

Lasting Power of Attorney: what it is and why it matters

Most people are aware of the importance of having a will professionally drawn, yet many simply do not get round to preparing and signing one.

Without a will, those you'd wish to benefit upon your death may not have any entitlement. A will is vital to protect your loved ones and those you wish to inherit.

Of equal importance is having a **Lasting Power of Attorney** prepared. A Power of Attorney is a legal document which grants the power for somebody else, legally known as your 'Attorney', to deal with your affairs, such as your bank accounts, property, health and welfare in the event that you become unable to do so yourself, either through mental or physical incapacity.

It's never too soon

Whatever your age, you should give serious consideration to appointing a Power of Attorney. Our mental welfare can be affected at any point in our lives by unexpected events such as injury or illness. If you became unexpectedly poorly, then your appointed Attorney(s) could deal with your financial affairs on your behalf to ensure nothing becomes a problem.

Your attorney could also make decisions about your health and welfare, such as consenting to medical treatment on your behalf, or dealing with the very difficult issue of whether or not you should go into care.

Avoid unnecessary stress and cost

If an Attorney has not been appointed then anyone wishing to help would need to apply to the Court of Protection; even in the case that your husband or wife had to pay your care home fees on your behalf from your personal bank account.

Court of Protection applications are costly (the Court fee alone being currently £400) and can take months to process. Having someone already appointed allows the seamless management of your affairs.

*Rebecca O'Donnell,
Solicitor
Harold Stock and Co.
Solicitors*



Summer 2013 Special Offer

During Summer 2013 Harold Stock and Co. Solicitors will draft or amend a Will for you free of charge, if you instruct us to prepare a Power of Attorney on your behalf.

Offer closes 30th August 2013.

Contact details below:

For further information contact:

Rebecca O'Donnell, Solicitor

Telephone: 01457 836 152

Email: rod@haroldstock.com

harold **stock** and **co.** solicitors

For wherever your journey takes you

www.haroldstock.com

Special Offer Summer 2013

If you've always meant to have a will professionally drawn, or a lasting Power of Attorney prepared, but never actually got round to it, now's your chance!

Until 30th August 2013, Harold Stock and Co. Solicitors will draft or amend a Will for you free of charge, if you instruct us to prepare a Power of Attorney on your behalf.

Enter your details below and return to the Harold Stock exhibition stand, or return to: Rebecca O'Donnell, Harold Stock & Co Solicitors, 55-57 Stamford Street, Mossley, Tameside, OL5 0LN and we'll contact you to talk you through the process.

Mr/Mrs/Ms (please circle)

First Name

Surname

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

For more information on any other Harold Stock & Co services, tick any of the boxes below (optional):

Personal Injury Employment Company/Commercial

Family Conveyancing

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