

## **Stroke Association Free Will Scheme**

### **Terms and Conditions**

#### **About the Free Will Scheme**

To encourage people to consider supporting the Stroke Association with a gift in their Will, we offer the opportunity to make a simple Will or codicil, free of charge. We have a bespoke network of solicitors who participate in our Free Will Scheme, offering an 'in-person', office-based service, and an arrangement with Irwin Mitchell LLP, who offer a postal and online service. All of the solicitors involved offer specialist Will-writing services and are regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

The Stroke Association acts as an intermediary between our supporters and the solicitors involved in the Scheme. The Will-writing services are provided by those solicitors, not the Stroke Association. If you wish to take advantage of the services of any of the firms or solicitors in our network, you will enter into a direct contractual relationship with them, rather than with the Stroke Association. We have no reason to believe that any of the solicitors in our network will provide services of a poor quality, but we are not in a position to certify that their services are of a better quality than any other providers of Will-writing services in the wider legal sector.

The Stroke Association highly recommends that, before using our Free Will Scheme, you conduct your own research into the various options available to you. You are free to instruct the firm of your choice and you should only select one of the firms in our network if you are happy that their services will be appropriate to your circumstances. If you have any questions or queries about a particular solicitor or firm, you should contact them directly.

The Stroke Association excludes liability for any and all losses, damages, claims, costs or expenses that may arise as a result of your use of the services provided by any of the firms and solicitors in our network, unless such losses, damages, claims, costs or expenses are caused as a direct result of the Stroke Association's negligence.

#### **Payment for Wills under the Scheme**

All standard Wills drafted by the solicitors in our network are paid for by the Stroke Association, without cost to you. Should your circumstances be such that a more complex Will would be appropriate, there may be some additional charges for you to pay. If this is the case, your chosen solicitor will contact you to discuss what the charges might be. We therefore recommend that you speak to your chosen solicitor about your needs before you commit to using the service.

The costs of the Free Will Scheme are met from the Stroke Association's fundraising budget. In accordance with Charity Commission guidelines, we regularly review the cost-effectiveness of the Scheme and, consequently, we reserve the right to amend, suspend or discontinue it at any time.

### **Eligibility**

The Scheme is open to people aged 60 or over, and stroke survivors aged over 18.

### **Time restrictions for making your Will**

If you take advantage of the in-person service using a member of our network of solicitors, you must complete your Will within three months of the date on which you register. Registration involves submitting your completed form on the Stroke Association website, registering over the phone or by email, or contacting one of our partner solicitors directly.

If you use the Irwin Mitchell online or postal Will-writing services, you must complete your Will within the timeframe that Irwin Mitchell states in its correspondence with you.

We reserve the right not to contribute toward the cost of any Will that is not completed within the stipulated timeframe.

### **Leaving a legacy to the Stroke Association**

There is no obligation to include a gift to the Stroke Association in your Will when you use the Free Will Scheme, but we are incredibly grateful that most people who use the Scheme do choose to do so.

Gifts in Wills make up around a third of our income. All gifts made to us help us to continue driving improvements in the care of stroke survivors and ensure that more people can rebuild their lives after stroke. They also help us to ensure that stroke research receives the funding and attention it deserves.

If you would like to leave a gift to the Stroke Association in your Will, please include our registered charity number and postal address.

Registered charity numbers: 211015 (England and Wales); SC037789 (Scotland)

Address: Stroke Association House, 240 City Road, London EC1V 2PR