

Probate

A Grant of Probate is given to Executors to administer an Estate when the deceased has left a Will.

When the deceased has not left a Will, the equivalent to the above, known as Letters of Administration, is granted to the Personal Representatives, who may well be the nearest relatives.

The above will always be required to administer an Estate where one or more of the following is relevant:-

- The Estate includes share certificates
- There is a freehold or leasehold property in the deceased's name
- There is a large sum of money in a Bank Account (the amount will vary from one institution to another but will be measured in many thousands; you will need to contact your bank to enquire as to their threshold)

Often, the deceased's Estate will be small and fluid in nature. In such cases, the Estate may be administered by producing Certified Copies of the Death Register at the bank(s) concerned. These certificates are obtained from the Register Office when registering the death.

Both Probate and Letters of Administration are dealt with by the Probate Office and the contact details may be found on our 'Links' page. If there are Executors, it is their prerogative to deal with the application for a Grant of Probate but there is no obligation upon them to do so; they may, if they wish, renounce their Executorship.

The Probate system is designed to enable members of the public to administer an Estate themselves however, it can be complicated and family/Executors often employ the services of a solicitor to assist with this. Most solicitors will offer an initial interview for a relatively small fee.

At Tapper Funeral Service we are not Probate Solicitors but we do have some experience in helping families get the process underway. We can also provide a list of local solicitors that specialise in Probate work.

Please ask should you require further assistance.