

LEAVING A LIBERAL LEGACY

Leave a gift in your will to the Liberal Democrats and help build a liberal future for generations to come.

The Liberal Democrat 
Legacy Fund

www.LibDems.org.uk/Legacy

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Get in touch

If you have any questions about leaving a gift to our party in your Will we're here to help.

Everything discussed is treated with strict confidentiality - and we will only use the details you provide to speak to you about your Legacy.

Email: **legacy@libdems.org.uk**

Request a callback at: **www.LibDems.org.uk/Legacy-Contacts**



Look to the future and help protect the values which you and I share by considering leaving a gift in your will to the Liberal Democrats.



Ed Davey

Leader of the Liberal Democrats

Our party is driven by the commitment, passion and generosity of members, activists and supporters like you, who have dedicated vital support to the Liberal Democrats.

Leaving a gift in your will to the Liberal Democrats is one way to recognise and protect the values and beliefs you have championed as a committed Liberal Democrat.

We are determined to continue the fight for a centrist, liberal voice in British politics, upholding our vision of an open, tolerant, rational and liberal future.

Legacy donations are vital to the party's future. Without this funding we would be less equipped to deliver strong campaigns for individual rights, for our transition to a greener economy, or to promote open trade with our neighbouring nations.

With your help, Liberal Democrats will continue to stand up for voting reform, the rule of law and the progressive policies on education and healthcare.

It's simple and easy to leave a gift to the Liberal Democrats, and it can benefit both your local party, as well as the national party. It can also be tax efficient, as gifts to recognised political parties are deducted from your estate before inheritance tax is calculated.

Your Will is entirely personal to you and it should fit your own situation. A solicitor or financial advisor will be able to advise you on which is the most appropriate to meet your personal wishes.

This guide includes information about your options, locating a solicitor, and discounted FareWill digital Will services for Liberal Democrat members.

What kind of gifts can I leave to the party?



A percentage of your estate (Residuary gift)

This type of gift is a percentage of your estate after debts. This has the advantage of automatically keeping up with inflation.



A specific amount of cash (Pecuniary gift)

You can also choose to leave a specific sum of money as a gift which can be as big or as small as you like.



Specific gift

These gifts tend to be a valuable item like a property, a piece of jewellery or stocks and shares.



Reversionary gift

This gift has the advantage of ensuring that your family and friends are cared for in the first instance. The gift would only be received by the Liberal Democrats once the original beneficiaries have passed away.

A solicitor or financial adviser will be able to advise you on which is the most appropriate to meet your personal wishes.

I have a Will. How do I add a gift to the party?

There are two simple ways to add a Legacy gift; you can write a new, amended Will with the help of a solicitor, or you can make a Codicil.



Amend your Will

It's often best to make a new Will by amending your existing one. To do this you need to speak to a solicitor.

If you already have your old Will, you can use our Will Planner (included in this pack) to collate all the information to take to your solicitor.

This can save you money as you won't need so much of your solicitor's time.



Make a Codicil

If you have already made your Will but would like to add a Legacy to the party, please do so using our Codicil form (included in this pack) without needing to make a new Will.

In order to ensure it ties in properly with your Will, we would recommend that you should consult with your solicitor.

The completed Codicil should be kept with your Will.

I don't have a Will. Where do I start?

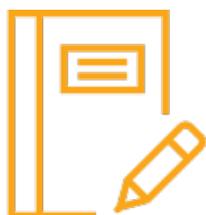


Find a solicitor

If you are creating a Will for the first time, it's important to seek professional advice.

Once you've found a solicitor that you would like to use, you will make an appointment to speak to them about all the gifts you would like to bequest, as well as any other wishes.

You can use our Will Planner to collate all the information to take to your solicitor. This can save you money as you won't need so much of your solicitor's time.



Using Farewill

Farewill is a digital Will-writing company specialising in Legacy Giving. If you haven't written a Will before, it's a cost-effective way of getting started.

All Liberal Democrat members received a 20% discount on any Will created with Farewill. So you can create your own, legally-binding, Will for only £72.

If you already know what Legacy gifts you would like to bequest, it can take as little as ten minutes.

Find out more at www.LibDems.org.uk/Farewill

How do I find a solicitor?

You can find a solicitor through the Law Society for the country that you live in:

England & Wales

www.lawsociety.co.uk
Tel: 0870 606 2555

Scotland

www.lawscot.org.uk
Tel: 0131 226 7411

Northern Ireland

www.lawsoc-ni.org
No telephone enquiries

Channel Islands

www.jerseylawsociety.je
Tel: 01534 601 700

Isle of Man

www.iomlawsociety.co.im
Tel: 01624 662 910



Alternatively, if you would prefer to speak to a lawyer who is a Lib Dem member, we can put you in touch with The Liberal Democrats Lawyers Association, Rights Liberties Justice. To find out more please email us at legacy@libdems.org.uk

I have already left a gift to the party in my Will. Is there anything I have to do?

Thank you very much! Did you know you are eligible to join The Legacy Society?

It's free to join and open to anyone who has left a gift to the party in their will - no matter how big or small. We want to make sure all our members and supporters are valued. Your Will is a private matter, so we never ask how much your gift is for. Of course, you don't have to tell us at all if you don't want to.

Joining The Legacy Society.

The Legacy Society is for everyone who has included our party in their will – whether they've left a gift of £400, or considerably more - and it costs nothing to join. All members receive a range of benefits and recognition including:

- Invitations to special events with the party leaders and senior figures.
- An invitation for you, and a guest, to the Legacy Society reception at Autumn Conference.
- Receive the bi-annual newsletter for legacy society member.
- A Legacy Society membership card.
- A Legacy Society limited-edition pin badge.
- Your name published on the legacy donor list alongside fellow donors and significant supporters.

Of course, we understand that you may want to remain anonymous and, if so, we will include you as an anonymous member of the Legacy Society.

Join by phoning us on 0207 227 1219 or email: legacy@libdems.org.uk

Is it possible to leave a gift in my Will for a specific campaign or region?

We can never predict when the next by-election will be, or which region will need the most campaign support, so your legacy gift will have the biggest impact if it is made unconditionally.

We always make 10% of unconditional gifts available to your local party.

But if you would like to talk to us about funding a specific region or project, please email us at legacy@libdems.org.uk



This Will Planner is to help you prepare for questions a solicitor will ask you, when you make an appointment to create or amend your Will. By thinking about and completing these questions, it will help save time and make the Will-writing process easier. If you're unsure about any of the questions, make sure you discuss them with your solicitor who will be able to assist you.

1. You

Full Name:

Address:.....

.....

.....

Date of birth/...../.....

Telephone No. (Home) Mobile:

Marital Status:

Single Divorced Engaged Remarried Married Widowed Separated

2. Your spouse or partner

Full Name:

Address:.....

.....

.....

Date of birth/...../.....

Telephone No. (Home) Mobile:

Marital Status:

Single Divorced Engaged Remarried Married Widowed Separated

3. Your children

Name	Address	Date of Birth	Status*

*Whether the child is from this relationship, a previous relationship or other circumstances.

4. Do you have an existing will?

You: Yes No Spouse or partner: Yes No

5. Nominated guardians for any children yet to reach adulthood

Full Name	Address

6. Do you have particular funeral wishes?

7. The value of your estate

This section helps you work out the value of your estate.

The value of your major assets

Your home (or your share in it) £.....

Other property or land £.....

Cars and other vehicles £.....

Home contents including furniture and fittings £.....

Items of particular value (e.g. jewellery or art) £.....

Money in banks and building societies £.....

Shares, investments, National Savings, Premium Bonds £.....

Insurance and pensions £.....

Other savings and assets £.....

Total Assets £.....

Your major liabilities

Your mortgage £.....

Loans and overdrafts £.....

Credit cards £.....

Credit or hire purchase agreements £.....

Other Liabilities £.....

Total Liabilities £.....

Assets less liabilities = estate value £.....

8. Bequests

Specific items e.g. cars, ornaments, jewellery. List the names and addresses of individuals and organisations, like the Liberal Democrats, to whom you would like to make a specific gift.

Full Name	Address	Description of gift

Pecuniary bequests (set amounts of money). List the names and address of individuals and organisations, including the Liberal Democrats, to whom you would like to leave a specific sum of money.

Full Name	Address	Amount %

Residuary bequests (a percentage or all of the remainder of your estate). List the names and addresses of individuals and organisations, including the Liberal Democrats, to whom you would like to leave a proportion of your estate.

Full Name	Address	Amount %

9. Choice of Executors

It is common to appoint a trusted family member or friend. A solicitor can also act as an Executor but please note there is normally a charge for this service.

Name of Executors: (1)
(2)

Address of Executors: (1)
.....
.....

(2)
.....
.....

Relationship to you: (1)
(2)

Making a Will is essential, enabling you to set down what you want to happen to your belongings and property after you are no longer here. A Will is also helpful to your family and friends in the aftermath of your passing.

But it's also an opportunity to do something lasting for your party, our country, and the future of liberalism. Your legacy donation ensures we can continue to stand for, and deliver, the kind of politics and policies you have believed in all your life.

It doesn't matter how much you choose to leave in your Will – any amount, however large or small, helps put more Liberal Democrats into every level of government.

The next generation of Liberal Democrats will face some of the biggest challenges in living memory – your legacy will live on through their hard work.

Codicil Form

Liberal Democrats Legacy Fund



If you have already made your will but would like to add a gift to the Liberal Democrats, please do so using the wording of this Codicil Form.

Please make sure that you sign this form in the presence of two witnesses. Your witnesses should not stand to benefit from your will or this codicil. They must both sign the form when you do.

In order to ensure it ties in properly with your will, we recommend that you seek professional advice and consult with your solicitor. The completed codicil should be kept with your will.

You fill in this section

I (*name*):

Of (*address*):

.....
.....
.....
.....

Declare this to be a first/second/third (*delete as appropriate*) codicil to my last will dated
(*date*): of (*month*): (*year*):

In addition to the provisions of my said will:

I give free of tax to the trustees for the time being of the Liberal Democrat Legacy Fund the sum of
£

/description of item/name of property:

.....

to be used for its general purposes and I declare that the receipt of their Treasurer or duly authorised officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge.

In all other respects I confirm my said will and any other codicils thereto.

Signed:

Date:

.....

.....

The witnesses should fill in this section

(Two witnesses are needed in England, Wales and Northern Ireland; 1 in Scotland)

Signed by the above named in our joint presence and then by us in his/hers.

First witness

Signature of witness:

Name:

Occupation:

Address:

.....
.....
.....

Second witness

Signature of witness:

Name:

Occupation:

Address:

.....
.....
.....

Administrator – A person appointed by law to finalise your affairs if you die without leaving a Will.

Assets – Total resources in your estate e.g. value of property and bank accounts.

Beneficiary – A person or charity who benefits from a gift in your Will.

Bequest/Legacy – A gift in your Will.

Codicil – A document to amend an existing Will.

Estate – Total sum of all your possessions.

Executor - The person appointed to carry out the wishes of your Will. Executors can be beneficiaries.

Inheritance Tax – The tax on your estate if worth over a certain amount - £325,000 (April 2015). Inheritance tax is set at 40% (April 2015) A gift in your will to the Lib Dems will be tax efficient, as gifts to a recognised political party are deducted from your estate before inheritance tax is calculated.

Intestacy – Dying without having left a Will.

Liabilities – Debts against the estate e.g. mortgage payments.

Pecuniary Legacy – This is a fixed sum of money that can be large or small and given as a gift to a beneficiary.

Probate - Certificate issued by a court that the will of a deceased is legally valid, and that the executors appointed under the will are authorized to administer the estate, once given the assets of a deceased can then be properly distributed.

Residuary Legacy – This is a percentage of your estate once outgoings have been dealt with (it can be as small as 1% or as large as 100%) and is given after all taxes, costs and other gifts.

Residue - The sum left from an estate when all debts, charges and gifts are deducted.

Reversionary Legacy – A gift in a Will that reverts to another beneficiary when the original beneficiary dies.

Specific Legacy – A gift of a particular item in your Will.

Testator (male) or testatrix (female) – The person who is making the Will.

Trust – A provision you can put in your Will to treat part of your assets in a particular way after your death.

Will – A document in which a person specifies the method to be applied in the management and distribution of their estate after death.

Witness – A witness to your signature on your Will. A witness cannot be a beneficiary.