



Application to join the panel of deputies appointed by the Office of the Public Guardian

The Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) supports the Public Guardian with carrying out her legal functions under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA). OPG appoints and administers a panel of deputies on behalf of the Public Guardian.

Panel deputies are appointed to act by the Court of Protection when no one else is willing or able to act as a deputy for someone who lacks mental capacity.

In order to be appointed to the panel, the Public Guardian requires deputies to be able to demonstrate their understanding of, and adherence to, the MCA, the MCA Code of Practice, the Lasting Power of Attorney, Enduring Power of Attorney and Public Guardian Regulations 2007, the OPG Deputy Standards and the expectations set out in the Panel Deputy Commitment statement.

Trust corporations who wish to join the panel must be registered by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA), a registered charity, or each individual must be a member of one of the following regulated professions:

- solicitors regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA)
- accountants regulated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants In England and Wales (ICAEW) or the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
- financial advisors regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)

Applicants must be existing deputies for property and financial affairs (PFA) or have been appointed as a PFA deputy in the last five years. Applicants will be required to have been appointed as a PFA deputy for a minimum of two consecutive years.

Please use this application form to demonstrate the ability of your trust corporation to fulfill these requirements.

Appointments to the panel will be subject to the applicant confirming their commitment to meet the expectations of panel members.

Application Form

Name of the Trust Corporation

Organisation

Your role

Address

Post code

Email address

Contact number

Please provide details of your regulatory status

Is your trust corporation already appointed as a deputy?

Yes No

If not, when did it last hold this role?

Day

Month

Year

Has your trust corporation ever been discharged from a deputyship following an investigation or non-compliance action by the Public Guardian or a concern raised by a third party?

Yes No

If yes, please provide details.

Is your trust corporation currently a member of the panel?

Yes No

If not, but it has been a member of the panel in the last five years, please provide the dates of membership.

Day

Month

Year

In support of your application please complete a statement of suitability of no more than 1000 words demonstrating why you believe the members of your trust corporation possess the necessary skills and expertise to carry out the role of a panel deputy. You will be assessed against the following essential criteria:

- understanding and experience of managing a deputyship
- exemplary adherence to the MCA, Public Guardian Regulations and OPG Deputy Standards
- details of mechanisms you will employ to ensure you remain up to date with relevant case law and guidance published by OPG
- details of your ability to increase your deputyship caseload at short notice if required to do so

Geographical area

If appointed to the panel, you will be expected to accept cases from within the geographic area in which you work.

Do you have the ability – e.g., through offices in other parts of the country – to provide services to Ps in other areas of England and Wales? If so, select the relevant areas.

- Midlands
- North
- North East
- West
- South East
- Wales

These correspond to court circuits, and you would be expected to attend hearings in person as necessary if required.

Please state if you would be willing to accept personal welfare deputyship cases.

- Yes No

Please state if you would be interested in being appointed to OPG's panel of guardians.

- Yes No

Please note your response to these questions will have no impact on the outcome of your panel deputy application.

As part of the assessment process, OPG will review your existing and recent caseload to assess how you have adhered to the MCA, the Code of Practice, the LPA, EPA and Public Guardian Regulations and the OPG Deputy Standards.

Declaration

I confirm that we wish to apply to join the Office of the Public Guardian's Panel of deputies.

If appointed, we agree to abide by the panel deputy commitment statement.

All the information in this application is correct and accurate to the best of our knowledge.

Signature

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Date

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Day

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Month

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Year