Dudley Group NHS Charity

Making every day better

WILL WEEK

The best time to write your Will is now!

Giving you peace of mind and helping a good cause

Week one | 10-14 November

WJC WALL JAMES CHAPPELL SOLICITORS

Charity No: 1056979

WALL JAMES CHAPPELL SOLICITORS

About the Campaign

"Wall James Chappell are proud to be involved in the campaign. It is an exciting oppurtunity to help support and make a difference to the Dudley Group NHS Charity."

Wall James Chappell Solicitors

Over the years, theWill campaignhas helped raiseover £50,000. This generosity has enabled our charity to improve the experience of our patients and support the wellbeing of our NHS colleagues.

Wall James Chappell Solicitors support DGNHS Charity by offering their time, **free of charge**, to prepare a straightforward Will for our patients, staff and supporters in exchange for a donation.

The suggested minimum donation is £80 if you are a single person or £150 if you and your partner make Wills at the same time. 100% of your donation will go to supporting our charity. If your Will is not straightforward, for example if you need Inheritance Tax advice or if you need to set up Trusts, Wall James Chappell Solicitors will explain and agree any charges with you in advance.

www.wjclaw.co.uk

100% of your donation will come to the Dudley Group NHS Charity

Why make a Will now?

Whynot?Wall JamesChappellSolicitors givetheirtime freeof chargeand youwill receive exactly the sameservicethatyou wouldreceive ifyou werepaying themto prepare your Will directly.

Dying without leaving a Will leaves the law in control of your property and possessions. This may mean that your loved ones are left with nothing. You have no control over when the inevitable happens but you can maintain control of what happens when it does.

Frequently Asked Questions

01. Why should I make a Will?

It's the only way to be certain that your money, property and possessions will go to the people and organisations you care about.

Everyone should have a Will but it is particularly important if:

- you have a partner who you are not married to – the law says that they are entitled to nothing if you don't have a Will that leaves something to them
- you are separated – your spouse may benefit from your property, money or belongings if you don't have a Will to exclude them
- you want to leave gifts to charity or to friends – the law won't allow this if you don't have a Will

02. When do I need to make a Will?

If you don't have a Will, the simple answer is now. You are never too young or too old to make a Will and have the peace of mind that having a Will gives to you and your loved ones.

03. What is a straightforward Will and is it right for me?

A straightforward Will is ideal for you if you are leaving your property and possessions to family members, friends or if you plan to leave gifts to charity. If you have children who are under 18, it also includes appointing guardians for them. A straightforward Will would not include Inheritance Tax planning or setting up Trusts for anyone other than children under the age of 18.

04. If I don't have a Will does everything go to my next of kin?

This is a common misconception. Sometimes this will happen but not always. If you don't have a Will, the law dictates who gets what. For example, if you are not married to your partner regardless of how long you have lived together, your partner would receive nothing. If you have no living relatives, everything you own goes to the Government.

05. What will it cost me?

You will be given an envelope in which to place your donation to DGNHS Charity. The suggested minimum donation is £80 if you are a single person or £150 if you are a couple making a Will at the same time. If your Will is not straightforward, for example if you need Inheritance Tax advice the cost of doing this will be discussed with you in advance.

Making your Will

Everyone needs a Will. It isthe only way of making sure thatyour property and possessions go to the people you care aboutwhen you are no longer here. Your Willcan spare additional distress to your family and friends and can stop legal wrangling following your death.

Sometimes people assume that everything they own will automatically pass to their next of kin. The fact is that without a Will, the Government decides who should have everything you own (legally known as your Estate) and it can even become the property of the Government. This could mean that your living relatives and friends receive nothing.

Planning for the future is a very personal process for you and for your family. It involves looking closely at the things you believe in, how you feel abou t your family's inheritance and how you want to be remembered by society.

How does this work?

When youcontactWallJamesChappellSolicitors,ameetingwillbearrangedwithan expert Solicitor.

Cash gifts

You can decide to leave a set amount of cash to a person, an organisation or charity.

Specific items

If you have specific things you want to leave such as items of jewellery then you will need to be as descriptive as you can about what that item looks like. If you are not descriptive enough about the item then it may be that the item cannot be identified. You can leave specific items to someone or to charity.

Everything else: The Residue

Afteryou havedecided onany specific cash gifts and specific items, and when any liabilities are paid, everything else that is left is called ‘the residue’. You will need to decide who receives this and if more than one person, how it is to be divided. You can leave the residue to one person, several people or to charity if you wish.

Who makes sure my wishes are followed?

When you make yourWill, youwillneed to choose people to deal with your Will following your death. These people are known as Executors. You can appoint between one and four Executors but it is always recommended that you have at least two. You can appoint your solicitor as your Executor. They will charge for their services and the charges would be payable from any money or property you leave in your Will.

Leaving a Legacy

When you havethought about yourlovedones inyourWill, youmay wish to donate to a charity.This guide explainshowyou canleavea bequest or legacy to the Dudley Group NHS Charity.

Why we need your legacy

Money donated to the Dudley Group NHS Charity adds extra value to the already excellent care offered by the NHS. It enables us to offer the best experience possible to our patients and support the well-being of our NHS colleagues.

A legacy is a gift for the future and can make an enormous difference to our charity. We will ensure your legacy is donated in accordance with your wishes.

You can specify a particular area to donate to or place it in our general fund which is governed by a charity committee. We can make sure your legacy goes to a deserving department or ward in accordance with your wishes.

Please Note: We are not able to advise further on legal matters relating to the leaving of a legacy as such other advice should come from an independent solicitor or other professional adviser.

There are a number of ways you can leave a legacy to charity

01. Specific Cash Gifts

You can leave a fixed amount of money to charity. It is simple and straightforward. If you would like to leave a cash gift to help our work, please ask your Legal Advisor at Waldrons to include it in your Will.

02. Specific Legacy

A specific legacy enables you to leave something of value to the Dudley Group NHS Charity, which can be used by the charity appropriately. These can be items of jewellery, property, shares or furniture. It must be clearly identified in your Will.

03. Residuary Legacy

A residuary legacy is when you leave the balance of your estate or part of it, to the Dudley Group NHS Charity after everything else is taken care of e.g. debts, liabilities and tax.

What is a Lasting Power of Attorney?

Itisa legal document thatallows aperson ofyour choice tomake decisionson yourbehalf. When making a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA)youare knownas theDonor becauseyouare donating the ability to make decisions to someone else.

The person you are donating that ability to is known as your Attorney. You can have more than one Attorney.

Please note that this service is additional to the Will Fortnight campaign. Should you wish to put an LPA in place your solicitor will explain the costs to you in advance.

Power of Attorney - frequently asked questions

01. Why do I need a Lasting Power of Attorney?

If there comes a time when the law says that you do not have mental capacity, perhaps because of a medical condition such as Alzheimer's, brain injury or a stroke, or perhaps you are unable to get around physically but you have mental capacity, an LPA will allow the people you have chosen to make decisions for you.

02. What is mental capacity?

'Mental capacity' is the ability to make decisions for yourself. A person may not have mental capacity if they have an illness or disability such as a mental health condition or dementia.

03. IhavebeendiagnosedwithDementia. IsittoolatetomakeanLPA?

This will depend on how advanced your condition is and in some cases whether a doctor says that you still have mental capacity. If a doctor says that you do not have mental capacity then there remains an option for someone to apply for a Deputyship Order.

04. What decisions does a Lasting Power of Attorney cover?

There are two types of LPA which deal with different decisions.

A Property & Financial Affairs LPA will allow your Attorney(s) to make decisions about your property and finances such as dealing with the bank, buying things that you need using your own money, investing money for you and buying or selling property. A Property & Financial Affairs LPA can be used as soon as it is registered.

A Health and Welfare LPA deals with your medical treatment, where you should live and can include decisions about life sustaining care. It can only be used if you lose mental capacity.

05. When should I make a Lasting Power of Attorney?

Now! If you are ever in a position where someone needs to make decisions for you, without an LPA that person would have to apply to the courts for a Deputyship Order which is more expensive, takes several months and would result in your assets being frozen until the Deputyship Order is approved or rejected.

Making your appointment

November 2025

Please contact WJC's on **01384371622** to arrangea meeting with one of WallJamesChappell Solicitors'sspecialist solicitors during November. Please ensure you mention DGNHS Charity Will Week when you call.

www.wjclaw.co.uk

Dudley Group NHS Charity

Making every day better

Having your Will produced during the campaign will help to improve the experience of our patients and support the wellbeing of our NHS colleagues.

01384 244349

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www.facebook.com/DudleyGroupNHSCharity

www.dgnhscharity.org

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