

Deputyship



If someone you know has lost mental capacity our specialist team can offer expert advice as well as practical support and guidance to help you manage their affairs.

Safeguard your loved ones

Concerned about a family member, loved one or friend? Are they forgetful? Do they wander off or no longer take care of their appearance? Loss of mental capacity – the ability to make your own decisions - affects people of all ages. Causes can include Alzheimer's, dementia, a stroke, brain injuries (including babies and children), post traumatic stress disorders and even severe learning disabilities.

Our Court of Protection team's services include:

- Applications to the Court of Protection for deputyship for Property and Financial affairs as well as deputyship for Health & Welfare
- Professional deputyship in which Girlings directly manages the individual's affairs
- Support and guidance for non-professional deputies to ensure they comply with the obligations imposed by the Court of Protection
- Assistance with mental capacity assessments

We also provide advice on:

- Statutory Wills and trusts
- Personal injury trusts

Girlings' Private Client team is recognised in the Legal 500 as a leading Firm. Girlings is also recognised as a Dementia Friendly business.

girlings.com





A sensitive and caring service

What is the Court of Protection?

The Court of Protection is there to look after individuals who lack mental capacity to make decisions for themselves, regardless of their age.

The Court can give these supervisory powers to someone else if there is a need for decisions to be made on an ongoing basis. Those given these responsibilities by the Court of Protection are called deputies.

Deputies are scrutinised by the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) annually and they must abide by the principles of the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

If someone has not made a Lasting Power of Attorney - a document setting out your wishes in the event that you lose mental capacity (please ask us for details) - and they lose capacity, then an application will usually be made to the Court of Protection requesting that a deputy is appointed.

The Court will then appoint a deputy to take care of that person's finances or health and welfare.



Our deputyship service

We offer a professional deputyship service in which Girlings is appointed as deputy by the Court of Protection.

Our dedicated team can also provide expert support for non-professional deputies. We can provide guidance on how to discharge your responsibilities in accordance with the obligations imposed by the Court of Protection.

We focus on the emotional and practical support we provide to the individual, their family and their loved ones. Wherever possible when acting as a professional deputy or when giving advice to a non-professional deputy, our aim is to empower the incapacitated individual to be an active participant in the decision making process.

Let's talk

We understand it may come as a shock to the family and friends of the individual to discover that the law does not give them special decision making powers and they need to apply to the Court of Protection.

Applying for a deputyship order is a daunting prospect as the process can be complex and lengthy. Our specialist team is here to help you at this difficult time and our initial consultation is an opportunity for you to talk through your options and ask questions about each stage of the process.

The earlier you talk to us, the sooner we can help. Contact Dee Delo (deedelo@girlings.com) or Emma Manley (emmamanley@girlings.com) in our Court of Protection team. Tel: 01227 768374.



Are you concerned about a friend, loved one or colleague?

Do any of the following sound familiar?



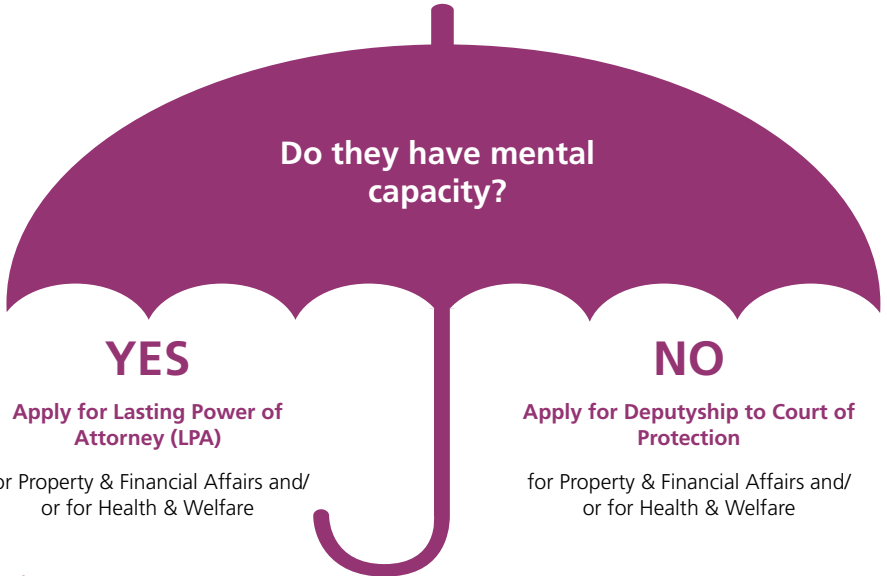
Forgetful or confused
Anxious
Mood swings
Isolating themselves
Lack of concentration



Dementia
Acquired brain injury
Undiagnosed condition
Medical Negligence
Mental health condition



Uncharacteristic large purchases
Unpaid bills
Sudden change of Will
Self-neglect
Money left lying around



Let's talk

Our Court of Protection team can guide you through this often daunting process. Our team can also offer support and advice to keep your friend or loved one safe and as independent as possible.

Girlings Solicitors for expert legal advice:

Business Law

- Commercial Property
- Corporate & Commercial
- Insolvency & Restructuring
- Employment Law
- Dispute Resolution
- Debt Recovery

Personal Law

- Residential Property
- Wills, LPAs, Estates & Inheritance Tax
- Family Law: Children, Divorce & Separation
- Personal Injury/Clinical Negligence*
- Notarial Services
- Independent Financial Advice

An office near you

■ Ashford Office

Stourside Place
Station Road
Ashford
TN23 1PP

Amanda Wilson

Paris Drew

Tel. 01233 664711

■ Canterbury Office

16 Rose Lane
Canterbury
CT1 2UR

Lesley Rushton

Head of Department

Louise Wilson

Paul Hill

Dee Delo

Emma Manley

Tel. 01227 768374

■ Herne Bay Office

39 William Street
Herne Bay
CT6 5NR

Christopher Neeve

Charlotte Nock

Charlotte Parsons

Tel. 01227 367355



Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority No. 614527. *Girlings Personal Injury Claims Ltd is a separate company authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority No. 522082.