



*Your Guide*  
**TO LEAVING A GIFT  
IN YOUR WILL**



**NHS  
CHARITIES  
TOGETHER**



**WRITE YOUR  
*forever thank you*  
TO AN NHS CHARITY**



Thank you

## *A forever thank you*

### **IN YOUR WILL CAN CHANGE LIVES FOR YEARS TO COME**

Thank you for asking about leaving a gift to NHS Charities Together in your Will.

We hope you'll find this guide interesting and inspirational. And we hope that it gives you a clear understanding of why the work of over 230 charities that we represent in every corner of our country is so very important to all of us.

We've also included practical information about how to make and change your Will and the kind of things to consider when writing it.

As you'll see in the coming pages, gifts in Wills are very special to NHS Charities Together, so we hope you'll join the growing community of our supporters nationwide.

WHY  
LEAVING A  
*forever  
thank you*  
IN YOUR  
WILL IS SO  
PRECIOUS TO US



JOIN OUR  
**AMAZING**  
COMMUNITY  
OF  
**SUPPORTERS**

NHS Charities Together represents over **230** member charities, big and small, all dedicated to helping the NHS go above and beyond.

We support these amazing charities in every corner of the UK. Many of our smaller charities simply couldn't make the impact they do in their local communities without our support.

To date we have helped over a thousand projects. We've funded over **400** projects for staff, like wellbeing and rest spaces and dedicated counselling support.

We've funded ambulance volunteer training, research, and specialist equipment and **325** community partnership projects to address local health inequalities\*.

But there's so much more to do, and our support for member charities is more important than ever.

A forever thank you in your Will can make a huge difference to this vital work.

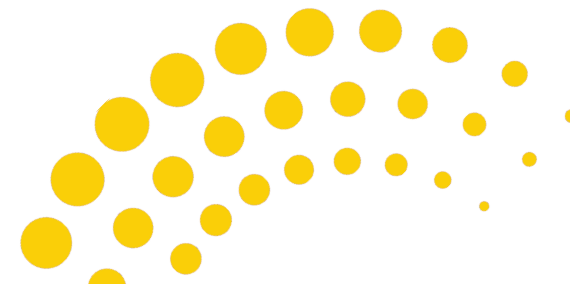
*\*Figures and examples correct as of 2021*

A gift in your Will is just one of many ways that you can choose to support our work. But we have received some amazing legacy gifts from generous supporters.

And more and more people are starting to ask about how they can help member charities do their

vital work to help the NHS go further and do more.

Gifts in Wills to NHS charities do so much to help us support NHS staff, provide research and specialist equipment, and address local health inequalities. So, every single gift is incredibly precious.





# WHAT YOUR *forever thank you* CAN DO

## Support for NHS staff

To help staff who are feeling burnt out, anxious and exhausted, we have, for example:

- **Provided quiet spaces**, like the wellbeing room at Hammersmith Hospital, where staff can relax and recover between long and busy shifts.
- **Trained staff volunteers**, like the 53 at County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, to provide the peer support that can prevent mental health issues from worsening.

## Support for patients

We fund projects that make hospital feel less like hospital, provide specialist equipment and new technology, and give vital support to families struggling with bereavement. To help the NHS care for us, we have:

- **Invested in research** for long-term health conditions, such as Long-Covid, awarding vital initial funding to Southmead Hospital Charity to study its long term effects.
- Hospitals Charity set up a **Patient Support Hub** to provide extra services for patients who are isolated – like a befriending service and food deliveries.

## Support in the community

We fund projects that support the health and wellbeing of communities, to ease the pressure on our hospitals. For example, we have:

- Worked with Grow Cardiff and Cardiff and Vale Health Charity to help **those feeling lonely and isolated** by getting them involved with community gardening.
- Supported West Midlands Ambulance Service with more bleed control kits across the region. These help **save the lives of patients** in those vital minutes before an ambulance can arrive.



# Why your Will

## MATTERS TO YOU

Your Will may be one of the most important documents you ever write. That's because if you have last wishes, including them in your Will is a great way to be certain they're carried out. A Will is also an excellent place to record your funeral wishes.

Your Will can make sure that the right people get whatever you've decided to leave for them. It's a simple way to carry on looking after loved ones when you're no longer here.

If you die without a Will, the choices you've made may not actually be respected, and your loved ones could be left with a lot of difficult decisions to make, which could lead to considerable distress.

Finally, your Will can also carry on your support for causes that are close to your heart. By including a gift to our Charity in your Will you can write a forever thank you with a gift that will carry on making a difference, long after you're gone.

## THREE TYPES OF

# *gifts to leave in your Will*

These are the three most common types of gift to leave in your Will...

1

### **I'd like to leave what's left of my estate**

After you've taken care of your family and friends and paid off any debts or taxes, you can gift either a portion or all of what's left – it's up to you.

For example, just 1% of what remains of your estate could make a real difference. Many supporters like this kind of gift because, as a part of your overall estate, it keeps its value over time.

2

### **I'd like to leave a specific amount**

Another option is to leave a fixed amount of money, which you set aside in your Will. This type of gift is paid out before the residue of your estate is calculated. But over time, inflation can reduce its value and make it less impactful.

3

### **I'd like to leave a specific gift**

A specific gift is a particular valuable item – like property, shares or a piece of jewellery.

With any of these types of gifts, you are free to restrict your forever thank you to a certain type of work we do. But, in fact, if you leave them unrestricted, it means we can use your gift to help where the need is greatest at the time.

If you would like to chat about restricting your gift, please email us at [hello@anhsc.org.uk](mailto:hello@anhsc.org.uk)



## *Gifts in Wills* **AND TAX**

The good news is that any gifts left to charities are exempt from Inheritance Tax. On top of that, sometimes by including a gift to a charity you can reduce the tax on everything else you leave behind. But Inheritance Tax is a complex and often-changing area of law, so we advise you visit [www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax](http://www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax) for all the latest information and speak to a professional.

# YOUR *Will writing* CHECKLIST



## Step 1

Make a list of your most valuable possessions. Remember to include any property you own, any savings or investments, as well as any valuable items like jewellery or paintings.

## Step 2

Add up what you think they're worth. A rough estimate is all you'll need to help work out what gifts you'd like to make.

## Step 3

Family and friends come first. Start by working out who you'd like to look after and what you'd like to leave them.

## Step 4

Then remember causes close to your heart. Make a list of the charities you'd like to support and think about how you'd like to make those gifts.

## Step 5

Choose executors and write your Will. Many people choose trusted family members as their executors. And there are many ways available to write your Will, from consulting a professional to completing a simple template or using one of a variety of online services that can guide you through the process and verify your document.

It's sensible to keep your Will in a safe place – and to tell your executors where it is. Many professional Will writers and solicitors offer to store your Will. Don't worry if your life or decisions change. It is simple to write a new Will that can change your instructions, or to update your Will using what's called a 'codicil'.

# USE THIS HANDY TEMPLATE TO WRITE *your forever thank you*

## STEP 1 & 2: List your valuable possessions and estimate their value

1
2
3
4
5

## STEP 3: List what you'd like to leave to whom

1
2
3
4
5

## STEP 4: List the charities you'd like to support and your gifts

1
2
3
4
5

## STEP 5: List your executors

1
2

*Now you're ready to write your Will*

# THE WORDING YOU NEED TO USE *in your Will*



### When you want to leave what's left of your estate

Subject to the payment of my debts, funeral and testamentary expenses, I give the whole/ \_\_\_\_\_ % of my estate not otherwise disposed of by this my Will to NHS Charities Together Suite 68, Lake View House, Wilton Drive, Warwick CV34 6RG. Registered Charity No 1186569 (England & Wales) and SC050716 (Scotland) for their general purposes and I declare that the receipt of its Treasurer or other proper officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge.

### When you want to leave a specific amount

I give free of tax to NHS Charities Together Suite 68, Lake View House, Wilton Drive, Warwick CV34 6RG Registered Charity No 1186569 (England & Wales) and SC050716 (Scotland), the sum of £\_\_\_\_\_ for their general purposes and I declare that the receipt of its Treasurer or other proper officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge.



"We understand that this is a big decision, and are therefore so grateful to you for considering this incredible way of supporting NHS Charities Together and writing your *forever thank you*."

**Ellie Orton OBE**  
CEO, NHS Charities Together

**Contact details:**

**NHS Charities Together**

Suite 68, Lake View House, Wilton Drive,  
Warwick CV34 6RG

[www.nhscharitiestogether.co.uk](http://www.nhscharitiestogether.co.uk)

[hello@anhsc.org.uk](mailto:hello@anhsc.org.uk)

0300 303 5748



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