

# Fast-route to accident settlements

CLAIMS that go to the Personal Injuries Assessment Board (PIAB) are being settled three times faster than those that go the traditional legal route, the agency said.

In a review of its first two years, the fast-track settlement body yesterday claimed that 'the entire method of resolving personal injury claims has been dramatically altered' by its work.

In the past year it has overseen the payment of €11m, with savings of at least €4m in legal and other costs, it reported.

Over 94pc of PIAB awards in 2005 were under €50,000, it says, and the highest number of claims per head of population have come from Limerick.