



## **Covid Vaccine Damage Payout**

In June 2022 Vikki Spit, a lady from Cumbria, became the first person in the UK to be awarded compensation for Covid-19 vaccine harm under the Government's Vaccine Damage Payment Scheme (VDPS).

The award followed the death of her fiancé who died shortly after receiving the AstraZeneca Covid-19 Vaccine in 2021.

Miss Spit was awarded £120,000.00, which is the maximum available under the Scheme, but quite justifiably commented that this sum was a wholly inadequate reflection of the loss of earnings and full economic impact of her fiancé's death.

The UK Government has previously provided a legal indemnity to pharmaceutical companies against individuals seeking to take civil legal action for Covid-19 vaccine harm. The idea behind this protection being to encourage companies to develop and distribute Covid vaccines as soon as possible given the perceived national health emergency.

It will be interesting to see whether persons awarded money under the financially capped VDPS move on to progress matters with legal action in Court for much more substantial damages, given that a successful challenge under a civil litigation/medical negligence action could potentially yield significantly more generous financial compensation.

The Isle of Man Government is party to the VDPS but it is currently unknown whether damages have been claimed by any Manx residents for Covid-19 vaccine harm.

See the links below for the full story and how to make a claim.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-tyne-61885899>

<https://www.gov.uk/vaccine-damage-payment/how-to-claim>