

Probate

Our specialist team is here to help and assist you through what can be a difficult process at an upsetting and distressing time.

We have a number of experienced practitioners who deal with clients in an understanding and sensitive manner, making life a little easier for those who have recently experienced a loss. Hardmans have been practising in the area of administration of estates since the firm began around 1890. Our work involves dealing with all aspects of the administration and winding up of estates, from small ones to large complex estates.

Is it easy to administer an estate?

There can be many complex issues that arise during the administration of an estate, which non-qualified people may not appreciate. Complexities can include:-

- dealing with the deceased's income and capital gains tax affairs
- dealing with overseas assets
- calculation of inheritance tax, and apportioning liability for payment between beneficiaries
- dealing with creditors of the estate
- preparing inheritance tax accounts and liaising with the Revenue staff with regard to any enquiries
- finding missing beneficiaries
- providing tax certificates for beneficiaries
- preparing the Oath for Executors
- preparing comprehensive Estate Accounts at the end of the process which provide a clear summary of the administration
- setting up of and dealing with the administration of trusts for minors, disabled people or specialist adult trusts

Our specialist knowledge and experience often means we can save many clients thousands of pounds in inheritance tax through the preparation of Deeds of Variation.

We can provide advice and assistance to anyone considering an inheritance tax claim, and in relation to the validity of Wills.

Intestacy

Our team can help you if you have lost a family member or friend and no Will can be found. This process is called "Intestacy" and a set procedure must be followed to ascertain who must act as "Administrator" (like an Executor but not appointed by Will) and to whom the assets of the estate should pass. This can be a difficult and sometimes upsetting process but our knowledge and experience can help ease the process.

