

## About the Scheme

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The Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme is administered by the Victims' Payments Board. It seeks to acknowledge the harm suffered by those permanently injured in the Troubles and promote reconciliation between people in connection with Northern Ireland's troubled past.

It recognises the impact of living with a permanent disablement including the financial impact on individuals and their families.

The Scheme provides payments to those who currently suffer from **permanent disablement (either physical or psychological)** as a result of an injury caused, through **no fault of their own**, in an incident related to the NI Troubles.

## Who can apply?

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You may be considered for a payment under the Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme if:

You continue to suffer from **permanent physical or psychological injury (or both)** as a result of a **Troubles-related incident**.

**"Troubles-related incident"** means an incident involving an act of violence or force carried out for a reason related to the constitutional status of Northern Ireland or to political or sectarian hostility between people in Northern Ireland.

The **Troubles-related incident** must have:

- occurred in the United Kingdom (UK), or anywhere in Europe;
- taken place on or after **1 January 1966, but before 12 April 2010**. (The Victims' Payments Board may apply discretion if the incident took place outside of these dates).

An injury is considered to be caused by a **Troubles-related incident** if a person was:

- **present** at a **Troubles-related incident** or;
- **present** in the **immediate aftermath** of a **Troubles-related incident** in which a **loved one** died or suffered an injury or;
- responding, in the course of employment, to a **Troubles-related incident**, in which the person reasonably believed a **loved one** had died or suffered significant injury.

## Can an application be made on behalf of someone who has died?

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Yes, a posthumous application can be made on behalf of someone who has died in some circumstances. If you were the spouse, civil partner, co-habiting partner or carer of an individual who suffered permanent disablement as a result of the Troubles and who has since passed away, you may submit an application on their behalf.

## What payments are available under the Scheme?

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The level of payment will depend on the extent of the permanent disablement. Current payments range from £2,298 to £11,490 per year.

On 01 August 2024, the Secretary of State confirmed the period for backdated payments will align with the end date for applications to the scheme (30 August 2026), thereby ensuring that all applicants who apply to the scheme and are found to be eligible for a payment, will be able to avail of a backdated payment.

Applicants who meet the eligibility requirements of the Scheme and are terminally ill or older than 60 will have the option to receive a lump sum payment instead of monthly payments.

## Transfer of payments

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You may nominate your spouse, civil partner, co-habiting partner or unpaid carer to receive payments for up to 10 years after your death.

## How to apply?

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The Scheme opened for applications on **31 August 2021** and will close on **31 August 2026** (or such later date as the Secretary of State may determine).

Applications can be made online at [www.victimspaymentsboard.org.uk](http://www.victimspaymentsboard.org.uk)

If you have difficulty using the website, please contact us using one of the below methods.

### Victims' Payments Board

Email: [info@justice-ni.gov.uk](mailto:info@justice-ni.gov.uk)

Telephone: 0300 200 7808

## What evidence do I need to provide?

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It is important to provide all of the **details and information** requested on the application form.

Please provide any information you have which is relevant to your application. The Victims' Payments Board will attempt to gather additional information and evidence on your behalf. However, where this is not possible, you may be required to provide such information in support of your application.

## Medical Assessment

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Your medical records may provide background information in respect of any **permanent** disablement. However, you may also be required to attend a medical assessment as part of this process.

Further information on all aspects of the Scheme and the support available can be found on our website at:

[www.victimspaymentsboard.org.uk](http://www.victimspaymentsboard.org.uk)

If you need this leaflet in a different format or a different language, please contact us.

## Support for making an application

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The following organisations provide free advice and support in relation to the Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme:

### Ashton Centre

T: 028 9074 2255

E: [bohension@ashtoncentre.com](mailto:bohension@ashtoncentre.com)

W: [bridgeofhope.support](http://bridgeofhope.support)

### Relatives for Justice (RfJ)

T: 028 9694 9327

E: [injuredscheme@relativesforjustice.com](mailto:injuredscheme@relativesforjustice.com)

W: [relativesforjustice.com](http://relativesforjustice.com)

### South East Fermanagh Foundation (SEFF)

T: 028 6772 3884

E: [welfare@seff.org.uk](mailto:welfare@seff.org.uk)

W: [seff.org.uk](http://seff.org.uk)

### The Ely Centre

T: 028 6632 0977

E: [enquiriesvps@elycentre.co.uk](mailto:enquiriesvps@elycentre.co.uk)

W: [elycentre.com](http://elycentre.com)

### WAVE

T: 028 9077 9922

E: [adminhq@wavetrauma.org](mailto:adminhq@wavetrauma.org)

W: [wavetraumacentre.org.uk](http://wavetraumacentre.org.uk)

**Please note:** you do not need a paid representative such as a solicitor or claims management company to apply to this Scheme. If you choose paid representation, the Victims' Payments Board cannot meet the cost of this and you will have to meet these costs yourself.

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# Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme

## Information Leaflet 2024

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Have you been permanently disabled/injured as a direct result of a Troubles related incident?

If so, you may be eligible to apply to the Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme.