

# Solicitor home visits for wills, LPAs and other sensitive topics

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If you are considering a meeting with solicitors, attending an office can be daunting especially if you want to discuss something as personal as your will, LPA or have recently suffered a bereavement. In addition, maintaining emotions can be difficult especially in a busy professional setting.

At RIAA Barker Gillette, we understand that you may require a more discreet setting to provide instructions to our team. Therefore, we can arrange to meet you in the comfort of your own home or at your care home or hospital in or around Central London.

People tend to feel more comfortable and relaxed in their home environment. In addition, having a meeting at home is often more practical if you have mobility issues. It also makes it easier to locate and provide any documentation straight to your solicitor which can help to reduce costs.

Before any meeting, you should consider who should be present when giving us your instructions. For example, when taking will instructions it is preferable not to have anyone present who may be a potential beneficiary. Not having a potential beneficiary present avoids any prospect of undue influence taking place and deters future allegations being made. No one should coerce you into having an appointment and your instructions must be your own without any outside influence. When an elderly client is vulnerable, friends or family members may be more likely to influence them. Sometimes it is obvious when this is happening. Still, it is often much more subtle and your solicitor must be aware of the possibility and take appropriate precautions. We will usually discuss this with you when we arrange to meet.

When taking instructions to make a will or an LPA, we are required to assess your mental capacity so that we are confident that you meet the legal test for creating such

documents. In addition, attending your home lets us pick up helpful information about your living conditions such as whether you can live safely alone. Sometimes it is clear from a person's living conditions that other concerns may come to light, or the situation may raise further questions that your solicitor should follow up on to ensure a sufficient understanding of your needs.

Once your will has been finalised and prepared for execution, if you are an elderly or vulnerable person, it is advisable that a second meeting takes place to ensure that the will is signed and witnessed correctly and complies with [section 9](#) of the Wills Act 1837. Once you have executed the will, it can be stored free of charge in our storage facility. In addition, we can provide copies of the documents to you by post, email, or as required.

The main aim of our team is to provide sensitive, holistic advice regardless of the environment where a meeting occurs. By taking this approach, we hope to make you feel comfortable and listened to and to ensure we meet your requirements.

Contact [Charlotte Barbaroussis](#) from our private client team today to discuss your arrangements.

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Note: This article is not legal advice; it provides information of general interest about current legal issues.

