



LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY

A power of attorney is a legal document that allows a person to appoint someone else as their “attorney” giving them the authority to make decisions on their behalf.

Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPAs) enable the attorney to continue to make those decisions even if the person who appointed them becomes mentally incapable.

There are 2 forms of LPA:-

- **Property and Affairs** – enables your attorney to deal with your property and finances on your behalf. With this type of LPA you can agree that your Attorneys can use it straight away even though you are still mentally capable.
- **Personal Welfare** – enables your attorney to make welfare and health care decisions on your behalf if you are unable to make such decisions for yourself. With this type of LPA it can only be used once you become mentally incapable.

The LPA will need to be signed by you whilst you are capable of understanding the document. It is therefore worthwhile considering whether this should be put into place sooner rather than leaving it until it is possibly too late!

COURT OF PROTECTION

If, say, a friend or relative has not made an LPA for Property but Affairs and has lost mental capacity then an application must be made to the Court of Protection for their financial affairs to be managed by a Deputy (formerly called a Receiver). Thursfields can help and assist with this process to make this as simple and easy as possible.

At Thursfields we are more than happy to assist you with:-

- Advice on and preparation of LPAs
- Registration of LPAs with the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG)
- Registration and advice concerning Enduring Powers of Attorney (which could only be made up to the 30th of September 2007)
- Advice and applications to the Court of Protection for the appointment of a Deputy
- Advice and applications to the Court of Protection in your role as Deputy

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