Wills and Estate Planning

Wills are very important documents to allow control over your Estate and ensure that your assets are disposed as you would wish. In a Will, you can make provision for minor children (including appointing guardians), appoint you want to administer your Estate, take protective steps against your Estate being exhausted due to care fees/remarriages/Inheritance Tax and much more. Even a simple Will can make it easier for your family members.

Lasting Powers of Attorney

Accidents and illnesses could suddenly leave you incapable of looking after your own affairs. If you have Lasting Powers of Attorney in place then those close to you can act on your behalf in this situation. However, if Lasting Powers of Attorney are not in place, someone would have to apply to the Court of Protection to become your Deputy to make these decisions and this can be a very costly and lengthy process. Additionally, there will be annual costs in the majority of cases for the Courts to oversee the appointment and reports also need to be submitted to them each year. Therefore, we would always recommend that you put Lasting Powers of Attorney in place whilst you are able and we can help you with this process.

Court of Protection

The Court of Protection deals with actions taken under the Mental Capacity Act. The Court has a wide range of powers and can take various action for individual without capacity. For example, the Court can appoint you as a Deputy to deal with the affairs of someone close to you if they have lost capacity without Lasting Powers of Attorney. We deal with a range of applications to the Court of Protection and we can assist you with taking the next steps.

Probate

When someone passes away, it is an extremely difficult time for those close to them. During this period, the Estate will also need to be administered which can daunting and overwhelming for family. We can assist in a various ways during this time to help guide you through this process.

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*At BTMK Solicitors, we have a Private Client Department with a wide range of expertise and in particular, we specialise in Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorneys, Court of Protection and Probate. Our teams are based in our offices in Rayleigh (“BTMK Todmans”) and Leigh on Sea (“BTMK Goodson”) but we also have an office in Southend High Street where we can meet or alternatively, home visits can be arranged. Our focus is to ensure that our clients are receiving an efficient, experienced and welcoming service with all matters.*