



## The Complete Family Care Package

- 3 Legal Documents everyone should sign for a special offer price
- Legal Aid available to many older people

### Power of Attorney...

If you were too injured or ill to make your own decisions a Power of Attorney is a legal document that gives someone allocated by you, who you trust, to have the authority over legal powers to act on your behalf if you can't do so on your own. If you don't allocate a Power of Attorney on your own behalf eventually the state will find someone for you, usually after a court hearing. However, this person could be someone you would not want. So by preparing a Power of Attorney you choose who this person is. A Power of Attorney, for instance, can make decisions about your health care or draw state benefits or pension for you.

### A Will...

A Will is a legal document which names the person you would like to gather in your property when you die and distribute it according to your wishes or names who you would like to look after your children if you were to die when they were young. Not having a Will can cause lots of problems to arise and those who you have left behind are left with the burden of sorting everything out. Someone would have to go to court to ask permission to your belongings, which is a lengthy and expensive process and can cause painful family arguments. Preparing a Will ensures that your family will not have these troubles at Will be an upsetting time for them.

### An Advance Directive(A Living Will)...

An Advance Directive is a clear statement in advance to your doctors and relatives as to your wishes regarding healthcare and treatment should certain extreme conditions arise. For example, if you were in the very last stages of a terminal illness, not conscious, and contracted the flu, it would probably end your life. Some people would prefer to let matters take their course rather than receive antibiotic that would extend your life by a few days. By preparing an Advance Directive you're letting your wishes be known if this was to happen rather than your next of kin to make the decisions. People many disagree over what they think are best for you or a relative can be left feeling guilty. However preparing clear instructions on what you want to happen in this situation these problems can be avoided and you get what you want, not decisions made for you by other people.

# Do The Right Thing For The People Closest To You

## On your Incapacity...

Having a Power of Attorney is **GOOD**

- Your attorney can step in to help
- Your attorney is someone you know & trust
- All matters can be dealt with quickly
- There are no unnecessary costs
- Money, legal matters, care issues can all be addressed

Having no Power of Attorney is **BAD**

- Nobody can deal with your affairs
- Court action is needed to appoint a guardian
- These actions can take ages
- The guardian may be someone you would not want
- Local authority officials may make decisions not family
- A lot of money is spent unnecessarily (going to court to get a guardian appointed can cost £4000+...)

## In the Last Stages of Your Life...

Having an Advance Directive is **GOOD**

- Doctors & Family know your wishes
- You remove massive burden from family's shoulders
- No family arguments at a desperate time
- Doctors can prepare a care plan for you

Having no Advance Directive is **BAD**

- You pass the burden of medical decisions to others
- Can cause major family guilt & trauma
- No one knows your wishes
- You may be kept alive indefinitely in a vegetative state

## On your Death...

Having a Will is **GOOD**

- You say who gets your property
- You say who attends to affairs on your death
- It's quicker to wind things up
- It's cheaper to wind things up
- No family arguments
- Some people save tax

Having no Will is **Bad**

- The State says who gets your property
- You don't know who will wind things up
- It's dearer to wind things up
- It takes longer to wind things up
- Someone you don't want may inherit
- There is no chance of saving tax

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