

3 April 2017

Dear Secretary of State,

### **Clarifying the “apology clause” in the 2006 Compensation Act**

We are writing to follow up our initial letter of 2 February as we have not yet heard from you. A copy is attached.

It is important for the "apology clause" in the 2006 Compensation Act to be clarified, so that lawyers, insurers and other professional advisors are aware of the clause and will feel more confident recommending that their clients make use of it.

In particular.

- If businesses are unable to apologise when they should, it can have a real and harmful impact on victims who will often not be able to move on
- Swift, heartfelt and meaningful apologies can provide important closure for victims
- The lack of clarity in the law at the moment creates uncertainty for business in terms of its own liabilities and potential costs
- The wider benefits, such as a potential reduction in legal claims that are currently creating a “compensation culture” and the potential to reduce insurance costs for business

We do not believe it would require Parliamentary time to clarify the existing clause.

In order to raise awareness of the clause, we are planning soon to launch a campaign aimed at the business community. It would be a tremendous boost for that to be able to say that clarifying the clause is already in hand.

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We would, ideally, like to be able to meet to discuss this with you first.

Please let us know?

Your sincerely,

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