

MANSTON COMPENSATION CLAIMS - FACTSHEET

What was the problem at Manston Short-term Holding Facility?

- Manston is a facility in Kent used by the Home Office to detain newly arrived asylum seekers
- Between June 2022 and November 2022 Manston became severely overcrowded because the Home Office was not moving people to asylum support accommodation within 24 hours, as they should have been
- The conditions at Manston deteriorated, becoming unsanitary and dangerous, for example:
 - People were accommodated in tents which were extremely cold
 - There were limited beds so many people slept on the floor next to strangers, with only thin blankets
 - There was limited access to hot water, soap, showers and toilets, and no access to clean clothes
 - Scabies spread throughout the camp, infecting many detainees
 - There were also cases of diphtheria and diarrhoeal illnesses
 - There was limited access to medical assistance including for replacement of medications that had been confiscated the Home Office
 - Some families were forcibly separated
 - Some unaccompanied children were detained at Manston, contrary to the rules
 - There was very limited access to phones
 - There was verbal and physical abuse, sexual assaults, and thefts of belongings by guards

Who can bring a claim?

- Thousands of people passed through Manston during this time, and could have a claim for compensation against the Home Office
- If you were in Manston at any time between June and November 2022 (especially September 2022 onwards), you might have a claim
- You might also have a claim if you were detained before or after this period if for example you were detained as an adult but were later accepted to be under 18 at the time, you were detained for longer than the rules allow, or the conditions were poor
- The compensation amount would depend upon how long you spent at Manston, the conditions in Manston at that time and any injury you suffered as a result of your experiences at Manston (such as scabies or some other infectious disease, the worsening of a pre-existing physical or mental health condition)

Is there a deadline to claim compensation? Who can I speak to?

- Anyone wishing to bring a claim should contact a solicitor as soon as possible, and ideally before June 2025
- This is because some claims must be made within 3 years of the detention, for example: if you were detained on 1 June 2022 your claim should be made by 1 June 2025
- Some claims can still be made up to 6 years later, but the amount of your compensation might be less than if you had claimed within 3 years
- The following firms prepared this factsheet and have experience with Manston compensation claims:

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