

## Wills and Probate

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### **BUYING, SELLING OR REMORTGAGING IS THE PERFECT TIME TO MAKE OR UPDATE YOUR WILL!**

#### **If you do not make a will, or keep your will updated you risk:**

- Your wife or husband or civil partner getting *only a share* of your estate, or your partner getting *nothing* if you are not married.
- A large *Inheritance Tax Bill*
- Leaving your affairs in disarray that could lead to *distressing disputes* and *costly court action*

#### **If you make a will you can:**

- Choose *how* your loved ones are to benefit from your estate (e.g. at what age your children can inherit, by setting up a trust, by including substitute beneficiaries etc.)
- Give your loved ones *clear, up to date guidance* about your affairs
- Name *guardians* for your children
- Protect your share of your home from *local authority care home fees*
- Ensure that your estate is liable for as little *tax* as possible.

#### **Do NOT delay for any of the following reasons:**

- **"I don't have the time"** - your will can be completed at the same time as your purchase/sale/re-mortgage - with the minimum amount of disruption to your busy schedule.
- **"It's too expensive"** - The cost of a professionally drafted will with us - from £120 for a single will plus VAT or £160 plus VAT for Mirror wills for couples - is not expensive when you consider the value of your assets.
- **"It's too depressing"** - Although no-one likes to think about their death, it is far better for those that you leave behind to do so and make a will to help your loved ones through what is a very distressing time.
- **"I will make a will tomorrow/next week/month/year"**- Do not put off making your will only to regret it (or have your loved ones regret it).
- **"I don't need to make a will, as all my assets will go to my wife/husband/partner/children etc anyway"**- Intestacy (the rules that apply where there is no will) is not always as simple as you may think. If you do not make a Will your assets may end up going to relatives you would not want to inherit, or even to the government, while you will have no say in choices such as guardians for your children.

**ACT NOW! CONTACT THE WILLS AND PROBATE  
TEAM AT [Wills@GriffithsIngs.com](mailto:Wills@GriffithsIngs.com)  
OR CALL US ON 01446 725198**

