a court action or received compensation from your employer.

You have 12 months from the date you were awarded IIDB to apply but you should apply straightaway.

If someone has died of mesothelioma their dependant can apply for a payment within 12 months of the date of death.

#### 2. Diffuse Mesothelioma Payment Scheme 2008

If you weren't exposed to asbestos with an employer or





you do not know where you were exposed then you will not be eligible for IIDB or the 1979 Act payment but you can apply for a lump sum under the 2008 Scheme. For example, if you were exposed from washing asbestos contaminated clothes, from the environment you lived in or when you were self-employed you can apply for this payment. How much you receive will depend on your age when you were diagnosed.

You have 12 months from the date of diagnosis to apply. If someone has died of mesothelioma their dependant can apply for a payment within 12 months of the date of death.

#### 3. Diffuse Mesothelioma Payment Scheme

If the employer that exposed you to asbestos dust no longer exists and their insurers on cover at the time can't be found then you might be eligible to apply for a payment under this Government scheme.

The Scheme is only open to those who were diagnosed after 25 July 2012 and were exposed in the UK. To succeed in your application you have to prove your employment and exposure with the employer and that the employer broke the law and caused your mesothelioma. How much you receive will depend on your age when you were diagnosed.

If someone died of mesothelioma, their dependant can apply for the payment. The time limit for making any application is 3 years from when the sufferer was diagnosed with mesothelioma.

The payment from the Government includes a fixed amount of £7,000 to cover your solicitor's costs in making the application for you.

## Armed Forces Exposure

If you were exposed to asbestos dust in the Armed Forces before May 1987 then you cannot sue the Government for compensation because of the crown immunity rule.

If you are diagnosed with mesothelioma you might be eligible for one of the following:

#### 1. War Pension Scheme

This is very similar to IIDB.

If you were exposed to asbestos dust whilst serving in the Armed Forces you can apply for this pension.

The pension is paid weekly and is not means tested.

If someone has died from mesothelioma then their widow/widower may be entitled to a war pension.

#### 2. War Pension Payment

If you are diagnosed with mesothelioma you have the alternative option of receiving a one-off lump sum payment which is currently £140,000, rather than a weekly war pension.

### Our Commitment

We strive to act in an ethical and socially responsible way in our dealings with our clients and the wider community. This is the ethos and commitment on which our firm is built.

- 1. We donate 10% of our net annual profits to charities and good causes that help asbestos sufferers. In 2009 The John Pickering and Partners Charitable Trust was set up which has already given £175,000 to help asbestos sufferers. We will continue the work of this charitable trust.
- 2. We are prepared to take the financial risk of pursuing difficult and challenging test cases that help to preserve and promote the rights of asbestos sufferers.
- 3. We will always seek to promote and preserve the broader rights of asbestos sufferers beyond simply claiming compensation.
- 4. We will not act in a way that could undermine the rights of asbestos sufferers. In particular we will not act for Defendants or their insurance companies.

### **About Us**

#### Paul Glanville

Paul qualified as a solicitor in 1992 and specialises in asbestos related disease cases for Claimants in the UK and abroad.

He was made a partner at the niche industrial disease firm, John Pickering and Partners, in 1997 and set up the firm's Halifax office. He was the Managing Partner from 2010 to 2013.

In 2013 Paul became Head of Industrial Disease at Slater and Gordon Lawyers overseeing the industrial disease practice across 11 offices.

He is a Fellow of APIL and an APIL accredited occupational disease and asbestos specialist. Chambers 2019: "Top-notch" lawyer Paul Glanville of The Asbestos Law Partnership LLP is a well-known figure in the market and has extensive experience in industrial disease-related work. He has notable experience in asbestosrelated disease claims, frequently acting for both domestic and overseas clients.

One impressed client says: "Paul Glanville did a brilliant job in bringing the case to a successful conclusion," adding: "He should take all of the plaudits available for carrying out his role to an exemplary standard."

Chambers 2018: 'Paul Glanville of The Asbestos Law Partnership LLP has many years' experience in handling asbestos litigation, and continues to represent clients in complex asbestos exposure claims. Sources recognise his expertise and knowledge in this area, describing him as a "real heavyweight." '

Chambers 2017: 'The "excellent"
Paul Glanville leads the firm's
industrial practice and is
experienced in acting for
clients in high-value asbestos
exposure claims. Impressed
peers say that they"refer
clients to him because they
will be well represented."'

Chambers 2016: 'Peers have marked him out as one of the top asbestos litigation lawyers in the country.'





Fozia Hussain

Fozia qualified as a solicitor in 2004 and specialises in asbestos related disease cases for Claimants in the UK and abroad.

Fozia trained and qualified as a solicitor at the niche industrial disease firm, John Pickering and Partners, before becoming a Partner in 2010.

Fozia was Practice Group Leader for Slater and Gordon Lawyers in their asbestos disease team in Halifax and Manchester between 2013 and 2016.

Fozia is a Senior Litigator of APIL and an APIL accredited occupational disease and asbestos specialist.

#### Helen Wilson

Helen qualified as a solicitor in 2007. Throughout her career, she has specialised in asbestos related disease claims.

Helen previously worked at the niche disease firm, John Pickering and Partners, where she trained as a solicitor and became a partner in 2012. She later worked for Slater & Gordon Lawyers from 2013 to 2016 and was based in the firm's Manchester office.

Helen has acted for a large number of people who were exposed to asbestos dust by Turner & Newall or one of the companies within their group. She has made numerous applications to the T&N Asbestos Trustee Company Limited which was set up to pay compensation to asbestos sufferers. She has successfully pursued claims against the trust for exposure to asbestos dust from Turner & Newall's products.

Helen is a member of the T & N Asbestos Trustee Company's Trustee Advisory Committee which is consulted on all matters relevant to the interests of asbestos sufferers both now and in the future.

She has worked on a number of test cases in this area including Barker v Corus (UK) Plc which went to the House of Lords, the "EL Trigger Litigation" which went to the Supreme Court and Rice v National Dock Labour Board.

Helen is a Senior Litigator of APIL and an APIL accredited occupational disease and asbestos specialist.

Helen is an editor of a legal textbook on civil procedure and a freelance lecturer.

