



Duncan Lewis
Solicitors



We give people a voice

Wills and Probate

Our Services

Wills

Contesting a Will

Probate

Lasting Power of Attorney

Fees and Funding



Duncan Lewis Solicitors serves corporate entities and private individuals in over 25 practice areas from offices throughout London and across England and Wales. Established in 1998, the firm has over 550 lawyers delivering legal services in over 60 languages. We have been recognised by independent legal directories, The Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners, as a top tier firm and described as a “diligent and professional team that is prepared to go the extra mile for its clients”.

Our head office is based in London, on Fenchurch Street, and we are the largest provider of publicly funded (legal aid) legal services in the country.

Our Services

Our team offers a comprehensive and personal service to clients including:

Wills

- Writing or updating a will
- Mirror wills
- Statutory wills and trusts
- Contesting a will
- Elderly and vulnerable care
- Trusts

Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA)

- Advice on mental capacity
- Applications to the Court of Protection
- Office of the Public Guardian applications
- LPA relating to care and welfare
- LPA relating to finances and property

Probate

- Advising on taxation matters
- Disputes
- Executor duties
- Intestacy
- Obtaining a copy of a will
- Obtaining a grant of probate
- Protecting assets
- UK and international estate administration (probate/intestacy)

Wills

A will sets out your wishes on what should happen after you die. A will ensures that loved ones are provided for after your death and helps avoid disputes. It is important to make a will to guarantee that those you want to leave money or possessions to benefit in accordance to your wishes.

Contesting a Will

Wills sometimes cause friction among loved ones and sometimes it may be necessary to contest a will. This may be when someone feels that they have been left out of a will unfairly, have not received a fair proportion of the estate, or the will fails to take into account their entitlement under inheritance law. It may also be that the deceased made a will as a result of external pressure from another party.

Probate

Probate is the legal process of administering a will so that beneficiaries can receive their assets with any due taxes being paid before the estate is distributed. The five basic stages of the probate process include collecting assets and monies, valuing all assets, applying for probate, distributing the bequests in the will and drawing up accounts showing how the estate was distributed, which are then sent to the beneficiaries.

Probate without a Will (Intestacy)

If there is no will or a will cannot be found, the law will decide on the distribution of an estate unless a close family member applies to the court to allow them to act as the deceased's personal representative.

The personal representative can appoint a legal representative to help with the administration of the estate, our solicitors have extensive experience acting in such situations.

Lasting Power of Attorney

Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is a legal document made between a donor and the person(s) they appoint as their attorney(s) to manage their affairs.

An LPA can be made by anyone aged 18 or over who has the mental capacity to act for themselves. A donor can choose different attorneys for different LPAs.

There are two different types of LPA which can be made relating to:

- Management of finances and property
- Health and welfare of the donor

It is advisable to consider appointing a solicitor to help manage finances and advise on care decisions to alleviate the burden of making decisions from family members who may not know about access to care, financial or property law.

Fees and Funding

In all privately funded cases, our aim is to offer fair prices in exchange for the specialist services we provide. We offer competitive hourly rates and fixed fees packages to ensure we give your case the best possible chance of success.

At your first meeting with us, we will discuss with you how we calculate our charges. Where possible, this includes a detailed breakdown of the estimated costs.

Offering specialist legal services in the following areas:

- Actions Against Public Authorities
- Business Crime / Investigation
- Business Immigration
- Charity Law
- Child Care
- Civil Liberties and Human Rights
- Civil Litigation / Dispute Resolution
- Commercial and Corporate
- Commercial Litigation / Dispute Resolution
- Commercial Property Services
- Community Care
- Court of Protection
- Criminal Defence
- Debt and Insolvency
- Education Law
- Employment
- Family and Divorce
- Housing - Landlord and Tenants
- Immigration and Asylum
- International Disputes
- Islamic Law
- Medical (Clinical) Negligence
- Mental Health and Capacity
- Motoring Law
- Personal Injury
- Prison Law
- Public Law
- Regulatory Law
- Welfare Benefits
- Wills, Probate and Tax

Offices across England and Wales, including:

London

- 📍 Barnet
- 📍 Croydon
- 📍 Fenchurch Street
- 📍 Hackney
- 📍 Harrow
- 📍 Shepherd's Bush

Outside of London

- 📍 Birmingham
- 📍 Bradford
- 📍 Leeds
- 📍 Leicester
- 📍 Luton
- 📍 Manchester
- 📍 Swansea
- 📍 Tonbridge (Kent)



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