

Hague Lambert Solicitors



Information Sheet

LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY – PROPERTY AND AFFAIRS

Have you ever considered how or by whom your financial affairs would be managed if you suffered a stroke, a car accident or even a broken leg? It is possible to make provision for this by appointing an Attorney now who would have authority to step in and take control of your financial affairs if and when you ever needed their help in the future.

WHAT IS A LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY?

This is the document you complete in order to confirm who you wish to act as your Attorney. Unless you state otherwise the document gives your Attorneys the same powers as you have to manage your financial affairs.

- You can appoint more than one Attorney.
- You can restrict your Attorneys' powers, for example you may only want your Attorneys to have authority if you lose mental capacity
- You can give your Attorneys guidance as to how you wish them to act for you

The document is valid as soon as it is registered at the Office of the Public Guardian. However, your Attorneys may only use the document if you give them the authority to do so. If in the future you lose mental capacity, your Attorneys may continue to look after your affairs.

WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE?

- We will have a couple of meetings in order to take your instructions and to advise you. If you are happy you will then execute the LPA
- If you are happy for us to, we will then act as your certificate provider. This

means we certify that you understand the contents and implications of the LPA

- Your Attorneys will sign the LPA

The document has now been fully executed but it cannot be used until it is registered at the Office of the Public Guardian. We advise you to register the LPA immediately. If you instruct us:

- We will apply to register the LPA at the Office of the Public Guardian

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

We can advise and arrange for execution of the LPA as quickly as necessary. Registration currently takes approximately 12 weeks.

PROFESSIONAL ADVICE

A Lasting Power of Attorney is a very powerful legal document. It is therefore important to seek professional legal advice so that you are fully aware of the power and effect of the document.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

We charge a fixed fee of £500 plus VAT, plus disbursements (disbursements will include a court registration fee of £120). For a slightly higher fee, we are happy to visit you at home if you are unable to come into the office.

CONTACT

If you wish to make a Lasting Power of Attorney or discuss matters in further detail please contact Amy Hayes at Hague Lambert, 131 King Street, Knutsford tel: 01565 652411, email ah@hague-lambert.co.uk

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