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NEW SERVICE LAUNCHED TO HELP MOTORISTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Motorists in Northern Ireland could benefit from a new scheme launched this week by the Law Society of Northern Ireland.

The '**Claims Advice Service**' has been launched in partnership with some of Northern Ireland's leading insurance companies and will offer motorists a comprehensive service if they have been involved in a road traffic accident.

Solicitors across Northern Ireland will now be in a position to offer motorists a service which will arrange for the repair and replacement of their damaged vehicle. They will also have the reassurance that the cost of car hire and repair of their vehicle will not be met by them.

Most importantly the new Claims Advice Service provides motorists with the knowledge that their solicitor will deal with their motoring requirements as well as offering invaluable legal advice following their accident.

To support the new service the Society has also the Solicitors Card which provides motorists with information on what to do and who to contact if they are involved in a road traffic accident. The card is produced in easily accessible credit card size and format.

The bright yellow solicitor's card provides a top tips list on one side of the card and the contact details of their local solicitor on the reverse. A smaller Tag Card has also been launched which can be attached to the driver's car keys or key ring.

Both cards have been developed to ensure that the motorist has ease of access to the most important information of what to do and who to contact following a road traffic accident.

The new solicitor's cards and further information about the new Claims Advice Service are available from solicitor's offices across Northern Ireland.

Speaking at the launch of the new campaign, Rory McShane from the Law Society said:

The new Claims Advice Service has the backing of Northern Ireland's leading insurers and will benefit motorists by reducing the costs of hire and repair of vehicles which in turn may lead to a reduction in motor premiums thus benefitting the consumer.

Most importantly it will ensure that motorists have access to the necessary advice and professional legal support they need if they find themselves involved in a road traffic accident.

- ENDS -

ADDENDUM BY MORGAN MCMANUS SOLICITORS

As Morgan McManus Solicitors practise also in Northern Ireland this service can be provided by them to clients involved in Road Traffic Accidents in Northern Ireland and Morgan McManus will also seek similar cover for their clients who are involved in Road Traffic Accidents in the Republic of Ireland but with a Northern Ireland driver who is covered by one of the Insurance companies listed below.

The following insurers are participating in the scheme:

Allianz	Aviva
AXA	Europa General
NFU Mutual	Prestige Underwriting

PROCESS OF NEW SERVICE

1. The client/consumer contacts their solicitor reporting their crash.

2. Their solicitor contacts the insurance company who in turn contacts provides a replacement vehicle or attends to repairing the vehicle.
3. The solicitor then deals with the claim and any legal matters arising from the crash.