PENNINGTONS MANCHES COOPER

# LEGACY MANAGEMENT
# FOLLOW UP SERVICE

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**Charity trustees have a duty to manage finances prudently and we can assist with this when it comes to following up on legacies owed to a charity. For many reasons, payment of a legacy may become delayed, or in some cases, not made at all. Pro-actively following up with personal representatives in a cost-efficient manner can help preserve funds that were intended to be paid to charity by the original donor.**

> THEY ADVISE ON, AND FIGHT, COMPLEX AND CUTTING-EDGE CASES, AND HAVE UNPARALLELED COMMERCIAL JUDGMENT.

Chambers TOP RANKED UK 2024

The LEGAL 500 UNITED KINGDOM TOP TIER 2024

We can assist with following up on Smee & Ford notifications by writing to executors and inviting them to engage with the legatee charity. In many cases, we find that a letter from a solicitor will stir executors into prompt payment of the legacy directly, or will open communications between the charity and the executors.

However, we ensure that we keep a friendly, firm and professional approach, aiming to maintain relationships with donors and the public.

We are happy to accept joint instructions from multiple charities named in the same will and also multiple instructions from a single charity.

## FIXED FEE SERVICE

We offer a fixed fee service that includes:

**Outreach 1:**
We will write an initial letter to the executors, inviting them to make contact and to provide an update on progress of the estate administration, as well as requesting payment of the legacy.

**Outreach 2:**
If no response is received, we will follow up with a further letter.

**Summary of options:**
Should there be no response to our letters, or payment of the legacy is refused, we will advise on the charity's options for progressing the matter, always keeping in mind the practicalities and the balance of pursuing each particular legacy further.

**Please contact us for details of our pricing structure for both single and multiple charities.**

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

If further legal advice is needed beyond this point, this will be charged for separately. We can provide a quote and discuss fee arrangements if and when necessary.

## WHAT INFORMATION DO WE NEED?

- name of legacy officer
- legacy officer email address
- value of legacy
- Smee & Ford notification
- previous correspondence with the executors (if any).

It may also assist to advise us of any additional factors, such as a donor's history with the charity.

## LEGACY MANAGEMENT – OUR OTHER SERVICES:

- applications to remove or replace executors
- applications to enforce the terms of a substantial legacy
- deeds of variation to increase charitable legacies eg to take advantage of the reduced 36% rate of IHT
- cy-près applications where legacies have been made on inaccurate or inappropriate terms
- advice on the terms of restricted legacies to ensure efficient and appropriate management of existing funds.

> ONE OF THE STRONGEST CHARITIES AND NON-FOR-PROFIT LEGAL TEAMS NATIONALLY.

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## GET IN TOUCH

If you are interested in this service, please contact:

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