

Rapist Rotherham taxi driver ordered to pay £425,000 in damages to victim in 'trailblazer' case

From the [Daily Mail](#) and the [Huddersfield Examiner](#)

A rapist convicted in the Rotherham grooming scandal has been ordered by the High Court to pay his victim more than £425,000 in damages.



Taxi driver [Asghar Bostan, 52, was jailed for nine years in 2018](#) after being convicted of two offences against a girl under 16 in Rotherham between 2000 and 2002.

Now the victim – known as 'Liz' – has brought what is said to be the first successful civil action of its kind against Bostan, who was released from prison last year.

She started civil proceedings against Bostan three years ago 'to at last get real justice' and has now received damages of £425,934.09 in a judgment last week.

Bostan failed to engage with the civil court proceedings while still in jail, and the order is likely to bankrupt him, reported [The Times](#). It has been claimed she is likely to

receive around £100,000.

The victim previously told the National Crime Agency that she was given drugs and alcohol, coerced to a flat and raped on two occasions when she was 14 or 15.

Baroness Cox, Secretary of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Honour Based Abuse, said: 'I have met with many grooming gang survivors over the years and I am delighted that Liz has been awarded this financial justice. Her great legal victory should bring hope to many other survivors.'

The victim's solicitor Robin Tilbrook described the case – which awarded £425,934.09 damages – as an 'ice-breaker'. He said: "What we've shown is what can be done and many others can follow on the same path. The case involved conviction for two rapes of a 13 or 14-year-old and it was a traumatic experience that causes long-term psychological issues and post-traumatic stress disorder. There's a rule of thumb of about £50,000 per rape. Then on top of that is compensation for long-term losses. (The victim) is clear that she feels that this has given her some justice that she hadn't got through any other part of the system.

"This was also a question of being part of this whole child rape gang scene – they got her drunk and on drugs and he raped her. The importance of this case is that it's a trailblazer. And now all those victims can see what's needed in order to get justice."

Bostan was charged in May 2017 as part of Operation Stovewood – the National Crime Agency's investigation into non-familial child sexual exploitation and abuse between 1997 and 2013.