



HURRELL

SOLICITORS

A guide to
Probate

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With a tailored, sympathetic service, we can complete your probate application as quickly and with as little hassle as possible.

Andrew Hurrell

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What is probate?

Probate is a legal document that passes control of your loved one's estate (their property, money, belongings and other assets) to their chosen executor.

Their executor is the individual tasked with applying for a grant of probate, which, once authorised, enables them to put into practice the requests and terms laid out in your loved one's will.

Unnecessary delays to the executor's probate application can cause stress and aggravation during a time of mourning for friends and family. At Hurrell Solicitors we believe in making our estate administration pricing as transparent as possible to ensure that you do not incur any unexpected costs or experience any unnecessary delays with your probate application. We are happy to complete probate applications either for a fixed fee or for a percentage of the total value of your loved one's estate. Please see our costs information page on our website for further information.



The probate process

Our team are ready to guide you through the probate process, regardless of the route you need to take.



The first step towards completing probate is to identify whether or not your loved one left a will.

If this is the case, it will usually name one or more people as executors of the will. These are the people the deceased has chosen to administer their estate according to their last wishes.

In situations where a will was not made, or where someone other than the executor wishes to administer the estate, an application for a grant of administration will need to be made. Usually this will be a close relative of the deceased who will be able to administer the estate according to intestacy laws once the application has been granted.



Obtaining a grant of probate

If you're a named executor, we can help you obtain a grant of representation and administer the estate.



We'll start by helping you fill out a probate application form, as well as an Inheritance Tax form. On top of this, you will need to sign a statement of truth to promise that the information you have provided is true to the best of your knowledge.

Alongside these forms, you must also provide the probate registry with the following:

-  An official copy of the death certificate
 -  The original will plus two copies (including any updates, additions or amendments)
 -  An application fee of £273, to be paid by cheque (for estates with a value over £5,000) (as at April 2019)
 -  Payment for extra copies of the grant document (at 50p each)
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Should you experience any difficulties in applying for a grant of representation, our team will be on-hand to troubleshoot any issues, stepping in on your behalf if necessary.



Obtaining letters of administration

When there isn't a will, we can ensure the estate is divided according to the law.



At Hurrell Solicitors, we can advise on the best route to take if your relative dies intestate, helping the lawful person to become the administrator and assist in the division of the estate.

It is rare that someone other than the deceased's next of kin will apply for the grant. However, applicants must follow the same order as those who inherit under the laws of intestacy.

This means that the following relatives can only apply if the preceding relation is also deceased or does not exist.

- Legal spouse or civil partner
- Children (including those legally adopted)
- Parents
- Full blooded brothers and sisters

Once letters of administration have been granted, you will be able to administer the estate according to the laws of intestacy.





All new clients are eligible for our **free 30-minute consultation**, typically arranged to take place at our office in Thorpe Bay.

To find out more, please speak to a member of our team on **01702 582030** or email **andrew@hurrellsolicitors.com**







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