

## Professor Victoria Wass



Victoria is a professor at Cardiff Business School. Her research on earnings and employment has been widely published. She has worked as an expert witness since 1994 specialising in two areas: loss of future earnings and the indexation of care costs paid as periodical payments. Both draw on her academic work in the area of care, disability and work. She was instructed in industrial disease cases between miners and the Department for Trade and Industry 1997–1999 and helped develop the COPD Handling Agreement. With colleagues from City University, she is responsible for the disability-adjusted Reduction Factors in the Sixth and Seventh Editions of the Ogden Tables. Victoria has been a member of the Ogden Working Party since May 2009. She recently gave evidence to the Westminster Work and Pensions Committee Inquiry (2016) on the disability-related employment gap and to the Westminster Justice Committee (2017) and the Scottish Parliament Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee (2018) on the personal injury discount rate.

<https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/people/view/610669-wass-victoria>

### **Indexation of periodical payments for care**

The presentation demonstrates the need for inflation-proofing of annual payments for care using a measure of growth which closely matches the target expenditure. A mismatch between the two will lead to over- or under-compensation which is cumulative and which the pursuer has little flexibility to accommodate. Care costs are predominantly the cost of the carers' wages. Occupational earnings are collected and published by the UK central statistical office and provide a closely matched and workable alternative to the RPI for this head of damages.