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# Probate, Trusts & Wills

[www.mayowynnebaxter.co.uk](http://www.mayowynnebaxter.co.uk)

Mayo Wynne Baxter is the trading name of Mayo Wynne Baxter LLP which is a limited liability partnership. We use the word partner to refer to a member of the LLP or an employee or consultant with equivalent standing and qualification.

Mayo Wynne Baxter is regulated by The Solicitors Regulation Authority





## How we can help

Our Private Client Team prides itself on the caring and confidential service it provides.

As a modern, highly professional firm of solicitors we aim to give a first-class service in an extensive range of areas which is supported by our team of experienced and qualified staff.

## Probate

Our probate lawyers are highly experienced and approach their work in a sensitive and professional manner. Estates above and below the Inheritance Tax threshold are regularly dealt with and, where appropriate and subject to current legislation, it may be possible even after a death to lessen an estate's exposure to Inheritance Tax.

## Trusts

Trusts sound daunting but they need not be. A trust is just a vehicle which carries something of value. The trick of the trust is in the way it delivers that value; this may be money or property such as a house, shares, etc. A well designed trust will protect the assets on their journey, possibly making them more

tax efficient. This will give the trustees (the people in charge of the trust) the flexibility to use the assets to the best advantage of the people the trust is designed to benefit.

Whilst the principle of a trust is simple, the law surrounding trusts is complex and requires expertise. At Mayo Wynne Baxter, our experienced trust lawyers design simple and effective trusts to deal with all sorts of situations. Tax planning is an obvious example, and others include benefiting children and protecting assets until someone reaches a certain age.

## Wills

Everyone should make a Will. In the absence of this simple document the relatives and loved ones of a person who dies can face all kinds of difficulties and heartache that just are not necessary.

Dying without a Will means the deceased is intestate. Put simply, this means that all of the deceased's assets will be divided up in a completely arbitrary way by a set of rules laid down in a statute book. For the sake of practicality and certainty these rules necessarily ignore the nuances of the deceased's life - who they loved or loathed, who they would want to benefit or not.

Making a Will is therefore one of the most thoughtful acts anyone can do.

Every Will we draft at Mayo Wynne Baxter reflects the circumstances and wishes of our clients. Some Wills may contain trusts and Inheritance Tax planning, some will contain letters of wishes giving small mementoes to family and friends. All will be the result of careful thought from a lawyer who has trained for years to be able to draft a Will that does what it should.

We are often asked our opinion about so called 'Will kits' and cut rate Will drafting services advertised in the paper. If you try to draft your own Will or Trust you might succeed or you might not. Firstly, you need to make sure your Will is properly set out and signed so that it is valid (and the rules are strict). Secondly, you need to be certain that your assets go to the people you intend them to go to (not always an easy job) and in the most tax efficient way. Thirdly, you need to understand what might be expected of you by your loved ones if you want to avoid the risk of a claim being made against your estate.

But why take the chance? At a very reasonable cost we will do it for you and, not only will you get a great service, you will get certainty; the certainty that after your death no mistake or oversight will undo everything you planned.

## Contact us

For more information contact the Private Client Team using the contact details overleaf, or visit our website: [www.mayowynnebaxter.co.uk](http://www.mayowynnebaxter.co.uk)