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## POWERS OF ATTORNEY

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# POWERS OF ATTORNEY

You will no doubt manage your own affairs very comfortably for most, if not all, of your lifetime. However, there may come a time when you are not in a position to make your own decisions and need someone you trust to make decisions on your behalf.

## WHAT IS A POWER OF ATTORNEY?

A power of attorney is a document that appoints and gives authority to a person(s) to make decisions on another person's behalf. There are several types of power of attorney, the most popular being the 'lasting power of attorney'.

## WHAT TYPE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY DO I NEED?

This all depends upon the reason you need an attorney. If you are planning to go travelling for a long time, you may decide to give a person 'general power of attorney' so that your financial affairs can be looked after whilst you are away.

Alternatively, you might want to make sure that your family are able to help you look after your affairs in the event that you are no longer able to do so yourself, in which case a 'lasting power of attorney' would be more suitable.

## WHAT KIND OF DECISIONS CAN MY ATTORNEY MAKE?

This will depend on the type of power of attorney that you grant. All types of powers of attorney can give your attorney the ability to deal with your financial and property affairs.

A lasting power of attorney dealing with health and welfare decisions can also be granted, enabling your attorney to make decisions regarding your care, home life and medical treatment.



Comiston Water © Jon Allison

## THE PERSONAL TOUCH

We care about our clients.

We understand that it is a big step to give somebody else power over your affairs and we want you to be completely comfortable with whatever steps you decide to take.

By way of a face-to-face meeting, we will talk you through the issues that you need to consider and help you to tailor a power of attorney to suit your personal requirements.

We can also help you with:

- registering enduring powers of attorney
- applications to the Court of Protection
- making an advance directive or living will

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