## **Co-op Legal Services**

# Estate Administration: concerns and claims relating to the estate

In order for us to assess your requirements and see if we are able to provide a fee estimate for assisting you, please complete this form, **save it** and send to **probate@coop.co.uk** and we will respond within 48 hours (2 business days).

Information about the deceased	Information about you
To the best of your knowledge does Co-op Legal Services have any involvement with this estate?	Name:
Yes: Unfortunately we're unable to assist you and would recommend you seek advice from another provider. No: Please complete and return this form to us. Name:	<b>Status in relation to the estate:</b> Executor Administrator under the Rules of Intestacy Beneficiary or I have concerns about the estate
Address:	Your relationship to the deceased:
Date of birth:	Address:
Date of death:	Telephone number:
Deceased's marital status at death: Married/civil partnership Widowed/surviving civil partner   Divorced Single	Email address: Contact preferences:
Information about the will and/or Grant of Probate (if applicable)	Telephone Email <b>Time of day:</b> Morning
Is there a will? Yes No Date of the will :	Afternoon Early evening
Was the will prepared by a professional?YesNoDate of the grant of probate/administration (if applicable):	

Approximate value of the estate:

## Information about the estate

#### Which of the following are present in the estate?

- 1. Bank & building society accounts/National Savings & Investments
- 2. Stocks, shares & investments
- 3. Life insurance
- 4. One property
- 5. Multiple properties
- 6. Business interests
- 7. Farming interests
- 8. Assets outside of England & Wales
- 9. Pensions
- 10. Annuities
- 11. Mortgage(s) / equity release
- 12. Debts
- 13. Utilities & council tax
- 14. Beneficiaries outside of England and Wales
- 15. Beneficiaries aged under 18
- 16. Charity beneficiaries
- 17. Missing beneficiaries
- 18. Mentally incapable beneficiaries
- 19. Deceased beneficiaries
- 20. Disputes in the family
- 21. Disputes with third parties
- 22. Trusts
- 23. Inheritance tax Income tax Capital gains tax Other tax (e.g. VAT, stamp duty)
- 24. Missing assets
- 25. Chattels worth over £1,000
- 26. Insolvency issues
- 27. Estate accounts
- 28. Lifetime gifts
- 29. Lifetime tax planning

### Examples of issues that can occur include:

- An executor/administrator (also known as a personal representative) failing to update a beneficiary
- A beneficiary's share not being properly calculated
- Delays in the distribution of an estate because a property sale has been held up by a beneficiary
- Concerns that the executor/administrator is spending money from the estate without any authority
- An executor/administrator has been asked for estate accounts but hasn't produced them
- A claim is being made against the estate for financial provision under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. This allows certain people to claim if they have not been "reasonably" provided for. Please specify whether the claim or potential claim is being made by you or someone else.
- Concerns about the validity of the will under an earlier will or under the Rules of Intestacy. For example, did the deceased have capacity to make the will? Did they understand the terms of the will? Was there any "undue influence" on them? Was the will properly witnessed? Are there any unusual circumstances? Please specify whether, if the will is found to be invalid, you would be an executor/administrator and/or beneficiary.
- An issue in how the estate is being dealt with. For example, are the concerns that it's taking too long or that the executor/administrator has not been administering the estate correctly?
- Someone is living in the deceased's property and advice is needed on what to do next.

Please <u>save</u> and email this form to **probate@coop.co.uk** and we'll respond within 48 hours (2 business days).

Please note, that at this stage we're not acting on your behalf. We'll consider the information you've provided and assess if we're able to assist you. If we are able to assist, we will confirm this in writing, along with an estimate of our legal fees. Similarly, if we're unable to assist, we'll confirm this in writing.



It's what we do



Please explain below what you would like help with and details of any relevant information. We've provided some examples below which might assist.