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## **North West Law Firm Supports Birth Trauma Awareness Day**

North West law firm Irwin Mitchell is backing a national campaign to raise awareness of the impact of birth trauma by supporting the Birth Trauma Awareness Day.

Saturday 15 August 2009 will be the third annual National Birth Trauma Awareness Day, which is organised by the Birth Trauma Association; a voluntary organisation that supports women who have suffered trauma during childbirth.

Birth trauma can lead to serious injuries to both mother and baby, and in severe cases can even cause deaths. It can cause mothers to tear or haemorrhage, and can leave babies affected by Cerebral Palsy or Erbs Palsy. Some mothers also struggle with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Families may be left facing the expense of home adaptations and physiotherapy, and with little or no support the effects can be devastating.

Irwin Mitchell supports clients throughout the region who have been affected by ensuring they receive the necessary care, therapies and funding which are vital following birth trauma, and the National Awareness Day plays an important role in this.

Lindsay Wise, leading clinical negligence specialist at Irwin Mitchell in Manchester, said: "We need to continue to raise the awareness of the help that is out there for people who have been affected by birth trauma, whether directly or indirectly. There

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is help out there for everyone, but unless you know where to look it can be hard to find.

“Irwin Mitchell is proud to support this day because it can be life changing for many people. There are people out there who are suffering alone because they don’t know help is available, and events like these can reach out to these people and provide them with the support they need.”

Julie Orford, Chair of the Birth Trauma Association, said: "The aim of the day is to raise awareness of birth trauma and the work of our organisation, so that families know there is somewhere they can turn to for help and support during what can be a devastating time."

For more information on birth trauma visit [www.birthtraumaassociation.org.uk/](http://www.birthtraumaassociation.org.uk/).

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### Irwin Mitchell

Irwin Mitchell was established over 95 years ago and is one of the country’s largest law firms – and the leading Personal Injury practice – in the UK. The firm, which was voted National Law Firm of the year at the 2007 Lawyer Magazine Awards, employs more than 2100 staff, with offices in Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, London,

## Media Information

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