QualitySolicitors Barwells

Elderly Client Care

Preparing for the Future

The need for home, residential or nursing care often comes when it is least expected and it can prove to be a very difficult time for the person involved and their family. It is therefore advisable that you consider planning for this eventuality to avoid difficulties at a later date.

Our Private Client teams have many years experience in looking after the affairs of elderly or infirm clients. This not only includes their legal affairs such as Lasting Powers of Attorney, but also covers financial matters as we are in the unusual position of having an in-house Financial Services Department, who can, for example, advise on the long term financial implications of moving to residential accommodation.

Amongst the many issues we can advise on:-

Lasting Powers of Attorney

Wherever possible you should consider making a Lasting Power of Attorney to ensure that your affairs are looked after by somebody whom you trust. We can advise on all aspects relating to the completion of a Lasting Power of Attorney and registration with the Office of the Public Guardian. Please refer to our separate leaflet which describes the ways in which Lasting Powers of Attorney can help you in more detail.

Court of Protection

In the event that you lose mental capacity before being able to make a Lasting Power of Attorney, it may be necessary for an application to be made to the Court of Protection for the appointment of a deputy who would then have the authority to undertake the management of your financial affairs. Barwells can assist in the arrangements for the appointment of a deputy or if appropriate can act in this capacity, with the approval of the Court.

Residential & Nursing Home Contracts

With many years experience of looking after the affairs of elderly clients, we are in an ideal position to assist you in finding the most suitable home for your requirements and dealing with any legal matters relating to the retirement home contract. Alternatively, if preferred we can advise on the provision of home care.

Advice on Financial Responsibility

Our elderly client care specialists will be able to advise you on the funding criteria for long term care, your financial responsibility as regards the payment of care costs and the impact of legislation on asset protection. We can also ensure that you receive your full entitlement to the various benefits available to the elderly.

Paying for Long Term Care

Our specialist Financial Services Department can advise you on how to maximise your income and returns to help you to pay for your care costs. This service may include a review of your existing investments to ensure suitability and tax efficiency, or possibly guidance on the purchase of a long term care annuity to cover your present and future care costs. In addition we can advise on the investment of the sale proceeds of a property or on Equity Release Schemes if home care is preferred.

Next Steps

If you consider that you may benefit from an appointment with one of our experienced Private Client Practitioners please contact any of our offices as follows:-

6 Hyde Gardens, Eastbourne
Tel: 01323 435473 **Fax:** 01323 410288
Email: private.client-eb@barwells.com

2 Market Square, Hailsham
Tel: 01323 814010 **Fax:** 01323 814014
Email: private.client-hs@barwells.com

10 Sutton Park Road, Seaford
Tel: 01323 875025 **Fax:** 01323 890777
Email: private.client-sf@barwells.com

19 High Street, Newhaven
Tel: 01273 514213 **Fax:** 01273 516731
Email: private.client-nh@barwells.com

238 South Coast Road, Peacehaven
Tel: 01273 575015 **Fax:** 01273 582272
Email: private.client-ph@barwells.com

Home appointments can be arranged if necessary, at no extra cost.

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