



## WHY USE AN SFE MEMBER?

SFE is a national association of independent lawyers who specialise in older client law. As specialists, SFE members are also trained in older client care so that they are able to take into account any difficulties both mental and physical which can affect older and vulnerable clients and are aware of the health and social problems that people may face.

SFE members will provide independent advice, which is in the best interests of older or vulnerable clients, respecting their dignity and understand their need for a holistic approach to problem solving. All advice given is confidential. They will endeavour to follow a plain English policy ie they will always communicate in easy, understandable language and will explain any necessary legal terminology. Their wealth of experience and training will help to put people at their ease when dealing with complex, life changing issues.

### All SFE Full Accredited Members:

- Are specialists in advising older and vulnerable clients on legal matters
- Are fully qualified solicitors, barristers and chartered legal executives who have all undertaken additional specialist training in older client law
- Have spent a substantial amount of their time working with older and vulnerable clients
- Have gained the Older Client Care in Practice Award which is accredited by SJF (Skills for Justice) a government body which shows that they have the required additional skills to be able to advise and support older and vulnerable people
- Follow a strict code of practice
- Are committed to providing affordable, good quality legal advice
- Are regulated by their professional bodies such as the Solicitors Regulation Authority
- Keep their knowledge and skills up to date by undertaking regular training

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TO FIND AN SFE MEMBER IN YOUR AREA VISIT:

[www.sfe.legal](http://www.sfe.legal)

OR CALL 0844 567 6173

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## SFE's main areas of work are:

- Wills, Estate planning, tax planning, trusts and probate
- Mental Capacity issues: Powers of attorney, Deputyships, Court of Protection
- Advanced Directives (often known as Living Wills)
- Care funding including asset preservation
- Deprivation of Liberty safeguards
- Abuse issues

## About SFE

SFE was founded in 1996 and set out to be a specialist group to help, support and make a difference to older people. It has now grown into a national organisation of over 1500 lawyers all committed to its founding principles. It is a not for profit organisation to meet the needs of its members, so that they can provide good quality legal advice to older and vulnerable clients, their families and carers. SFE endeavours to help members of the public find accredited SFE members who best suit their needs.

## SFE is committed to:

- Raising awareness of legal issues affecting older and vulnerable clients
- Delivering high quality training and best practice to its members, so that they can give high quality advice to their clients
- Being a centre of excellence for members to keep them informed of the latest developments and knowhow
- Building relationships with key statutory and voluntary bodies, agencies, charities, housing, health and social care providers, the financial services sector and other related organisations who are interested in the well being of older and vulnerable people
- Raising the standards for people working in this area
- Providing input into legislative and policy changes; contributing to policy debates
- Being the first port of call for older and vulnerable people looking for legal advice

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