

# Putting Your Affairs In Order

## A WILL

If you don't make a Will your property and other assets may not pass to whom you want. The future well-being of your family may depend on you having prepared an effective and legally valid Will. Most Wills do not involve trusts or tax law problems. The fact is most Wills are fairly simple.

If your case is not a simple one then using our specialist knowledge of property, trusts and tax law, we will be able to help you cater for a number of different possibilities and prepare the Will so as to maximise your peace of mind.

## WILL REVIEWS

You may already have a Will. However, as a result of changes in your personal family or financial circumstances, it may no longer reflect your current wishes. If you have re-married, then without you realising it, that will have revoked the Will you made previously, and in these circumstances you may wish to make a new Will for e.g. providing for the children of a first marriage. Furthermore, changes in the inheritance tax provisions may also mean you need to review your Will. We offer a low cost discussion to help you identify whether or not any changes would be beneficial to you. Now a lot of people are either in the tax bracket or just under the tax bracket so far as inheritance tax is concerned just after taking into account what their house is worth.

## ENDURING POWER OF ATTORNEY

Have you considered who would manage your affairs if you became incapable of handling things yourself? This does not only become a problem if you are mentally incapable. There may be a problem if you are physically not able to do things. Or it may be that you will be out of the country. An Enduring Power of Attorney can minimise the problem should this situation arise.

## TAX PLANNING

Tax law is complex and forever changing. Our expertise can advise you on the best way to plan ahead and to arrange your tax affairs during your lifetime to minimise the amount eventually payable. In more complicated matters we have the additional expertise of tax specialists at our disposal.

## HELP FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Personal Representatives are the people who administer (sort out) the estate of a deceased person. Being a Personal Representative has heavy responsibilities and can be legally difficult. This is quite apart from the fact that after the loss of someone close to you, dealing with these matters may prove personally distressing. With this in mind, we will relieve you of the burden and help you to ensure that the wishes of the deceased are followed.

## LONG TERM RESIDENTIAL CARE

It is a fact of life that many people may need to go into some form of long term residential care when they get older. It is also true that your capital and home can be used to pay for this care. Simply transferring the house to your children, however, is no guarantee to protect you paying fees. We provide advice and practical help on dealing with this sort of situation.