



## TROUBLES PERMANENT DISABLEMENT PAYMENT SCHEME INFORMATION SESSIONS

A new scheme to acknowledge the harm suffered by those injured as a result of the Troubles/Conflict will open for applications on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**.

The **Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme** (TPDPS) has been designed to provide payments to those who have suffered permanent disablement as a result of an injury caused in a Troubles-related incident and through no fault of their own.

Payments are primarily in acknowledgement of the acute harm suffered as a result of a Troubles-related incident, and can include physical or psychological disablement as a result of the incident. The scheme will also provide a measure of recognition of the implications of living with a permanent disablement caused by a Troubles-related injury and acknowledging that in many cases coping with disablement caused by the serious injury had an adverse financial impact on individuals and their families.

The scheme is being administered by the Victims' Payments Board which is chaired by Mr Justice McAlinden. Further information about the scheme and how applications will be assessed by the Board is available on the Board's website – [www.victimspaymentsboard.org.uk](http://www.victimspaymentsboard.org.uk) That includes eligibility criteria and guidance that sets out how disablement assessments will be carried out which will inform the level of payment to individuals who are eligible under the scheme.

### Information Sessions

In advance of the scheme opening for applications a number of information sessions have been arranged to provide anyone with an interest in the scheme a general overview of the scheme.

The format of the sessions will be as follows:

- **Opening remarks** - an introduction to the session
- **Overview of the scheme** – to include the purpose and principles of the scheme, arrangements for making an application to the scheme, how applications will be assessed and support available to applicants to assist with making an application.
- **Disablement assessment arrangements** – overview of the disablement assessment process to include role of disablement assessors, use of medical evidence and conduct of assessments.
- **Questions** –an opportunity for questions to the presenters on issues in respect to the process, support available etc.

Due to the ongoing restrictions with the pandemic, the sessions will be delivered on-line. Consideration will be given to how the information presented at the sessions can be made available to anyone with difficulties in accessing the technology.

On joining any of the sessions it will be possible to see and hear the presenters. Questions can be posed to the presenters by typing on the screen. Microphones will be muted and so the presenters will not hear anything said by participants during the event. This will be explained at the start of the event. Specialist software will not be required and please remember to "Join by the Browser".

### Dates

Information sessions have been arranged for the following dates. If you wish to join one the sessions please click on the relevant link under Joining Instructions just before each session - it is recommended that participants join the session at least 10 mins before it is due to begin. You will be asked to add your name and email address. It is expected that the sessions will last for approximately one hour.

Dates	Joining Instructions
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> August - 2:30 pm	<a href="#">Use the "Join by browser NEW!" to attend the session</a>
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> August – 7:00 pm	<a href="#">Use the "Join by browser NEW!" to attend the session</a>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> August – 10:30 am	<a href="#">Use the "Join by browser NEW!" to attend the session</a>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> August – 2:30 pm	<a href="#">Use the "Join by browser NEW!" to attend the session</a>

It would be helpful if participants could register in advance for each session by emailing [VPBInformation@justice-ni.gov.uk](mailto:VPBInformation@justice-ni.gov.uk) to advise of your email address and the relevant session. That will ensure that participants can be notified of any necessary changes to the arrangements.

Also, if you are unable to access the link, please contact [VPBInformation@justice-ni.gov.uk](mailto:VPBInformation@justice-ni.gov.uk) and the links will be forwarded directly.