

## leaving a legacy of care and compassion

**Thank you** for considering supporting the work of the Care Not Killing Alliance after your death.

Since 2006, we have advocated better palliative and end-of-life care while successfully opposing efforts to legislate for or rule in favour of assisted suicide or euthanasia. By remembering Care Not Killing in your will, you will be helping us to ensure that vulnerable people are protected and that our society maintains its enduring commitment to care and compassion.

This document outlines how you can benefit the work of Care Not Killing in a new or existing will.

## If you do not have a Will, this is an excellent opportunity to consider making one.

There are many reasons for making a Will. The obvious one of course is to ensure that members of your family will benefit according to your wishes upon your death – you should never make assumptions about what happens if you don't make a Will.

You may already have a Will, in which case this might be a good opportunity to review it, to ensure that it is fully up to date and that it takes into account changes in your life and circumstances. Marriage, for example, completely revokes an existing Will.

If your existing Will does not need changing, you could incorporate a legacy by way of a 'codicil' – a supplementary document which modifies or clarifies the provisions of a Will. A codicil still requires careful preparation, like a Will, and must be signed in the same way as a Will in order to be valid.

If a Will is incorrectly executed, it is completely invalid.

## Consult a solicitor about drafting, updating or amending your Will.

If you do not have your own solicitor, ask your family and friends to recommend one to you. It need not cost a lot to have a Solicitor draft your Will, but do try to find a solicitor who has experience in drafting Wills, as it is a specialised area of work.

It is possible to make a DIY Will but you will then miss the opportunity of discussing your wishes with an experienced professional who can guide you through the process and translate your wishes into the form of a legal document. DIY Wills (and codicils) can go horribly wrong, and instead of making things simpler for those you leave behind, they can become embroiled in a lengthy and expensive process to sort out your affairs.

*Visit the <u>Citizens Advice Bureau</u> or <u>Age UK</u> websites for more information on making a will, and the <u>English and Welsh</u>, <u>Scottish</u> or <u>Northern Irish</u> Law Society websites to find the details of a solicitor near you.* 

## How can I benefit CNK?

Whether in the context of a newly drawn Will or a Codicil, you have a number of options.

You can leave a fixed sum of money (**a 'pecuniary' gift**) or if you wish a percentage share of your estate (**a 'residuary' gift**).

You can include a **conditional** bequest that will only take effect if (for example) other beneficiaries do not survive you.

It is preferable that a legacy does not carry any conditions. This allows the Directors to apply the legacy at their discretion to best advance CNK's aims and objectives. Should you wish, however, to bequeathe funds for a specific purpose, the Board will make every effort to honour such a request.

The actual drafting of the legacy should be left to your Solicitor, but the legacy should be expressed in favour of:

CNK Alliance Limited (a Limited Company in England and Wales, Company No. 06360578) of 6 Marshalsea Road, London, SE1 1HL