



Briefing Paper

Legal Services Civil Claims Case Statistics.

For the period 01.10.25- 31.12.25.

Document Information	
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1.0	19.01.26	Original	J Shuttleworth

Bd	Date Changed	Comment
NYP Risk, Assurance & Improvements Bd	19.01.26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DCC noted the document. Summary provided of civil claims and legal proceedings for the last quarter of 2025, highlighting trends in false imprisonment, property claims, and training-related injuries. There were 38 claims in the period, including 12 for false imprisonment and several for property damage, mainly forced entry. The Evolve team continue to analyse whether these are handled appropriately and if trends are emerging. An increase in appeals related to Sexual Offender Civil Orders was noted, with more rigorous challenges from specialist legal representatives, prompting ongoing monitoring. Injuries during training, particularly PPST, were discussed. DCC requested that a comparison of injury claims with other Evolve Forces be undertaken to identify any anomalies or areas for improvement.
JAC	24.03.26	

Document Purpose

- To provide statistics relating to civil claims and other legal proceedings against North Yorkshire Police (NYP) for the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025.
- To provide details of the number of open cases with reserves as at 31 December 2025.

Background Information

- Public liability claims arise out of allegations of wrongful arrest/false imprisonment, negligence, assault, malicious prosecution, personal injury and damage to property. Evolve Legal Services (ELS) act for the Chief Constable (CC) and the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA) Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate in respect of such claims.
- Employers' liability and third party motor claims are handled by NYP's insurers who in turn instruct external solicitors if and as required. ELS investigate and co-ordinate the response to such claims.
- ELS also act for CC and YNYCA Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate in relation to other legal matters including, but not limited to:
 - Judicial Review
 - Employment Law
 - Police Officer/Staff Misconduct
 - Inquests
 - Civil Orders, for example sexual risk, domestic violence, proceeds of crime and dangerous dogs
 - Licensing, for example firearms, gambling, liquor and sex establishments
 - Property/Commercial
 - Public Inquiries
 - Operations
 - Disclosure and information sharing

Matters for Consideration

- **Public Liability Claims**

Numbers of public liability claims for both the Chief Constable and YNYCA Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate are set out below. These figures are for claims opened under the one main head of claim, however, please note that one claim may be brought under several heads of claim.

Chief Constable

	01/10/24 – 31/12/24	01/01/25 – 31/03/25	01/04/25 – 30/06/25	01/07/25 – 30/09/25	01/10/25 – 31/12/25
Assault/Battery	1	0	1	0	2
Breach of Data Protection	2	1	2	4	1
Defamation	0	0	0	0	0
False Imprisonment	8	3	11	15	12
Harassment	0	0	0	0	0
Human Rights	0	0	0	1	0
Malicious Prosecution	1	0	1	0	0
Misfeasance in a Public Office	0	0	0	0	1
Property (Buildings)	5	2	2	1	8
Property (Personal)	6	18	7	11	11
Negligence	1	1	2	0	3
Total	24	25	26	32	38

- The new claims received in the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025 are currently estimated to represent a potential liability for damages of £56,080. The potential liability in respect of claimant solicitor's costs is £45,000 and NYP defence costs (Counsel, external solicitor's and disbursements) is nil. These figures consist of payments made and professional estimates based on the information received to date from the claimant.
- A claim form is the document used to commence proceedings in the Civil Courts. In the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025 one claim form was received in relation to this category.
- A claim is closed where either:
 - The matter is settled without proceedings being issued, or
 - The matter concludes following trial or other disposal hearing at court, or
 - Liability has been denied and no further correspondence has been received from the claimant for a period of at least six months.
- In the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025, 30 claims were closed. Payments made for these claims in respect of damages amounted to £6,193. £5935 was paid in respect of claimant solicitor's costs and £4,701 for NYP defence costs.

YNYCA Policing, Fire and Crime Directorate

	01/10/24 – 31/12/24	01/01/25 – 31/03/25	01/04/25 – 30/06/25	01/07/25 – 30/09/25	01/10/25 – 31/12/25
Negligence	0	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	0	1

- One file was opened during the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025. The potential liability in respect damages is £2,000 and for NYP defence costs (Counsel, external solicitor's and disbursements) £5,000.
- A claim form is the document used to commence proceedings in the Civil Courts. In the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025 one claim form was received in relation to this category.
- The file closure criteria described at paragraph 2.7 are also applied to these cases. During the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025 no claims were closed.
- **Employers Liability Claims**

The number of employer's liability claims received for the Chief Constable are set out below.

	01/10/24 – 31/12/24	01/01/25 – 31/03/25	01/04/25 – 30/06/25	01/07/25 – 30/09/25	01/10/25 – 31/12/25
Slip, Trip, Fall on Same Level	0	0	0	0	1
Injured During Training	0	2	1	0	2
Injured by an Animal	0	1	0	1	0
Hit by a Moving, Flying or Falling Object	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	3	1	1	3

- During the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025 three new claims were received.
- No claim forms were received in relation to this category during the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025.
- The file closure criteria described at paragraph 2.7 are also applied to these cases. During the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025 no claims were closed.
- **Third Party Motor Claims**

The number of third party motor claims opened are set out below.

	01/10/24 - 31/12/24	01/01/25 - 31/03/25	01/04/25 - 30/06/25	01/07/25 - 30/09/25	01/10/25 - 31/12/25
Damage	9	16	4	12	8
Injury	1	0	3	1	1
Total	10	16	7	13	9

- The new claims received in the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025 are currently estimated to represent a potential liability in damages of £32,788. The potential liability in respect

of claimant solicitor's costs is £850 and NYP defence costs (Counsel, external solicitor's and disbursements) is nil. These figures consist of payments made and professional estimates based on the information received to date from the claimant.

- One claim form was received for cases in this category during the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025.
- The file closure criteria described at paragraph 2.7 are also applied to these cases. During the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025, 8 claims were closed. Payments made for these claims in respect of claimant damages amounted to £13,038. £1,581 was paid in respect of claimant solicitor's costs and £4,219 for NYP defence costs. The figures provided in respect of payments include the full cost of the claim, i.e. including the amount paid by insurers.
- **Other Claims**

The number of other claims received are set out below.

	01/10/24 - 31/12/24	01/01/25 - 31/03/25	01/04/25 - 30/06/25	01/07/25 - 30/09/25	01/10/25 - 31/12/25
Employment Tribunal	0	1	1	0	1
Judicial Review	1	1	0	1	3

- During the period 1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025 one file was closed in respect of employment tribunal claims and none for judicial review claims.
- **Open Cases**
- I detail below all open cases as at 31 December 2025 for NYP (so, not just those opened in the previous quarter) which are being handled by Evolve Legal Services, where a financial estimate has been allocated by the handler based on the information received to date. I have also specified whether the estimate would be met from the provision or revenue budget.

File Type	Number of Open Cases with Reserves	Estimate to be Paid from Provision £	Estimate to be Paid from Revenue £
Public Liability and Ex Gratia	85	420,085	180,844
Employers Liability	11	529,753	38,696
Third Party Motor	57	263,453	108,019
Motor Own Damage	13	0	95,292
Employment	50	747,581	256,882
Other	11	19,746	22,656
Total	227	1,980,618	702,389

- The other file type category includes Civil Orders, for example Dangerous Dogs, Domestic Violence Protection, Cash Seizure, Sexual Harm Prevention and Sexual Risk, Estates, Disclosure, Firearms Licensing, Inquests, Judicial Review, Operational Advice and Enquiries.

- Not all of these files will be settled in the current financial year and some claims may be successfully defended with no payments made.

Decisions Required

- No decision is required as the paper is for information only.