



Criminal Injuries
Compensation
Authority

Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority
Alexander Bain House
Atlantic Quay
15 York Street
GLASGOW
G2 8JQ

MR P ROBSON

DPA

T:
DX:
F:

DPA

www.gov.uk

Our reference:

DPA

Your reference:

22 May 2017

Dear Mr Robson,

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme

Thank you for your application to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority.

I have looked carefully at the available information and I am sorry to tell you that I have decided not to make any award because:

Under Paragraph 4 of the Scheme 'A person may be eligible for an award under this Scheme if they sustain a criminal injury which is directly attributable to their being a direct victim of a crime of violence committed in a relevant place. The meaning of "crime of violence" is explained in Annex B.'

I have considered your application dated 11/3/16 in conjunction with reports from Durham Constabulary.

In your application, you say you were a victim of historical sexual abuse whilst at Castle School, Stanhope.

Durham Constabulary have investigated your allegations and for evidential reasons could not take it further. Despite efforts to trace the alleged perpetrator no person has been identified and thus no prosecution.

They added that had the suspect been traced, appropriate action would have been dependent on his age at that time. Therefore it is impossible to know what the likely outcome may have been.

Under Paragraph 4 of the Scheme "A person may be eligible for an award under this Scheme if they sustain a criminal injury which is directly attributable to their being a direct victim of a crime of violence committed in a relevant place. The meaning of "crime of violence" is explained in Annex B".

When considering an appropriate prosecution the police work to a criminal test, whereas the Authority works to a balance of probability standard. However the Authority administers an evidence-based Scheme, and balance of probability is an evidential test. That is different from simply giving someone

the benefit of the doubt.

Having considered all the available evidence, I don't know if you were a victim of historic abuse. Regrettably, other than your own contentions, I have no other evidence which supports your allegation.

I am sorry to send what I know will be disappointing news.

In making my assessment I have considered the evidence available to me on this date only in so far as to determine, on the balance of probabilities, how the paragraph(s) of the Scheme set out in this letter affect your eligibility to receive an award. I have not made any decision in relation to any other paragraphs of the Scheme.

What to do next

If you accept this decision there is no need to reply. If you do not accept this decision you may apply to have the decision reviewed by another claims officer. I enclose information about how to apply for a review and what to expect. Please read this carefully before deciding what to do.

We must receive the review application by 17/07/2017. If you need an extension to this date please write to us giving the reasons. We can allow an extension only in exceptional circumstances, so please tell us why this is needed. Only one extension can be allowed, and that is for a maximum of 56 days.

Please quote our reference number in any communication with CICA. You may also find our guide to the scheme helpful and this can be found at www.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

C GRANT

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