



## Legacy Information

### Tax incentives

How leaving a charitable legacy can reduce your inheritance tax

By making a will you can be sure that your wishes will be followed after you die. If you don't make a will, part or all of your estate may go to people who you never intended to benefit. Not only that, Inheritance Tax legislation means that, if you don't prepare properly, a substantial part of what you leave behind may go to the State. Thankfully it is easy, quick and inexpensive to have a will drafted by a properly qualified professional.

Inheritance Tax is the tax that is paid on your estate when you die, as well as on some assets that you may have given away during your lifetime. Under current legislation, this applies if the estate you leave behind is valued in excess of £312,000 (2008/9).

Inheritance Tax will be payable at a rate of 40 per cent on the excess unless you have a surviving spouse to whom you have left your estate.

In the absence of a surviving spouse, one of the best ways of limiting your estate's exposure to Inheritance Tax is to make a charitable legacy which will be totally free of Inheritance Tax.

Please note that NCB is not authorised to give legal or financial advice and always recommends that you seek professional advice from a solicitor in drawing up your will.





## Types of legacy

The most common types of legacy that people make to charities are 'Residuary' (a proportion of the estate after all other bequests and debts have been paid) and 'Pecuniary' (a gift for a set sum). You could also choose to make a 'Specific' legacy of a particular asset or make your legacy 'Contingent' on something else occurring.

If you decide to leave either a 'Residuary' or 'Pecuniary' legacy to NCB, we would suggest that you use the following wording in your will. We would also strongly advise that you seek advice from your solicitor to ensure that any changes/amendments you make are properly undertaken and enforceable:

### Residuary legacy

'I give (%) of the residue of my real and personal estate which I can dispose of by Will in any manner I think proper to National Children's Bureau (Registered Charity No. 258825) of 8 Wakley Street, London, EC1V 7QE and the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or the proper officer for the time being of National Children's Bureau shall be a complete discharge to my Executors.'

### Pecuniary legacy

'I give the sum of ..... pounds to National Children's Bureau (Registered Charity No. 258825) of 8 Wakley Street, London, EC1V 7QE and the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper officer for the time being of National Children's Bureau shall be a complete discharge to my Executors.'

It is also important to add the following clause in either case:

'If at my death any charity named as a beneficiary in this Will or any Codicil hereto has changed its name or amalgamated with or transferred its assets to another body then my Executors shall give effect to any gift made to such charity as if it had been made (in the first case) to the body in its changed name or (in the second place) to the body which results from such amalgamation or to which such transfer has been made.'





## What to do next

### 1. Notify your solicitor

If you already have a will and want NCB to benefit it is important to keep it up to date and advise your solicitor of any changes you wish to make. You can find some suggested wording here for leaving something in your will to NCB but we recommend you also have it checked by your solicitor.

If you do not yet have a will but wish to make one, and include NCB as a beneficiary, we recommend you get advice from a solicitor. Badly written wills can result in your wishes not being carried out, so we advise that you should have your will written or checked by a professional. Again, there is some suggested wording here that might help you.

### 2. Notify us

You do not have to tell us that you are leaving a legacy to NCB in your will, and we understand that circumstances can change, but we would be very grateful if you would complete our online response form as this assists us in planning for the future.

For further information please contact the fundraising unit in confidence on 020 7843 6066 or email [fundraising@ncb.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@ncb.org.uk)

