

THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF LPAS AVAILABLE TO YOU

There are two types of LPAs. One that handles your property and financial affairs, and another that deals with your health and welfare. With both LPAs you can have complete confidence and security.

Property and financial affairs LPA

This LPA grants your attorney the power to make decisions regarding your property and finances on your behalf, including:

- Paying bills
- Managing bank accounts
- Collecting your pension
- Selling your home
- Health and welfare LPA

This LPA gives your attorney the ability to make decisions about your welfare if you are unable to make them yourself. This could include decisions relating to:

Medical care

- Where you should live – for instance, moving into a care home
- Daily care such as what clothes to wear
- Life-sustaining treatment



WHY USE MAPLEWILLS WHEN PREPARING YOUR LPA?

MapleWills specialises in LPAs in addition to Wills. This means we can provide you with professional, practical advice that best suits your needs.

Applications for LPAs are not something that most people should try to make themselves. There are a number of complex options to choose from. Using an expert means that they are explained clearly to you, ensuring you get the LPA you need. If you get it wrong, it can be ineffective and you could leave people with more or less power over your best interests that you desired.

You can avoid the dangers of a DIY approach by calling on the expertise of MapleWills. Receive the same, high quality advice you would receive from a solicitor, at a fraction of the cost

MapleWills is a proud, compliant member of the Society of Will Writers. Alongside professional indemnity insurance, this ensures you receive the trustworthy, professional and confidential service you require when writing your LPAs.

For your convenience we are happy to visit your workplace or home to discuss your needs and collect the necessary information to write your LPA.

Contact us today: info@maplewills.co.uk

Or call us on: 01908 478 988

For more information visit maplewills.co.uk

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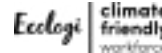


MapleWills

Lasting Powers of Attorneys the what, the why and the how

maplewills.co.uk

'THE FUTURE CAN BE WRITTEN'



LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY

A DEFINITION

A Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is an essential legal document for if you become mentally incapacitated.

It enables you to appoint one or more individuals (known as attorneys) to make decisions on your behalf. It is crucial to note that an LPA can only be set up while you still have mental capacity.

Most people's attorneys are those they trust to act in their best interests, such as close family or friends.

Should you lose mental capacity without an LPA in place, the people who would care for you will face significant and wide-ranging costs. Not just financially, but also time. The process can cost thousands of pounds and consume months, going through legal processes, the inconvenience of having assets frozen if they are held jointly with you, and the emotional strain of seeing important family decisions left to the courts.



DO YOU NEED A LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY?

With life expectancy rising, more people are suffering from dementia and other incapacitating conditions.

It is predicted that 1 million people in the UK will have dementia by 2025, and this is expected to double by 2051. The need for getting an LPA in place while you are still sound of mind has never been greater.

Having an LPA means:

You are in control. You can name your attorney(s), ensuring that someone you trust is in control.

There are limitations. If you wish, your LPA can limit your attorney's powers.

You have peace of mind. An LPA is the single best way to ensure you and your family's interests are protected.

If you are mentally incapacitated, and you do not have an LPA, under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA) all your finances and assets will be frozen. Additionally, decisions relating to your health and finances will be down to the court of protection to begin with.

To regain control, someone close to you will have to apply to the Court of Protection to become a deputy. This is time consuming, expensive and will result in far less control than if they were an attorney. Moreover, they must reapply every year at further cost.

By contrast, arranging an LPA now is a low cost option and most straightforward.

LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY

A CASE STUDY

When Alan turned 60, he and his wife Sue agreed to apply for LPAs. With the help of their Will writer, they were made attorneys for each other, along with their son, John.

After enjoying two years of early retirement, Alan developed sudden onset dementia.

Because they'd had the foresight to set up an LPA, Sue and her son John had the legal power necessary to take control during this incredibly difficult time. Sue was free to make medical decisions on Alan's behalf, and because her finances were uninterrupted, she had the financial freedom to make Alan's life as comfortable as possible.

What would have happened if an LPA was not in place? Had they not set up LPAs, Sue and John would have faced one legal and financial obstacle after another. The bank account she shares with Alan would have been frozen, making it difficult to pay for supplementary healthcare.

Without an LPA, Sue would not have had the power to make decisions regarding Alan's health. Furthermore, to obtain the legal permissions, she would have had to pay thousands of pounds in court fees during those challenging months.

When she was eventually made a deputy of the court, she would have had to take out a guarantee bond to protect the assets from potential financial mismanagement – at a cost of several hundred pounds a year. All whilst struggling to cope with the painful decline of her beloved husband.

