

## Why choose a Solicitor?

There are various legal formalities you need to follow to ensure that your Will and your Lasting Powers of Attorney are valid. Without the help of a Solicitor there is a real risk you could make a mistake which could cause problems at a later date.

### Costs

Our fixed fees for straightforward Wills are:-

**Single Will** £250 plus VAT

**Joint** £350 plus VAT

**Lasting Powers of Attorney :-**

**Single LPA** from £355.00 plus VAT

**Joint LPAs** from £510.00 plus VAT

If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact Lauren Gillespie or Laura Martin.

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MACMILLANS SOLICITORS LLP

# WILLS & LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY



*Lauren Gillespie is the Full Accredited Member of Solicitors for the Elderly at Macmillans Solicitors LLP*

# Wills

## Why have a Will?

Having a legal and valid Will in place is one of the most important things for both you and your family.

- A Will sets out what should happen to your money, property and possessions on your death. Without a Will there is no guarantee that your wishes will be carried out as the law of intestacy would decide how your estate is passed on and this may not be in accordance with your wishes
- Minimise Inheritance Tax - when you come to see us about making a Will, we will advise you about any relevant tax planning issues
- Avoid lengthy probate procedures and unnecessary complications with your estate - by setting out your wishes and your assets clearly it makes matters a lot easier for your family
- Reduce stress and upset for your family at a difficult time by making your wishes known

# Lasting Powers of Attorney

## What are Lasting Powers of Attorney and why do I need one?

- Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPAs) are a very important document which really everyone should have in place. There has been a drive by the government to promote awareness and encourage people to consider them.
- There are two types of LPA—one which deals with Property & Financial Decisions and one which deals with Health & Care. You can enter into one or both types.
- Essentially they are legal documents which authorise your chosen friend or family member to act on your behalf.
- They can be used in the event that you are no longer able to deal with your own finances or with your consent whilst you still have capacity. For example—you may simply not wish to have the hassle of

going to the bank in person or changing your electricity supplier.



- Even if there is a question mark regarding your capacity, your Attorneys have an ongoing duty to involve you in as much of the decision making as possible.
- Your Attorneys must always act in your best interests and are governed by the Mental Capacity Act 2005 so there is protective legislation in place.
- If you do not enter into a Lasting Power of Attorney and lose capacity to deal with your own affairs, the only option is for your family to apply to the Court of Protection in London to be appointed as a Deputy.
- This process can take between 6—12 months and can involve significant costs. During this time your family could not access your money for any reason.

