

Wills

Why choose Carter Bells LLP?

- Carter Bells LLP is a leading firm of Solicitors, based in Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey. It has had a presence in the town for over 150 years and brings together a sense of tradition with modern attitudes.
- Although there are alternatives such as Will writing services or DIY packs, a Solicitor has specific training in the law to enable him or her to give you the best possible advice. Carter Bells' team is made up of highly experienced people who will ensure that your Will reflects your exact wishes.
- Solicitors have liability insurance in place in case of a potential problem.
- Carter Bells LLP offers a friendly and flexible service, tailored to the needs of its Clients.

Who to contact at Carter Bells LLP?

Our specialist Private Client team:

Margaret Gale
Roger Crouch
Frances Hemus

Call them on 020-8939 4000



MAKING A WILL

Carter Bells

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Why make a Will?

The primary incentive for making a Will is to protect the interests of your family after your death.

If you don't make a Will the law of intestacy dictates who should inherit your Estate and this may not reflect your wishes. Under the law of intestacy, persons you would not wish to benefit may inherit all or part of your estate after your death.

You may also wish to appoint guardians for your children, remember a person who has helped you during your life or leave a legacy to a charity.

Making it simple

We make every effort to ensure that the process of making your Will is as straightforward as possible, avoiding legalese as much as we can.

If you are unable to attend our offices we can arrange to visit you at home.

Tax planning

Inheritance Tax is payable when a person dies if the value of his/her assets exceeds £312,000 (or in some cases up to double that amount). Certain exemptions are in place for 'lifetime gifts', on which we will be happy to advise you.

As property values rise, more and more people find themselves caught in the Inheritance Tax net. Careful planning when writing your Will can reduce, or even avoid, Inheritance Tax liability.

Power of Attorney

For elderly or vulnerable clients, a Power of Attorney ensures that financial affairs are dealt with effectively.

Who needs to make a Will?

Everyone should, but it's particularly important if you are married, in a registered civil partnership or co-habiting, if you are a parent or have other dependents.

What are the benefits of making a Will?

- To leave your estate to persons of your choosing
- To appoint guardians for your children
- To minimise your exposure to Inheritance Tax
- To avoid confusion and delay for your beneficiaries

How much does it cost?

A Simple Will, for an individual and based on your completion of a straightforward questionnaire, costs £240 + VAT. (Prices are subject to variation, please check with us for latest rates). We prepare your Will, ensuring it is valid in English Law and can hold it for safekeeping if required. A separate charge is made if you require a face-to-face consultation.

Favourable rates apply for couples making Simple Wills that mirror each other.

What if you have complex requirements?

If you need advice on Inheritance Tax, wish to set up a Trust or Power of Attorney or have other detailed requirements, one or more consultations will be necessary.

Outlines of charges for consultations and work on more complex Wills are available in a separate leaflet, which we will be pleased to provide on request.

Updating your Will

You may wish to alter your Will at any time, perhaps to reflect your changing circumstances. In some cases, such as marriage, civil partnership or divorce, your existing Will becomes invalid and needs to be re-written.

Administration of Estates

As well as writing your Will, we can manage the Probate process for you to ensure your Estate is administered efficiently and sensitively.