

LONG TERM CARE

Most people would prefer to remain and receive care in their own home irrespective of any physical or mental infirmity. This is a principal objective of community care. However, in practice how much assistance you receive from your local authority social services department will depend on the extent of your need for services and their eligibility criteria. Each local authority has different criteria. Commonly, many older people, their family and carers consider whether to move into a care home as an option.

Residential and nursing homes usually charge on a weekly basis. The fee will depend on the nature and level of care provided, the location and facilities of the home.

If you decide to move into a care home, important decisions need to be made. Such decisions may have unintended ramifications and taking specialist advice at an early stage can prevent or mitigate problems arising later, leaving you in the best position to plan your care.

We can advise you on the following issues: -

- Should I be charged and how much should I pay?
- Will I get any help towards my fees?
- Am I entitled to any benefits?
- What assets do I need to sell?
- How should my assets be valued?
- Should I update my will and how can I pass on assets to my family?
- Is the care contract reasonable and should I try to amend the terms?
- Will my spouse or partner be expected to pay towards my care?
- Can my spouse, partner or other relative continue living in the family home?
- Can I take out insurance to pay for care?
- Can I continue to manage my own financial affairs? Should I appoint someone to act on my behalf, in the event I become mentally incapable?
- Should I make an advance decision, setting out my health care wishes in the event I become unable to communicate them?

We have specialist lawyers who will take time to get to know you in order to provide you with advice tailored to your specific needs and wishes. Full and transparent information about our fees structure will be provided at the outset, and the basis of our charging agreed before we begin work.

For more information or to speak to a solicitor please contact us by calling 0117 906 9400 or email hello@gl.law

The content of this guide is intended for general information purposes only and shall not be deemed to be or constitute legal advice.