



LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY – THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE

Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPA) allow people to choose someone they trust to make decisions on their behalf if something happens and they are unable to make decisions for themselves.



LPAs are as important as having a will for ensuring your wishes are followed, but

- While an estimated **40%** of the adult UK population has a will
- less than **1%** has an LPA¹



- When surveyed, **45%** of people aged **45** and over knew nothing about LPA
- When told about LPA **61%** were not interested in setting one up in the future²



But they are important!

- **One in three** people over **65** will develop dementia³

And not only for the ageing population

- Every **90 seconds** someone is admitted to hospital in the UK with an acquired brain injury⁴



Over 60% of potential LPA customers shared these misconceptions

- The next of kin always gets the final say... if the patient is unable to make decisions for themselves
- If a couple has a joint bank account and their home is in joint names... the other can legally make decisions for them²

“All I know is that I have a lasting power of attorney now... and I wish my mother had had it”

53% of people who know someone with an LPA are interested in setting one up for themselves in the future²



“It will never happen to me”

40% of people who say they are not interested in LPA don't think they'll lose capacity, don't care, or don't want to tempt fate²

“It's impossible for anybody, I would imagine, to deal with anybody else's financial affairs without having something in place”

3 good reasons to take action

- you choose the person or people in charge of making decisions which affect you
- you make things easier for your relatives should anything happen to you
- decisions are more likely to be made in your best interests

“You know you are going to get old but in lots of ways I've closed my eyes to it”



No LPA? The Court of Protection may need to appoint someone to take decisions if mental capacity is lost

Find out how to register an LPA – to safeguard your property and financial affairs, health and welfare, or both.
www.gov.uk/power-of-attorney