



NEW BOOK OF QUANTUM AT A GLANCE*

In our last article regarding the Book of Quantum, we looked at how it had been heavily criticised over the years for not being a good guide for assessing the value of injuries. Some of the reasons being as follows: -

- The ranges of values given for each injury were too broad. People who bring their own claims without engaging a solicitor will always believe that the value of their own injury is in the upper range.
- It did not include values for all injuries.
- It has never been updated since being introduced in 2004, meaning it is 16 years old.

On 5th October 2016, the new updated Book of Quantum was published. Below is a glance at the updated Book of Quantum: -

- An increase in the value of compensation for 35 categories of injury, including, a fractured ankle and whiplash type injuries.
- Other injuries have either decreased, remain unchanged or risen slightly in value.
- Compensation values for eye injuries have been included while values for total blindness, amputation of limbs (excluding digits) and paralysis are absent. However, in these more serious cases other factors would have to be considered, e.g. age, occupation, lifestyle, cosmetic disfigurement, requirement for prosthesis, adapted accommodation and other matters.

The publication of the revised guidelines in itself must be welcomed. However, there are many criticisms of the new Book of Quantum from both a Plaintiff's and Defendant's perspective and it's success very much remains to be seen.

***Before acting or refraining from acting on anything in this guide, legal advice should be sought from a solicitor.**

****In contentious cases, a solicitor may not charge fees or expenses as a portion or percentage of any award of settlement.**