

Lasting Power of Attorney

A Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is a legal document that lets you choose trusted people ('Attorneys') to make decisions on your behalf, decisions about your health and welfare, as well as your finances and property.

You might wish to consider making a Lasting Power of Attorney if you have been diagnosed or think you might develop a condition which might prevent you from making decisions in the future.

To instigate a Lasting Power of Attorney you must still have the mental capacity to do so, once someone has lost this capacity, it's no longer possible to make a power of attorney. If you need to make decisions for someone who has lost capacity please see the Fact Sheet Two – 'Making Decisions on Behalf of Someone Else'

There are two types of Lasting Power of Attorney:

Property and financial affairs LPA

You choose people you trust to make decisions on your behalf about money and financial matters, including:

- opening, closing and using your bank or building society accounts
- claiming, receiving and using your benefits, pensions and allowances
- paying household and other bills
- buying and selling your house and other property

Health and welfare LPA

You choose people you trust to make decisions on your behalf about things such as:

- giving or refusing consent to particular types of health care, including medical treatment
- you staying in your own home and getting help and support from social services
- whether you move into residential care and finding a good care home
- day-to-day matters such as your diet, dress or daily routine

You may wish to either have one type of LPA or both (Property and finance and health and welfare) and you can choose to have more than one or more people to act as 'Attorneys'.

For free and impartial advice contact the Government backed Money Advice Service. Website: www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/en/articles/setting-up-a-power-of-attorney, or telephone: **0333 321 3434**.

You can download the forms to create, register, object or disclaim a lasting power of attorney on line by visiting: www.lastingpowerofattorney.service.gov.uk/home



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