



Hearing tests offer compensation hope for cumbrian shipyard workers

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Hundreds of workers in the Barrow shipyards are facing hearing difficulties following years of work in noisy conditions.

Industrial hearing compensation experts Attwood Solicitors are taking action on behalf of around 200 workers whose hearing has been affected by their working conditions.

Now Attwood Solicitors is urging more Cumbrian shipworkers to claim the compensation they deserve for the injuries they have suffered.

The company is offering free hearing tests to workers from any industry who fear their hearing may have been damaged while at work.

Hearing tests can be arranged by telephoning Attwood Solicitors on 0800 587 3231 or contacting them on line at www.attwoodsolicitors.co.uk.

Evidence taken from current and retired shipyard employees revealed that many workers in the 1960s, 70s, and 80s, worked in noisy conditions without any hearing protection.

Scores of workers have come forward to receive hearing tests and advice from audiologists at Hearing Awareness Days in Barrow organised by Attwood Solicitors.

Principal Solicitor, Ashley Attwood, said: “We have now carried-out tests in over 1,000 industrial hearing cases across England, including many former shipyard workers in Barrow and in the south coast shipyards of Plymouth and Portsmouth.

“Statements collected from workers show a repeated failure to provide protective hearing equipment.

“Many workers have paid the price and are now suffering from Tinnitus and other hearing conditions.”

One of Attwoods’ clients, 66, of Millom, Cumbria, worked at Vickers shipyard, Barrow, as an apprentice joiner between 1960 and 1965.

He said: “I have hearing aids in both ears and without them I am almost deaf.

“The joiners shop was a very noisy environment and we also had to work on the ships where the noise was horrendous. But no-one was offered ear protectors. I was a young apprentice and I just had to put up with it.”

Cases have been taken by Attwood Solicitors against a wide range of employers across many industries.





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In one recent case a Cheshire plater welder received £12,000 in compensation after making a claim through Attwood Solicitors.

“Many workers who experienced hearing loss while working in extremely noisy environments have simply put up with it,” said Mr Attwood .

“Often people suffer in silence and don't believe they have a right to compensation for the pain and inconvenience caused to them.”

Any sounds above 80 decibels - about the equivalent of an average alarm clock going off - are considered dangerous but many older people are now suffering from damage caused before current health and safety standards were introduced.

