

# Court of Protection Specialists

With services for all vulnerable clients: professional deputyship - lay deputy advice - power of attorney - personal injury trusts - wills and probate

Many law firms cover the practice areas associated with vulnerable clients, but just a few make it their only focus. We are specialists and industry-recognised as leaders in our field.

Dealing with the legal needs of a vulnerable client requires a unique skill-set, not just the necessary legal expertise, but the ability to manage the expectations of the different parties involved in a sensitive and understanding manner. The team at JE Bennett Law

recognise our clients and their families are often facing difficult decisions in emotionally challenging circumstances. It's our mission to support them every step of the way.





(their) approach to legal services for the elderly helps me feel confident

#### WHAT WE DO

Vulnerability can arise at birth; by accident; by disease; through old age; third party negligence or by criminal assault.

Our core work involves helping those that have been involved in life-changing circumstances through the provision of professional deputy services under the Court of Protection; we advise on all possible applications to the Court of Protection; we provide advice for lay deputies; and we also provide professional trustee services. We can set up a range of different personal injury trusts depending on client need and can advise lay trustees to assist in navigating through eligibility for means tested benefits when clients are in receipt of compensation.

We also provide a full range of services for the elderly client: advice regarding Enduring Powers of Attorney; drafting Lasting Powers of Attorney; managing attorney disputes; Wills (including the complexities surrounding funding for residential care home places); advice regarding care in the home or community; and tax efficient trusts for grandchildren.

Our experienced probate team can provide full service, grant only or advisory estate management services.

#### WHO WE HELP

We work for the injured party and often the family of those lacking mental capacity. We can help a loved one with:

- A serious brain injury or illness
- Severe learning disability
- Mental health difficulties
- Dementia

We also work for the lay deputy and lay trustee (a non-professional acting on behalf of the injured party); claimants and defendants in personal injury cases and clinical negligence cases; and Criminal Injury Compensation Authority (CICA) claimants.

Additionally, we work with other related organisations and care providers including case managers and Local Authorities.



#### **OUR EXPERTISE**

The team at JE Bennett Law consists of around 25 specialists, each bringing relevant skills and experience to serve our clients' needs.

The company is rated as a **Leading Firm** by The Legal 500, the leading industry standard, featuring in the rankings for Court of Protection. Our Senior Partner, Jane Bennett, is also listed by the Legal 500's **Hall of Fame** in her field, making her part of what is considered a very elite list. Our Partners Richard Shearing, Lorna Halfpenny-Beeby, Amy Paxton are recognised as **Next Generation Partners** and Jemma Cahan is a **Recommended Lawyer**.

Jane Bennett is also included in the prestigious

Chambers rankings and along with our Senior Partner,

Ian Macara, is a member of the Office of the Public

Guardian's national panel of professional deputies. With

2, of only around 60 panel deputies nationwide, JE

Bennett Law is one of very few firms in the country with

multiple panel deputies.

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#### PROVEN TRACK RECORD

JE Bennett Law has an enviable track record in vulnerable client law.

We currently manage in excess of 200 deputyships and are trusted to handle highly complex cases from industry-leading insurers and investment organisations, Local Authorities, other law firms, case managers and the Court of Protection itself. We're also in high demand for expert witness services.

#### **EXPERT WITNESS SERVICE**

Jane Bennett acts as an expert witness in catastrophic high value claims for a range of leading claimant and defendant law firms across England and Wales.

Typically, this regards the role of a professional property and affairs deputy under the Court of Protection - and associated issues such as costs; health and welfare; best interests and safeguarding aspects.





### CLIENT CARE & PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

We are proud to have been awarded Lexcel accreditation. Lexcel is the Law Society's legal practice quality mark for practice management and client care.



## RECOGNISED LEADERS IN OUR FIELD



"A very strong team ethic as the practice has developed over the last few years. Jane Bennett is a leading industry figure, with a strong business acumen built upon excellent client care. Lorna Halfpenny-Beeby is a rising star of the team"

The Legal 500 Testimonial

Our core specialism is the provision of truly independent professional deputyship services under the Court of Protection, and advice to lay deputies, together with professional trustee services (both within and outside the Court of Protection).

We advise on all possible types of applications to the Court of Protection, including matters regarding gifts and transfers; the impact and implications of lack of capacity regarding other types of legal proceedings; Wills, including tax-efficient Wills; Wills catering for disabled beneficiaries; Statutory Wills for those who lack mental capacity to make a Will; Probate, and the whole gamut of elderly client law, including powers of attorney; Advance Directives (or the so-called living Wills), and access to local care in the community services via the NHS and the Local Authority.

### JANE BENNETT Managing Partner









#### CONTACT

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