

7 Minute Briefing – Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA)

1. Introduction

A Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is a legal document that lets an adult appoint one or more people to help them make decisions or to make decisions on their behalf.

This gives the adult more control over what happens to them if for example, they have an accident or an illness such as dementia and can't make decisions for themselves at the time when they need to be made.

2. 2 Types of Lasting Power of Attorney

There are two types of LPA, these are:

- Health and welfare
- Property and financial affairs

An adult can choose to appoint an attorney to make decisions regarding one type or both types of situations.

The adult must be 18 or over and have mental capacity when they make their LPA.

Professionals **must** speak to anyone who holds LPA.

3. Health and Welfare LPA

This gives an attorney power to make decisions about things like:

- Your daily routine, such as washing, dressing and eating.
- Medical Care
- Moving to a care home
- Life sustaining treatment

4. Property and Financial Affairs LPA

This gives the attorney the power to make decisions about money and property and includes:

- Managing a bank or building society account;
- Paying bills;
- Collecting benefits or a pension;
- Selling your home

5. Making a Lasting Power of Attorney

The person should firstly choose their attorney / attorneys (you can have more than one), [complete the relevant forms either online](#) or paper versions. The forms need to be signed by the person, the attorneys and by witnesses.

Once complete, the LPA should then be registered with the Office of the Public Guardian.

6. Concerns about an LPA or an attorney

If you have concerns about an LPA or an attorney this should be reported to the [Office of the Public Guardian](#).

Before contacting the OPG, it may more appropriate to refer into safeguarding and/or contact the Greater Manchester Police on 101 (999 in an emergency) so an enquiry / investigation can be undertaken to establish the facts.

<https://safeguardingadults.salford.gov.uk>

7. Further information

HM Government - <https://www.gov.uk/power-of-attorney>

Age UK - <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/legal-issues/power-of-attorney/>

Citizens Advice - <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/family/looking-after-people/managing-affairs-for-someone-else/>

Contact details:

Safeguarding Board: SSAB@salford.gov.uk

[Worried about an Adult?](#) Call 0161 206 0604

<https://safeguardingadults.salford.gov.uk/>