

Wills & Probate & Estate Administration

At Hawkins Ryan LLP we are here to assist in you in your will planning, probate and tax matters.

Head of the Private Clients Department is Partner of the firm, Andrew Stevenson.

Andrew is assisted by experienced Private Client caseworkers, Sam Thomas and Shari Worfolk. They will also assist in your matter and are the first point of contact for any updates or request for further information.

Wills

They say that nothing in life is certain, except for death and taxes. That may be true, but there is a minefield of uncertainty surrounding both issues and our job is to help you pick the best way through it. These subjects are, of course, intimately related, and should be considered together, with two common aims: to make life as simple and comfortable as possible for those who survive you, and to keep as much of your estate as possible with your loved ones and not the taxman.

Our service is tailored to the needs of you and your family. We are happy to work on behalf of whoever you choose to appoint as an executor of your estate, or to act as administrators ourselves, dealing with every aspect of the estate, right down to house clearance and asset disposal. This way you can have total peace of mind knowing that whatever your wishes, this will be dictated by the terms of your Will.

We can also advise you on Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPA), which will enable the person you designate to manage your health and financial affairs if you should become incapacitated and unable to make your own decisions.

With mirror lasting power of attorney documents, this allows a couple or partners to act as power of attorneys if one or the other becomes incapacitated and cannot make decisions for themselves, the other will step in to do so.

Probate & Estate Administration

It is always going to be a difficult time when you lose a loved one and have to deal with their affairs. At this stage all you will wish for is simplicity and understanding in dealing with their estate. In some cases, this can be complicated given the nature of the assets, or whether or not there is a will.

To help lessen your concerns our team are happy to assist with providing you with a non-complex breakdown of the probate process including grant of probate, and property and estate administration affairs and any related tax commitments.

Contact email address: privateclient@hawkinsryan.com

Lasting Power of Attorney

Lasting Power of Attorney

A lasting power of attorney (LPA) is a legal document which enables you to plan ahead and set out what you would like to happen should you become incapable of making decisions in the future.

You can appoint one or more attorneys who will be able to make decisions on your behalf. They could be a family member, friend or professional adviser. He or she must consider your best interest when making a decision for you, in a way you would want, when it is needed.

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Pricing Information

Wills

Single Wills

A single will is a legal document used by one person to provide specific details of their final wishes.

Basic single Will (straight forward estate and family beneficiaries)	£195.00
Medium single Will (more complicated estate and several beneficiaries)	£295.00
High single Will (multiple assets and numerous beneficiaries)	£395.00

Mirror Wills

A mirror will are two wills, usually created by spouses or partners, where the wishes of one person largely reflect the wishes of the other. Generally, the two people will leave their estate to each other, and agree where their estate should pass upon the death of the second person. It is one of the most common approaches for couples when preparing their Last Will and Testament.

Basic pair of mirror Wills (straight forward estate and family beneficiaries)	£295.00
Medium pair of mirror Wills (more complicated estate and several beneficiaries)	£395.00
High pair of mirror Wills (multiple assets and numerous beneficiaries)	£495.00

The prices displayed above includes VAT.

Pricing Information

Probate & Estate Administration

Our fees for administering an estate depend on a number of issues - the nature and complexity of the assets, the number of beneficiaries and in some cases, complicated tax considerations. In the last case, paying a higher fee for more specialist advice may result in a significant reduction in the amount of tax paid on the estate. Our fees are based partly on the time spent on the matter and partly on the value of the estate. Time will be spent, advising, attending upon you and others, dealing with papers, drafting and dictating letters and file notes, research, correspondence, telephone calls, travelling and waiting time. These figures should only ever be used as an indication of our charges and at all times Hawkins Ryan Solicitors shall review to ensure they remain fair and reasonable, having regard to all the circumstances of a particular case. The current range of hourly rates is set out below and excludes VAT.

Members / Partners	£300.00
Solicitors and legal executives with over 4 years' experience	£275.00
Solicitors and legal executives with under 4 years' experience	£230.00
Trainee solicitors, paralegals and other fee earners	£160.00

Expenses

In order to administer the Estate, it is anticipated that the following expenses shall be incurred:

Probate Court Fees from	£273.00
Copy Grant Fees (per additional copy)	£ 1.50
Bankruptcy Search Fees (per beneficiary)	£ 2.00

Disbursements

What are disbursements?

Disbursements are fees payable to third parties for additional services you might need during the administration of an estate, which are not included within our fee quotation. The third party will charge an additional fee for their services and will require payment.

In order to administer the Estate, it is also anticipated that the following expenses shall be incurred: Probate Court Fees from £273.00 Copy Grant Fees (per additional copy) £1.50 Bankruptcy Search Fees (per beneficiary) £2.00.

Pricing Information

Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA)

There are two types of LPA:

A property and financial affairs LPA. This gives your attorney the authority to deal with your property and finances when you choose and /or if you lack mental capacity.

A health and welfare LPA. This allows your attorney to make health and care decisions on your behalf if you lack mental capacity to do so yourself. This could include giving or refusing consent to the continuation of life sustaining treatment.

Lasting Powers of Attorney Pricing	Price
Lasting Power of Attorney for an individual	£ 420.00
Both Lasting Powers of Attorney for an individual	£ 720.00
Lasting Powers of Attorney for a couple	£ 720.00
Both Lasting Powers of Attorney for a couple	£1,200.00

The prices displayed above includes VAT.

Additional Considerations

Our standard fees are based on producing standard Powers of Attorney and arranging for them to be registered with the Office of the Public Guardian. We may sometimes suggest that additional, bespoke instructions or preferences are included within the Powers. If so we may make an additional charge – but now without discussing it with you first.

Home Visits

If you are unable to come to the office we can arrange a visit to your home to discuss your requirements. We charge a set fee of £48 including VAT if you reside within a 10-mile radius of our office location.