



**Last year the Treasury gained £53million from people who did not make a Will.**

Although many people put off making a will it is an important document that can be arranged relatively quickly and once completed often provides peace of mind.

#### **Do I need a Will?**

Regardless of your wealth, age, health or marital status it is important to have a will.

If you do not have a will:

- The law will decide who receives your possessions / assets.
- The law will decide who has the right to administer your estate after you die.
- It may cause stress and disagreements between family members.
- If you are married or in a civil partnership, depending on the size of your estate, your husband, wife or civil partner may not receive your entire estate.
- If you have a partner (unmarried or not within a civil partnership) your partner will not inherit your possessions / assets. This may include the property that you live in together.
- Who will be appointed to look after your children?
- Your estate may pay more inheritance tax than is necessary. The current inheritance tax rate is 40%.

**'Do not wait. The time will never be just right'.**

#### **Should I make a new Will or change an old Will?**

It may be necessary for you to make a Will or change an old Will due to a change in your circumstances or the current law.

Are you:

- married
- divorced
- living with someone you are not married to or within a civil partnership with
- a parent
- a property owner or planning to purchase a property or large asset
- concerned about what will happen after you pass away
- concerned about what your current will says
- Worried your will might not be valid

#### **Why should I make a will with YVA Solicitors?**

We feel that deciding who receives your assets after you pass away is something that should be decided by you. This includes everything from the watch on your wrist, to the money in your bank or the property you live in.

We also feel that it is important to discuss and receive independent advice about your Will to ensure your possessions go to the people you want them to.

Each Will we make is tailor-made to the person taking into consideration your personal and financial circumstances, family commitments and the possibility of tax.

We aim to provide a personal service beginning with advising on what should be included in your Will to storing the will in our safe at no additional fee.

By making a will with YVA Solicitors, you can ensure that your will is being drafted by a qualified solicitor, who is insured and has experience within the area.

#### **Other considerations?**

- Inheritance Tax planning
- Making Lifetime gifts
- Trusts
- Powers of attorney
- Court of Protection applications.
- Information regarding assets outside of the UK

#### **What next?**

Please contact a member of our Wills and Probate Department if you would like to make an appointment or simply obtain advice as to whether you should make a will.

**Making a will does not mean you are going to die, it means you will look after the people who mean the most to you!**