# Compensation for Road-Blocking Protesters Under Review by UK Government



Protesters who block roads may soon be required to pay compensation for the disruption they cause, according to a forthcoming review by Lord Walney, the UK Government’s independent adviser on political violence and disruption. The measures, expected to be announced on Tuesday, would allow individuals, businesses, or institutions to seek court-ordered compensation if they can demonstrate loss, distress, or suffering due to illegal protests.

The proposal aims to address actions by groups such as Just Stop Oil, which have previously been involved in roadblocks and other disruptive activities. A Home Office source indicated that the framework could be based on existing small claims court systems or the financial services ombudsman model. This would allow affected parties to more easily sue organisations responsible for disruptions.

The review aims to enhance the Government’s understanding of activities by far-right, far-left, and other political groups, particularly where such actions cross into criminality and public disruption. In addition to financial penalties, the report is expected to recommend the establishment of "protest exclusion zones" around MPs' offices, extending the buffer zone powers currently in place for schools and abortion clinics.

A Home Office spokesman stated that extremism of any kind will not be tolerated and that the police will be supported in tackling such behaviour. The Government will carefully consider the report’s recommendations and respond accordingly.