

SERVICE
GUIDE

Wills, powers of
attorney and divorce



Welcome to Stowe Family Law

Our specialist solicitors are members of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) and Solicitors for the Elderly. They can help you ensure your assets go to the people you want them to go to, and can help you to preserve your assets for future generations.

01



Wills service

Should I make a Will now I am separating from my spouse?

Yes, unless you make a Will, your spouse is automatically entitled by law to a fixed amount of money and property in your name, even when you have separated.

If you have a Will already in place but are divorcing, you may wish to review it to ensure your wealth is protected for your children or other loved ones.



Wills, powers of attorney and divorce

SERVICE GUIDE

03



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What if the financial picture is still unclear?

You should consider make a new Will at the start of your divorce even if you are uncertain about the financial outcome. This will offer the best protection for you, and your Will can automatically accommodate future changes in your financial circumstances.

What about protecting your share of joint property?

We can help you identify how any joint property and bank accounts are held and consider steps to change the basis of the ownership. This will ensure that your share of joint property passes under the terms of your Will and not to the surviving joint owner. We work closely with the solicitor dealing with your divorce or separation to ensure protection is put in place.

05



Protective trusts and bloodline planning

We can provide advice on the use of trusts both in lifetime and as part of a Will which can act as a tool for managing wealth for children and young adults.

We provide advice on trusts as a means of protecting funds within the immediate bloodline family.

Changes in circumstances

After your divorce is completed and as you move forward with your life we can look with you at the circumstances where you should review your Will. In particular, we advise on flexible provisions that can be part of your Will to provide for a new partner whilst retaining protection for children.



Wills, powers of attorney and divorce

SERVICE GUIDE

07



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Inheritance tax

We can advise on the impact that your divorce has on your inheritance tax position so that you can make informed choices in protecting your money and property in the future.

Lasting powers of attorney

Lasting powers of attorney (LPA's) are important documents enabling you to give permission to someone you trust, to manage your finances and property and/or make health welfare decisions on your behalf, if you were to become mentally or physically incapacitated in the future. We can assist with all types of powers of attorney to suit either your personal or business requirements.

If you have an existing LPA in place appointing your spouse, we can arrange to cancel this if it no longer reflects your wishes.

Probate

We can advise on all aspects of estate administration for executors of Wills and for administrators where no Will is in place.



For more information on Wills, powers of attorney and divorce
please call our Client Care Team on **0330 838 7456**
to speak with one of our specialist private client lawyers.
or visit **www.stowefamilylaw.co.uk**