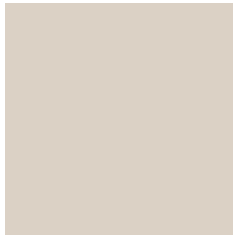


Ten Good Reasons why you should choose Veale Wasbrough Vizards to prepare your Will



“Veale Wasbrough Vizards’ superb team has a real emphasis on client care”

Legal 500, 2010

The majority of the population have not made a Will. If you have not yet made a Will, you have missed your opportunity, if the worst should happen, to leave your Estate to the people who you want to inherit.

You have also given up any chance to incorporate inheritance tax saving devices, make any charity gifts or specific legacies and reduce the risk of someone bringing a claim against your Estate. For the people who decide to make a Will, many purchase a homemade Will package and effectively write their Will themselves or fail to consult a professionally qualified Will draftsman.

There are many risks attached to doing this so we have set out our **Top Ten Reasons** for choosing professionally qualified lawyers to prepare your Will.



1 Peace of mind that your Will is valid

Too often we see homemade Wills, which the Probate Registry rejects as invalid. Common problems include the Will not having been executed properly in accordance with strict legal requirements. Our highly qualified lawyers many of whom are members of the Society for Trust and Estate Practitioners, will ensure that your Will is completed correctly. Part of this service includes the free provision of two witnesses; a necessary requirement to ensure that your Will is valid.

2 Inheritance Tax Savings

Recent changes in the law have increased the inheritance tax-free allowance for married couples. However, cohabiting couples obtain no tax saving advantages at all from each other's Estates unless they make special provision for this in their Wills, such as setting up a Trust Fund. If you have business assets, these also attract tax savings. Our specialist advisers will assess your individual Estate and tailor your Will to enable you to maximize your tax savings.



3 Guardianship Provisions

If you have children under the age of eighteen you should state in your Will who will become their testamentary guardians in the event that you die before they reach the age of eighteen. If you do not make such a provision in your Will, an application to Court will be required in order to decide who should raise your children and you will have no opportunity to have a say in this most important of decisions.

4 Avoiding disputes

The law is out of step with modern living. Disputes often arise from Estates where there are second marriages or complex family structures. It is therefore important if you intend to leave certain family members out of your Will to receive specialist advice from a contentious probate lawyer. Disputes cost your beneficiaries huge amounts in time and expense, not to mention being extremely distressing for everyone involved.

We have a separate specialist Contentious Probate Team, who can offer practical and expert advice to minimise the risk of disputes.



5 Professional Executors

Executors are the people you choose in your Will to deal with your Estate. Their duties include settling all liabilities including tax, paying legacies, posting statutory notices and distributing your Estate. It is frequently not appropriate to burden your family members with the task of being your Executor as they are often too emotionally distressed to take on this role. Family members generally appoint solicitors to act for them for the above reasons. As a result, we offer an additional service, The Veale Wasbrough Executor & Trustee Company, who are professional solicitors who can be appointed as your Executors and Trustees. This service has proved a very popular and low cost choice with our clients for many years now.

6 Reviews

Many people do not realize that their Will automatically becomes invalid if they marry after making it. There are other trigger events that should cause you to review your Will such as, having children, buying a house, divorcing or if your assets have changed substantially.

We offer a free five yearly review to ensure that your Will stays up to date with the changes which inevitably tend to occur throughout life.

7 Updating your Will

In line with our regular review process, our clients often decide to make small updates to their Wills. We can advise you about making a Codicil to your existing Will in such cases; which is an amending and updating document. This sits alongside your Will and saves you the effort and expense of drawing up a brand new Will.

8 Secure Storage

It is important that your original Will can be located easily when needed. A copy will not suffice for the Probate Registry. We offer free safe storage of original Wills in our strong room.



9 Tailored to your needs

We work very hard to ensure that we offer a personal service, which is appropriate for your needs. We are happy to visit you at home or at residential care accommodation or to see you at our offices to talk through your Will requirements with you. We also offer a postal/email Wills Service for our clients who are too busy to get into the office.

10 Holistic Service

It is very important to review your Will in conjunction with the rest of your tax and financial planning. This will ensure that you are maximizing financial protection for your family both now and in the future. Our Private Client team offer specialist advice to complement our Will Service including Lasting Powers of Attorney, Trust Management and Probate Administration.

How can I find out more?

If you are interested in making or updating a Will or require more details about our Will service, we will be happy to discuss your personal requirements with you and answer any questions you have.

Please contact Michelle Rose, Partner on 0117 314 5246 or at mrose@vww.co.uk in our Bristol Office or Christine Green, Partner on 0207 665 0819 or at cgreen@vww.co.uk in our London Office.

‘...the level of service was exceptional’

Private Client



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