



Vulnerable Persons Trust

What is it?

A 'Trust' that is set up when you die. Provision for it is made now, in your Will. The 'VPT' handles any inheritance that is being left to someone who requires care or receives 'means tested' benefits or any financial assistance from the state.

What does it do?

A 'VPT' specifically deals with inheritance being left for a disabled person, someone requiring care and in receipt of financial support from the state. The key issue with this inheritance is that it will have a direct effect on their state benefits, and in some cases will mean them being stopped completely. The 'VPT' allows you to do 2 things; firstly you can ring fence any money so that it can be used for them, but is never actually owned by them, thus not impacting on their benefits or care. Secondly, you are able to give discretion to your chosen Trustees on how that vulnerable person should spend their inheritance.

An example

Mr and Mrs Jones' have a son Tom who suffers from Down's syndrome. Tom visits a state funded activity centre twice a week for education and relaxation. Mr and Mrs Jones die and Tom's inheritance therefore is used to pay for this care. His 'means tested' state benefits are also stopped. The 'VPT' allows the inheritance to be managed by the Trustees and never actually be received directly by Tom and as such, his care and his benefits aren't affected at all.

How does it work?

The Will sets out the framework of the trust, protecting any inheritance from 'means tested' state benefits. It also gives discretion to the Trustees to administer the money.