

Let  
outstanding  
care be  
your legacy



**Kingston**  
Hospital  
Charity

**A guide to leaving  
a gift in your will**

# A gift in your will can help to ensure Kingston Hospital continues to provide outstanding care to our community for years to come.

Gifts in wills have always been very important to Kingston Hospital, providing a vital source of support, helping to ensure every patient experiences outstanding care and the best possible outcome.

All around the hospital you can see how gifts in wills are making a difference. Recent examples include: helping transform our elderly care wards to provide a dementia friendly environment and development of the wonderful Maxwell Thorne Haematology Day Unit; acquiring cutting-edge equipment, including seven state-of-the-art Fuji 740 series transnasal scopes for our endoscopy service; and refurbishing and expanding the Royal Eye Unit's acute referral centre to ensure a more efficient service, while also enhancing the care environment.

If you've decided to leave us a gift in your will, thank you so much. Your generosity is going to make a lasting difference to the care the hospital can provide to our community for years to come.

## **Three simple steps you can take to make or update your will**

- 1** Think about family, friends and the causes you would like to remember in your will. Loved ones always come first and we hope you will remember Kingston Hospital Charity and other causes you care about in your will.
- 2** Speak to your solicitor or professional will writer about updating your will.
- 3** Provide your solicitor or professional will writer with Kingston Hospital Charity's registered charity details – our name, address and charity number which is included on the back page of this document.

Making a will is important because it gives you peace of mind, knowing that your wishes will be respected, and it needn't be time-consuming or expensive.

### **How much should I leave Kingston Hospital Charity in my will?**

This is entirely your decision. We are grateful for every gift we receive. You can leave a share of your estate after your loved ones have been provided for (a residuary gift) or specify a fixed amount you want to leave (a pecuniary gift). You can also leave a particular named item as a gift - such as a painting, piece of jewellery or property (a specific gift).

Many people opt to give a residuary gift because it keeps in line with inflation and does not lose value over time.

### **Who should write or update my will?**

You can use a solicitor or professional will writer to write or update your will to ensure it is validly written and witnessed.

If you don't already have one, the Law Society can help you find a wills and probate solicitor in your area – you can visit [www.lawsociety.org.uk](http://www.lawsociety.org.uk) or call them on **020 7320 5650**.

We also offer a free will service. For further information, please visit [www.khc.org.uk/support-us/leave-a-gift-in-your-will/](http://www.khc.org.uk/support-us/leave-a-gift-in-your-will/)

### **I already have a will. Do I need to update it?**

It's a good idea to review your will to make sure it reflects your wishes now, especially if your personal circumstances have changed. Changes that affect your will may include a new arrival or death in your family, moving home, marriage, divorce or separation, or a change in your financial circumstances.

### **How will the gift in my will be spent?**

Kingston Hospital Charity enhances the care and treatments available to patients, which would not be possible with NHS funds alone. Typically, charitable donations are used to: purchase equipment for better diagnosis and treatment; develop new facilities that provide the most patient-friendly amenities and environments; fund high-quality clinical research; provide patient comforts; and support the development and wellbeing of our staff.

## Your questions answered

### Can I specify where I want my gift to go?

Ideally, we would like to use the gift you leave in your will where it is most needed at the time and can make the biggest difference for patients. Depending upon whether you've decided to leave us a pecuniary gift or a residuary gift, you may wish to provide the wording below to your solicitor or professional will writer when writing your will:

#### For a pecuniary gift:

"I give free of tax to Kingston Hospital Charity (registered charity number 1056510), Galsworthy Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT2 7QB the sum of £\_\_\_\_\_ (insert figures and words) to be used for its general charitable purposes and I declare that the receipt of the Director or other approved officer shall be sufficient discharge to my Executors."

#### For a residuary gift:

"I give all (or a \_\_\_\_\_% share) of the residue of my estate to Kingston Hospital Charity (registered charity number 1056510), Galsworthy Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT2 7QB to be used for its general charitable purposes and I declare that the receipt of the Director or other approved officer shall be sufficient discharge to my Executors."

#### For a specific wish:

We appreciate that some people will have a preference for leaving their gift to a particular service or department (e.g. oncology, cardiology, ophthalmology, clinical research) that has benefitted them or a loved one.

If you would prefer to support a specific area of work, we would recommend that you replace "...to be used for its general charitable purposes" with "...with the wish that it be used to support \_\_\_\_\_ (insert area of work, service or department)."

### Do I pay inheritance tax on a charitable gift?

Inheritance tax is the amount of money that will need to be paid from your estate if it's over a certain value – the current threshold is £325,000 (the nil rate band). Spouses and civil partners can share their nil rate bands so that the second to die can have a nil rate band of up to £650,000. There are also some exemptions and reliefs available to reduce the inheritance tax burden, including the 'residence nil-rate band' of £175,000.

If you leave a gift in your will, you may be able to reduce, or even eliminate any inheritance tax liability. Gifts to charities are 100% tax free and are taken out of your estate before tax is calculated. Since April 2017, if you leave 10% of your taxable estate (rather than the entire estate) to charity in your will, the inheritance tax rate will be reduced from 40% to 36%.

Your solicitor or professional will writer will be able to advise you on your potential inheritance tax liability or you can find out more by visiting [www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax](http://www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax).

"We have decided to leave Kingston Hospital Charity a modest bequest in our wills simply as a way of saying a personal thank you to all of the staff at the hospital and the NHS for being there when we needed them. We have always received excellent treatment by the clinical teams at Kingston Hospital over the last thirty years, including life-saving treatment from the Haematology Department."

Paul and Laura

We thought it helpful to provide some explanation of the words and terms that you may come across when writing or updating your will.

<b>Beneficiary</b>	Person or organisation who receives a gift from a will
<b>Bequest</b>	Term used to describe a gift in a will, which is also sometimes referred to as a legacy
<b>Codicil</b>	Document used to amend or add to a will, which has already been made
<b>Estate</b>	Total sum of your assets, including your property, possessions and money
<b>Executor</b>	Person(s) appointed to carry out the wishes of your will, this could be a family member, friend or solicitor
<b>Inheritance tax</b>	Tax level on the portion of your estate which is above the inheritance tax threshold, all gifts left to charity in a will are free of inheritance tax
<b>Pecuniary gift</b>	Gift in a will of a fixed sum of money
<b>Probate</b>	Process of officially proving a will so that the executors can administer the estate
<b>Residuary gift</b>	Gift in a will of a percentage or portion of an estate
<b>Testator</b>	Person who has made a will, dying intestate means dying without a will

# Take as much time as you need to make sure it feels just right for you.

We know that your family and loved ones come first and we are very grateful for any gift you decide to make to Kingston Hospital once they are taken care of.

It's up to you whether you let us know that you are leaving us a gift. We'd love to be able to thank you and keep you updated on the work we do, made possible by gifts like yours but we understand this is a private decision.

We recognise how important your support is – gifts in wills continue to provide a crucial source of funding and will help to provide outstanding care for our community, beyond what the NHS can do alone, for years to come.

We will handle all gifts efficiently and with respect and sensitivity.

“Roy first experienced the high standard of care provided by the nursing and clinical staff at Kingston Hospital after he had a stroke in 1993. He was particularly appreciative of the speech therapy department at the time and for the subsequent care he received from hospital staff up until his death in May 2017. Roy was rooted in his local community and regarded his neighbours as his friends. It was therefore entirely fitting that with no living relatives, he left the bulk of his estate to Kingston Hospital Charity so that the whole community could benefit.”

Ian, executor of Roy's estate



Thank you very much

Our thanks to you, we appreciate every gift and the difference each one helps to make.



“We are so grateful to everyone who supports us by leaving a gift in their will. The evidence of their impact on helping our patients experience outstanding care and the best possible outcomes can be seen across our hospital and we want that to continue long into the future. Thank you for taking the time to consider supporting us in this way.”

Jo Farrar, CEO Kingston Hospital

We are always here so if you have any questions or would like to see how such gifts are making a difference, please get in touch by calling **Rob Aldous** on **020 8973 5042** or emailing **[r.aldous@nhs.net](mailto:r.aldous@nhs.net)**.



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Galsworthy Road  
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Surrey KT2 7QB  
[khc.org.uk](http://khc.org.uk)

Registered charity number 1056510



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REGULATOR**