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# Ending an LPA & How long does an LPA last?

**A Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is a document that gives legal authority to someone to deal with your affairs on your behalf, should you ever be unable to do this yourself.**

It is recommended that everyone consider putting one in place so that, should anything happen, your loved ones have the reassurance of being able to look after you. You can put two types of LPA in place, one in respect of your health and welfare and one in respect of your property and financial affairs. You can register it with the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) so that it is ready to use, as and when needed in the future. Over time you may want to change the arrangements you have made. We look at how you can alter or end a Lasting Power of Attorney once it has been registered with the OPG.

## **When an LPA ends automatically**

In some instances, an Attorneys authority under an LPA will end automatically. These include:

- If the person you have appointed to be your attorney dies or loses the mental capacity to act for you;
- If your chosen attorney is your spouse or civil partner and you divorce or dissolve your partnership;
- If your property and financial affairs attorney is declared bankrupt or is the subject of a Debt Relief Order;
- If the Court of Protection removes your attorney, for example, where they are not acting in your best interests.

If your chosen attorney has died and your LPA had been registered, the OPG should be notified. They will need to see a copy of the death certificate and also be sent the original LPA document.

## Choosing to end an LPA

There are several reasons you may want to revoke an LPA, including the following:

- You would prefer to appoint someone else, for example, because your relationship with your chosen attorney has changed or you have found someone you believe will be better placed to take on the role;
- You believe your attorney might struggle to deal with your affairs because of their own health issues or age
- Your attorney has moved away

You can revoke a registered LPA by making a written deed of revocation and sending it to the OPG with the original LPA. Any attorneys appointed under the LPA must also be notified. If you wish to end or alter a Lasting Power of Attorney, this should be done while you have mental capacity and it is important to follow the correct procedure.



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