



**Supporting You With
Tax, Trust & Estates**



Whether you've built wealth in business, internationally, or throughout life, protecting it in order to pass it on is a natural concern.

The legal landscape is forever changing, and leaves us facing increasing complexity. The right advice has never been so important.

We pride ourselves on being able to respond to each client's individual story, to listen, to anticipate, and to adjust quickly to an ever-changing environment.

We provide an *expert hand with a human touch*, to help make the complex simple.

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Supportive, knowledgeable, and extremely helpful. The team went the extra mile to make sure I understood everything, and was kept up to date and happy with how things were proceeding.

Clair

5* Trustpilot review



Planning for Your Estate

Managing wealth is all about safeguarding your assets, your estate and your lifestyle into later life, so that it can be passed on according to your wishes.

Our estate planning for individuals and families, both in the UK and abroad, will help you mitigate tax, protect assets and plan for the future.

Wills and lifetime trusts enable efficient tax planning for businesses and protection for children or vulnerable beneficiaries.

We can also offer expert advice on other options, such as setting up foundations, insurance wrappers, funds and companies in local and offshore jurisdictions.

Understanding Tax

Managing tax affairs can be an intricate and precarious business.

Our expert team advises individuals, businesses and entrepreneurs on all aspects of UK taxation, ensuring that the complex is made simple for clients from all walks of life.

Our specialist Tax Planning teams can advise on:

- Preparing inheritance tax (IHT) efficient Wills
- IHT exemptions and reliefs
- Creating trusts for tax purposes or to protect family members
- Post-death tax planning including deeds of variation
- Tax exemptions and reliefs in disposing of capital assets, including tax on the sale of businesses
- Income tax planning for owner-managed businesses, rural estates and farms.



International Tax Planning

The international lifestyle is one of life's great opportunities but holds many challenges for individuals. The rules governing cross-border taxation are some of the most complicated in the world – it's essential to seek expert guidance.

Our clients include individuals with business and family connections in more than one country who may have other advisers, fiduciaries, other institutions or family offices to help them oversee global wealth structures.

How we can help

- Cross-border tax planning, including the interaction of UK and non-UK taxes
- Relocation of individuals and families to and from the UK
- Tax-efficient structuring of investment in UK assets
- Advice on international tax treaties and conventions

- Assessing UK domicile and tax residency of individuals, trusts, foundations and private companies
- Complex planning and advice on existing and proposed non-UK structures, including trusts, foundations, companies and non-UK legal entities
- Tax compliance and returns.

Our team will work in collaboration with you and any team already supporting you, to ensure that you not only get the best advice but that it fits in with your existing arrangements.

We also offer support on all aspects of UK immigration, nationality and expatriation, and are committed to supporting clients' international mobility, growth and entrepreneurship.

Immigration Services

UK immigration rules and procedures are constantly changing and have become increasingly complex. Our immigration specialists can advise you on how you can live and work in the UK, and guide you through the UK visa and citizenship application process.

How we can help

We can assist you with all types of immigration and eligibility for British citizenship, including:

- Investor visas
- Entrepreneur visas (extensions and settlement)
- Exceptional talent visas
- Innovator and start-up visas
- Study visas
- Temporary employment-based visas
- EEA family permits
- EU settlement scheme
- Ancestry visas

- Long residence visas
- Spouse and family-based visas
- Domestic worker visas
- Standard visitor visas
- Applications for discretionary leave
- Human rights-based applications
- Indefinite leave to remain/settlement/permanent residence applications
- Paths to British citizenship
- Administrative reviews, appeals and judicial reviews.

We also offer business immigration advice and assistance. Whether your business is already based in the UK and is seeking to hire or transfer skilled workers from overseas, or you're relocating or expanding your business, to the UK, we can advise and support you through the process.



UK Tax Compliance and Investigations

Whilst complying with your UK obligations has become more difficult, we have the expertise to simplify.

Whether you were born and live in the UK, live in the UK and have non-UK assets or are domiciled abroad but are connected to the UK through residence or assets, we can help you manage your tax affairs and make sure you comply with your UK tax obligations.

Much of what we do deals with seemingly straightforward obligations; you might be surprised to hear that we prepare annual accounts, management accounts, VAT returns and payroll.

We also deal with all aspects of trust administration, accounting and taxation compliance. We do this so you don't have to.

In a world of changing tax legislation, it's easy to get things wrong. The consequences of doing so are increasingly severe. Our role is to manage the risk, but where the worst happens or perhaps you're already under challenge, we have the skills and experience to advise and help you resolve your tax issues.

Regardless of the complexity of the issue you're facing, we have the *expert hand and the human touch* to guide you through.

“

I couldn't have asked for a better service. Irwin Mitchell was there for me every step of the way, and they were never too busy to take my calls.

Charles
5* Trustpilot review



Trust Services

Most people want their Will to be simple and straightforward. But we rarely know, at the time a Will is made, when it'll take effect and what the circumstances of the intended beneficiaries will be at that time.

Here are some things to consider, in case the circumstances of one of your intended beneficiaries changes.

Consider what might happen should one of your beneficiaries:

- Pass away, leaving young children or young adults to inherit in their place

- Becomes ill or some other event impacts their ability to deal with their inheritance
- Becomes at risk of claims from an estranged spouse, from creditors of a business in difficulties, or from personal creditors
- Want to use their inheritance to benefit other members of their family in a tax-efficient way
- Have assets of their own which already gives them IHT issues
- Suffers a reduction in benefits they receive from other sources as a result of their inheritance
- Be financially vulnerable in some other way.

In any of these cases it may be better for your chosen beneficiaries to inherit within a 'flexible trust'.

Property or other assets are held by trustees (usually at least one individual or a company) for beneficiaries.

The trust doesn't have to continue to run if it has satisfied its purpose, or is no longer required.

How we can help

We're particularly known for our complex trust expertise on setting up trusts and ensuring they are administered correctly. We have a specialised service to set up and run funds received from pension death benefits.

This means we're one of the best prepared teams in the country when it comes to dealing with trusts.

We have trust corporations to act as trustee and executor on behalf of our clients. We advise trustees, prepare accounts and HMRC paperwork and have a separate specialist team to deal with disputes arising in the trust.

Making a Will

By making a Will you can ensure that:

- Your loved ones receive everything you intend to leave them
- Particular items will go to those people you've named
- Your inheritance tax (IHT) bill is as small as possible
- Your children inherit from you even if your surviving spouse re-marries
- Those with physical or mental incapacity will be provided for, without affecting their benefits or putting them at risk of exploitation
- A guardian can be appointed to care for your children if they are orphaned
- You can make charitable gifts to organisations of your choice.



I don't think Irwin Mitchell could have improved in any way how they looked after me; they really are on top of their game.

John
Our client

Wills for cohabiting couples

There is no such thing as a 'Common Law Spouse'. While registered same sex civil partners now have the same rights as married couples, unmarried or unregistered couples who live together need a Will if they wish to leave assets to each other.

If you don't have a Will your partner will receive nothing from any assets you hold in your sole name, and may even be forced to leave the property you occupied together. There's also no automatic right to claim part of a cohabiting partner's pension.

A surviving partner could make a claim on the estate, if financially dependent and cohabiting for over two years, but without a Will this would mean complicated and lengthy legal proceedings.

If a cohabiting couple have children, the father may not automatically have parental responsibility. Because of this, he may not automatically have guardianship in the event of the mother's death.

Wills for married couples and civil partners

If you don't have a Will, your spouse or civil partner doesn't automatically inherit everything from you, especially if you have children and an estate worth more than £250,000.

If your combined estates are above the IHT threshold, tax planning measures in your Wills could ensure that your beneficiaries receive more and pay less tax.

An existing Will is normally revoked by marriage or registered civil partnership and new Wills should be made.

Keeping Your Will Updated

There are some occasions where you should review your Will in case your circumstances have changed.

You should review your Will on any of the following events:

- You enter into marriage, civil partnership or cohabitation
- The birth of a child into the family
- The death of your spouse, partner or other family member
- A divorce or separation in the family
- Receiving a significant inheritance or a personal injury award
- Moving abroad, moving house, changing jobs or considering a sale of your business
- Every few years.

How we can help

Will drafting is a highly specialised area of law, and there are often hidden complexities which only come to light on thorough investigation.

Our highly regarded team of experts make the process as simple as possible and communicate in plain English, not legal jargon. We'll give you clear information about the costs up front so that you know exactly how much you'll pay.

You can also expect from us:

- Flexibility to meet at any of our offices or your home if you prefer, or sending you clear checklists to complete and return to us
- Safe storage of your Will and other important deeds and documents
- Providing you with, or arranging advice on other legal, tax and financial matters.



Power of Attorney

A Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is a legal document that allows you to plan what should happen to you, and who would make decisions for you if old age, illness or injury leave you unable to deal with your own affairs.

This enables you to:

- Choose a person who you trust to look after your financial affairs and welfare in the future
- Specify your wishes and what powers your attorneys should have
- Choose who is told about your LPA, allowing people to raise concerns now, should they wish to
- Reduce the likelihood of conflicts in the future by ensuring that your signature and the signatures of your attorneys are witnessed
- Give instructions on what should happen to your money and your property.

Without an LPA, your family and friends may need to apply to the Court of Protection for a deputyship order, which can be costly and time-consuming.

Our friendly and approachable team is hugely experienced in this area. We'll offer support and clear advice, advising you on what action to take to ensure your wishes are followed and your best interests are looked after.



Very sympathetic and caring always accommodating my needs and explained everything in a clear and concise manner.

Jean
Our client

Probate and Estate Administration

Dealing with probate can be a daunting task. To make it easier, you can call on our probate and estate administration experts dedicated to the closing of estates. We have a wealth of experience in handling all aspects of estates from simple administration to cross-border issues, tax complications or helping to trace missing beneficiaries.

Our Probate Administration team also advise on post-death planning options, to help mitigate tax for future generations and to protect your assets.

No two estates are the same, so we tailor our service to ensure our clients receive the level of service and support they require throughout.

If you've been named as an executor in a Will, you'll probably need to apply for a 'Grant of Probate' before you can deal with the estate.

If there's no Will, or the person named as executor can't or won't act, an

administrator will need to apply for 'letters of administration'.

If a dispute arises amongst the beneficiaries of an estate, our team will call on the expertise of our specialist Disputes team, which is ranked among the highest in the country. We work collaboratively with trustees, personal representatives, fiduciaries and creditors to resolve contentious matters, no matter how complex.

How we can help

Letting us wind up the estate can help reduce stress at a difficult time. You can feel confident and reassured that everything is being handled with utmost care and with the requisite legal and tax expertise.

We are experts in complex estates where the deceased:

Owned a business

Owned any assets abroad

Has left anything to a child under 18

Has left a Will which is not clear.



Elderly and Vulnerable

Loss of mental capacity can be a distressing prospect. It's vital to plan well in advance and receive proper advice on how to handle this.

Our Elderly & Vulnerable team can support you by creating tailored Lasting Powers of Attorney, advising on care fee funding options, estate structuring, tax planning, assisting with applications to the Court of Protection (COP), and health and medical treatment guidance. We'll offer friendly support and clear advice, advising you on what action to take to ensure your wishes are followed and your best interests are looked after.

If you have any concerns about someone else and the actions being taken by their attorney or deputy, or perhaps there's no-one in place to assist them, we can help you take appropriate action to protect that vulnerable person.

We provide a wide range of services specifically tailored for those suffering from dementia or Alzheimer's, cerebral palsy and those who've suffered life changing injuries such as brain or spinal cord injuries as a result of an accident. We support our clients by helping them make the right decisions and to protect their interests in a holistic and caring way that meets individual needs.

How we can help

- Advising on all aspects of LPAs for both Property and Finance, and Health and Welfare
- Registration of Enduring Powers of Attorney with the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) and preparation of General Powers of Attorney for general and specific authority
- Advising and supporting lay attorneys or deputies on their role and duties and/or specific problems they may encounter in their role
- Deputyship applications to the COP for professional or lay deputies to be appointed
- Investigations into misappropriated funds by an attorney, deputy or family member
- Statutory Wills, gifting or other applications for specific authority to the COP
- Applications to the COP for trustees to be appointed in place of an incapacitated party
- Advising on tax planning in the COP
- Advising on international incapacity
- Advising on moving into care and care funding
- Administering financial affairs on behalf of incapacitated clients under the authority of Powers of Attorney and court appointed deputyships.

Charitable Giving and Philanthropy

If you're looking to make charitable gifts or legacy donations, we can help to ensure that these reflect your personal and professional values.

Our team is hugely experienced in advising charities and acting as trustees. We can help set up or rearrange charitable trusts on your behalf.

Some of our services include:

- Setting up charities to receive donations
- Advising on the taxation issues or reliefs that may arise from making charitable gifts
- Creating legacies for continued donations.





Why Choose Us?

Clients want and need to be in control of their personal and financial destinies, but both can be complicated matters.

Through our 100-year history rooted in tax, trusts and estates expertise we have grafted a modern approach. We deploy the team skills of lawyers, accountants, former tax inspectors, chartered tax advisors and trust and probate managers to guarantee a complete client service under one roof.

We're confident we can meet all your needs, because we have taken the time to invest in building a team of specialists who are leaders in their field. They'll offer not only legal expertise and technical excellence but a responsive service and friendly guidance.

“

I just wish I had found them earlier. They have a very impressive knowledge of the law, are extremely well organised, proactive, with a strategic approach. Irwin Mitchell are really in your corner.

David
Our client

What Else Can We Help You With?

Whether it's business or personal we understand that everyone's situation is different.

If you need legal advice or support with financial planning, we're here to offer *an expert hand with a human touch*, so you're able to focus on what really matters.

We're here to help you with:

- Buying or selling a house
- Family and relationships services
- Financial planning and wealth management*
- International and cross-border matters
- Personal injury services
- Resolving disputes
- Support with your business and employment issues
- Social, education and healthcare provisions
- Welfare and healthcare matters
- Wills, Trusts and probate services.

* Financial planning and wealth management services are provided by IM Asset Management Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Its Financial Services Register Firm Reference Number is 402770.



Contact us:

☎ 0370 1500 100

💻 irwinmitchell.com

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 0370 1500 100

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