

Carer Factsheet

Legal Matters

Working Carers

Sometimes a carer may need to take responsibility for the financial and legal affairs of the person they care for. Forward planning can save time, effort and money. Some things to consider are:

- **Benefits** – carers can become an ‘agent’ or ‘appointee’. Contact the Department for Work and Pensions. Go to www.gov.uk for more information.
- **Bank and building society accounts** – it may be possible to change to joint accounts or to take out a ‘Third party mandate’. Contact the relevant bank or building society.
- **Lasting Power of Attorney** – this is a legal procedure which enables people to give someone else responsibility to make decisions about financial and health matters. For more information contact the Public Guardianship Office on 0300 456 0300 or visit www.gov.uk.

Making a Will

For some people, the thought of writing a will can be upsetting, as they do not want to think about what will happen when they or the person they care for dies. A will allows you to set out what you want to happen when you die so and makes sure your wishes are followed and you can choose who you want to deal with things on your behalf.

If you write your own will, you must make sure it is signed, dated and witnessed correctly otherwise it will be invalid. Most solicitors will help draw up wills and most work on a fixed fee basis so you know how much it will cost before going ahead.

Legal Advice

Free legal advice is available from organisations such as Citizens Advice who have an advice line 03444 77 20 20 or go to their website www.cacv.org.uk.

The Legal Services Commission can help locate free or low cost legal information and advice services, put you in contact with a specialist solicitor, help you access aid (help towards legal costs), produce information sheets and offer an independent and confidential telephone helpline on 0845 345 4345.

Mental Capacity

Some people cannot make decisions for themselves, including choices about their care. Dementia, brain injury, severe mental and physical illness or substance misuse can cause someone to lack mental capacity. The Mental Capacity Act 2005 puts emphasis on supporting and enabling individuals to make their own decisions. For more information go to www.legislation.gov.uk.

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg. This document is available in Welsh.

This factsheet is produced by Cardiff Council, Vale of Glamorgan Council and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. Every effort has been made to make sure the information is correct and up to date.

V1 May 2018

Taflen Ffeithiau Gofalwr

Maerion Cyfreithiol

O bryd i'w gilydd efallai y bydd gofalwr angen cymryd cyfrifoldeb dros faterion ariannol a chyfreithiol y person y maen nhw'n gofalu amdano. Gall cynllunio ymlaen llaw arbed amser, ymdrech ac arian. Rhai pethau i'w hystyried yw:

- **Buddion** – gall gofalwyr ddos yn 'asiant' neu'n 'benodai'. Cysylltwch â'r Adran Gwaith a Phensiynau. Ewch i wefan www.gov.uk i gael rhagor o wybodaeth
- **Cyfrifon banc a chymdeithasau adeiladu** – mae'n bosib y gellir newid cyfrifon yn rhai ar y cyd neu gymryd 'mandad trydydd parti'. Cysylltwch â'r banc neu'r gymdeithas adeiladu perthnasol.
- **Atwrneiaeth Arhosol** – Gweithdrefn gyfreithiol yw hon sy'n galluogi pobl i roi cyfrifoldeb i rywun arall i wneud penderfyniadau am eich materion ariannol ac iechyd. Am fwy o wybodaeth cysylltwch â'r Swyddfa Warchodaeth Gyhoeddus ar 0300 456 0300 neu ewch i www.gov.uk.

Gwneud Ewyllys

I rai pobl, gall y syniad o ysgrifennu ewyllys beri gofid, am nad ydynt am feddwl beth fydd yn digwydd pan fyddan nhw neu'r person y maent yn gofalu amdano yn marw. Mae ewyllys yn eich galluogi chi i restru yr hyn y dymunwch ei weld yn digwydd pan fyddwch yn marw a sicrhau y dilynir eich dymuniadau a gallwch ddewis pwy i ddelio â phethau ar eich rhan.

Os byddwch yn ysgrifennu eich ewyllys eich hun, rhaid i chi sicrhau ei fod yn cael ei lofnodi, ei ddyddio a'i dystio'n gywir neu fel arall bydd yn annilys. Bydd y rhan fwyaf o gyfreithwyr yn helpu i lunio ewyllysiau ac mae'r rhan fwyaf yn gweithio ar sail ffi sefydlog fel y byddwch yn gwybod y gost cyn bwrw ymlaen.

Cyngor Cyfreithiol

Mae cyngor cyfreithiol am ddim ar gael gan sefydliadau fel Cyngor ar Bopeth sydd â llinell gymorth 03444 772020 neu ewch i'w gwefan <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/cymraeg/>

Gall y Comisiwn Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol helpu i ddod o hyd i wybodaeth gyfreithiol a gwasanaethau cynghori isel eu cost, eich cyfeirio chi at gyfreithiwr arbenigol, eich helpu i gael cymorth ariannol (help tuag at gostau cyfreithiol), cynhyrchu taflenni gwybodaeth a chynnig llinell gymorth ffôn annibynnol a chyfrinachol ar 0845 345 4345.

Galluedd Meddyliol

Ni all rhai pobl wneud penderfyniadau drostynt eu hunain, gan gynnwys dewisiadau parthed eu gofal. Gall demensia, anaf i'r ymennydd, salwch meddyliol a chorfforol difrifol neu gamddefnyddio sylweddau beri i rywun fod yn ddiffygiol o ran eu galluedd meddyliol. Mae Deddf Galluedd Meddyliol 2005 yn rhoi'r pwyslais ar gefnogi a galluogi unigolion i wneud eu penderfyniadau eu hunain. Am fwy o wybodaeth ewch i www.legislation.gov.uk.

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Saesneg. <0}

Cynhyrchir y ffeithlen hon gan Gyngor Caerdydd, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg a Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro

V1 Mai 2018