



Brachers is a leading regional law firm employing over 160 staff and offering a breadth and depth of expertise few firms in the South East can compete with.

Our Private Client team of specialist lawyers includes an accountant and draws on a variety of skills and experience to provide quality advice and service in a practical and friendly manner. Our team includes members of the Society for Trust and Estate Practitioners and Solicitors for the Elderly.

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# Brachers

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Members of the Society for Trust and Estate Practitioners  
Member of Solicitors for the Elderly



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# Private Client

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The Private Client team can provide advice on a range of issues which will affect you and your family at some point in your lives. The team can assist with tax planning and organising your estate for the next generation.

This may be through lifetime giving, creation of trusts or by making a will which is prepared specifically for your particular circumstances. We also assist and manage the financial lives of some of our elderly or disabled clients. We can advise and prepare powers of attorney. We administer trusts and set up charities and assist with their regulatory requirements.

## Tax and estate planning

Whatever your circumstances, whether you are single, married with children, divorced, involved in your own company or business then you would benefit from having a will prepared to meet your particular financial and family circumstances. A will can provide peace of mind that your estate will pass to the people you would want it to. Without a will your estate will be dealt with under certain rules which may not benefit the people you would want. We advise on inheritance tax and possible ways to mitigate the amount of tax your estate will pay. We are able to advise on lifetime giving, either to an individual or to a trust and the tax consequences of this. We will consider not only inheritance tax but also capital gains tax and income tax.

Planning for the future is not just about tax. It is essential that you and those you leave behind are not left financially bereft. You also need to ensure your will is structured in a way to protect family members and assets.

We are able to assist with the administration of various types of trust and completion of tax returns. We advise on the tax consequences involved in various decisions trustees may need to make, such as distributions to beneficiaries or the owning of certain types of property.

## Probate

When someone dies there is often much that needs to be sorted out, whether it is establishing and collecting in their estate before distributing assets to beneficiaries, organising the funeral or arranging to pay inheritance tax to HM Revenue & Customs. Our team can help with as much or as little as the next of kin or executors need us to. We can be appointed to act as professional executors if need be, usually where the deceased's affairs are complicated, because there is no one within the family able or willing to act or because of our independence from the family.

We can advise beneficiaries in connection with their own family or financial circumstances and how best to redirect a benefit from an estate.

We act for a number of farmers or other business people where it is often necessary to negotiate with HM Revenue & Customs over assets which may be entitled to relief from inheritance tax.

## Powers of Attorney and the Court of Protection

It is sensible to plan for the future and decide who you would trust sufficiently to act on your behalf if you were unable to make decisions about either your financial affairs or your health and welfare. We advise on and create Lasting Power of Attorney forms to allow you to decide in advance who would be able to make these type of decisions on your behalf or provide you with help should you need it.

We can also prepare general powers of attorney which can be of assistance for a particular transaction, for example, if you are out of the country whilst a house sale is due to complete.

If you have lost capacity you will not be able to have a Lasting Power of Attorney prepared. We can assist your family or friends with the process of applying to the Court of Protection for someone to be appointed as a deputy to be able to act on your behalf in relation to your affairs.

## Elderly and disabled client care

We are involved in the day-to-day running of the lives of a number of our more elderly or disabled clients. People sometimes reach a stage in their lives where they need assistance with their financial affairs and management of their lives. We can assist by arranging for care at home or helping our clients make the, sometimes emotional, move to residential care. We can assist or arrange help for the daily jobs such as shopping or household chores, which may be getting too much for the person concerned. Our involvement may be due to the complicated nature or value of a person's affairs or where there is no relative or friend who is able to carry out this role. We can do as little or as much as each particular client requires.