

Legal Services

Carers who look after elderly family members or those who are frail, disabled or have learning difficulties face an enormous challenge to obtain the services they need from Social Services and the NHS. Experts like those from The Carers Legal Centre can be of great assistance.

When faced with what seems like an impossible situation, sometimes you need an expert to guide you to a solution;

Lasting Powers of Attorney

Anyone who faces the possibility of losing mental capacity should make a Lasting Power of Attorney. An LPA appoints someone you trust to make decisions for you. Separate LPAs may be made for both financial and for welfare matters. The process of making an LPA is quite involved because it incorporates safeguards minimising the risk of financial abuse.

Deputyship

Where someone has already lost mental capacity, it is often advisable to obtain a court order so that a trusted person, called a "Deputy", can manage that person's finances and take decisions on their behalf. Papers are required to make an application to the Court of Protection for a Deputy.

Probate

Probate is the court's authority; given to a person or persons to administer a deceased person's estate. The document issued by the Probate Service is called a Grant of Representation.

Funding The Cost of Care

Caring for elderly and disabled people is expensive. There are several possible sources of funding. Sometimes you may be able to obtain all the care fully-funded by the NHS under Continuing Care. Sometimes funds will be available from your local authority, but on a means-tested basis. Some local authority services can be provided on a discretionary basis, and others are mandatory. It may be possible to obtain funds against the value of your house through an equity release. We will guide you through the continuing care maze but also help you investigate other means of obtaining funding. And perhaps help you keep the house.

Deprivation Of Liberty

Sometimes elderly people who have lost mental capacity are required to move into Residential Homes in their own best interests. But mistakes are sometimes made, and it is believed that many people are kept in residential homes against their

wishes and without sufficient justification. Since April 2009 Local Authorities have had a duty to ensure that Deprivations of Liberty are justified.

Management of Affairs

If you are elderly or disabled and struggling to cope, it is ideal to have a caring adult son or daughter to look after your affairs. For those who are not lucky enough to have a carer, legal advisors can provide a good alternative. Such support mechanisms can; administer the person's finances, ensuring that available state benefits are claimed, bills paid, and tax returns submitted; instruct outside agencies to assist, such as tradesmen, personal carers and social workers; do everything possible to enable an elderly person to remain at home, but if a move into residential care becomes inevitable; choose the best available residential home and manage the sale of the house.



01425 674844
07740 432159

www.carerslegalcentre.co.uk

Probate, Power of Attorney, and Elderly Finance Specialists

- Specialist Legal Service for Carers
- Many years experience
- Experts in Community Care (ie Social Services Law), NHS Law, Mental Capacity, Deprivation of Liberty Challenges and Probate.
- Legal Advice, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Deputyship, Protection, Funding Care, Management of Affairs
- Home/Hospital Visits
- Fixed/Up-front Pricing
- Your needs are at the heart of our service

The Carers' Legal Centre

109 Burley Road, Bransgore,
Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 8AY

01425 674 844

