

Our Services

We offer a wide range of personal legal services to help you:

- Conveyancing
- Family Law
- Making a Will & LPA's
- A Death in the Family
- Housing Law
- Employment Law
- Dispute Resolution

Plus Business Legal Services:

- Commercial Property
- Business Leases
- Company Formations
- Partnership Agreements
- Terms of Trading and Contracts
- Employment Law & Disputes



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Legal Advice You Can Trust

For over 100 years, we have been a trusted cornerstone of legal support for communities across Warwickshire and Leicestershire.

Why make a Will?



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Why you should make a Will?

A Will gives you control over who is to receive your money and property after you die. Many people wrongly assume that, even if they haven't made a Will, all of their property will automatically pass to their spouse, partner or children when they die.

In fact, if you don't make a Will the Intestacy Rules will apply upon your death. These will govern how your estate is divided up and will determine which of your relatives receives how much of your estate.

These rules may mean that your spouse does not necessarily receive the whole of your estate when you die and may have to share it with other relatives. If you are not married to your partner they would not automatically receive anything from your estate if you have not made a Will.

Balancing the interests of Spouses and Children from previous relationships.

A Will can provide that your assets can be used for the benefit of your spouse during their lifetime but that, upon their death, the assets are to pass to your children. This can be particularly important where there is a second family to ensure that your own children eventually receive the benefit of your estate but whilst also providing for your spouse during their lifetime.

Providing for young Beneficiaries.

Under the Intestacy provisions a beneficiary becomes absolutely entitled to their share of your estate at age 18. If that would result in a significant sum being paid to them this could place the child at risk either because of a reckless use of the money or because they are then vulnerable to others who may seek to manipulate them because of their newfound wealth. In your Will you can specify an age at which you are happy for your children to receive large sums of capital but you can also appoint trustees who may have a general discretion to use money for the benefit of your children at any time it may be needed.

How can you protect your home against Residential Care Fees?

If you jointly own your home then a carefully drafted Will can provide for a share in the family home to pass into a trust when the first one of you dies. This would provide for the survivor to live in the home for as long as they wish and can even allow the survivor to move home or downsize whilst ensuring that capital is preserved for your children.

Gifts to Charity and Tax savings.

If your estate is likely to be subject to inheritance tax a clause could be included in your Will to allow your estate to benefit from a reduced rate of inheritance tax subject to certain rules if 10% of the estate is left to charity.

Choosing an Executor.

When you die someone will need to deal with the practicalities and if you do not make a Will you will have no control over who this will be. Your executors are responsible for safeguarding your estate and ensuring that your wishes are put into effect and so should be selected carefully. If the estate is complex or if there is friction in the family or between the beneficiaries you may wish to consider appointing a professional executor such as a solicitor.

Appointment of Guardians.

If you have children it is very important to use your Will to appoint a guardian to take care of them if you were to die. The appointment will only usually take effect when both parents have died but may also take effect if one parent survives but does not have parental responsibility for the child or children. The appointment of guardians is not always binding but will be persuasive and a Court will take this into account when deciding who should look after your children when you die.

Why should you use a Solicitor?

Homemade Wills carry a significant risk that they may not be valid or that they may not dispose of all of your assets. Every year we see many homemade Wills that have been incorrectly signed or witnessed or where the words used are ambiguous or misleading. An experienced solicitor will ensure that your Will carries out your wishes and is validly executed. They will also be able to advise you upon matters that you may not have considered such as tax planning or protecting your assets.