



Your Private Client Questions Answered

Q: I have made a Will but my family live many miles away, how can I be sure that they will know where to find my Will and that it is the latest version?

A: Writing a Will and regularly reviewing it is one of the most important things that you can do for those that you wish to benefit. Naturally ensuring that it can be found when you pass on is essential.

In a recent survey 67% of people questioned did not know where to find their parents' Wills. It is an unfortunate reality that often following a bereavement those remaining may not be able to find the Will, or may be unsure as to whether a Will was actually made, or uncertain as to whether they have the most up-to-date Will.

Many Clients keep a copy of their Will at home in a safe place with a note indicating the location of the original but sometimes despite the best of intentions they fail to update their copies or maybe inadvertently throw out their papers or mislay them.

Understandably, some people do not wish to keep such papers at home or share their private information with others.

For peace of mind you might wish to consider asking for your Will to be registered with the Certainty National Will Register. When a Will is registered its location is tagged – the Register does not see or hold a copy. Registering your Will allows it to be located quickly and easily in the future once you have passed on. Finding your Will ensures that your last Will is respected and that your Estate is distributed as you had planned. If your Will cannot be found your Estate will be distributed under the Intestacy Rules which may not be in the way you had wished.

With a wealth of experience in this area please do not hesitate to contact our Private Client team on **01934 637914** or e-mail **shipton@powellslaw.com** if you would like further information on the above.