

# Giving in your will

Leave a lasting gift that will help your community for years to come



*making a difference*

## Giving in your will

Leaving a gift in your will to Thames Community Foundation offers a lasting way to put something back into your local community.

A cash legacy, for example, is an important and traditional way of giving to charity. A legacy or bequest to Thames Community Foundation could go on making a difference forever as grants are made year after year to meet the needs of future generations.

## Helping you make a difference

Local voluntary groups and charities are supported by the Foundation, which assesses and monitors each project carefully. The number of charitable organisations operating in our six boroughs is growing: many are small and relatively unknown but doing excellent work in their own field.

A grant from the Foundation can make a real difference to these organisations - and in some cases can provide an essential source of funding for a specific project.

## About us

Thames Community Foundation is working to improve the quality of life and helping to build stronger communities across Hounslow, Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Sutton and Wandsworth.

Since the Foundation began, more than £1 million has been distributed to hundreds of projects, affecting the lives of many people.

The Foundation distributes funds on behalf of business, other charities and the government through a variety of grant-making programmes. Grants are also funded by income from our capital funds, which are held on behalf of individuals, companies and trusts.

## Types of legacy or bequest

There are different types of gift by will; your solicitor can help you choose and ensure that your choice suits your personal circumstances.

Thames Community Foundation is a registered charity and gifts left to us by will are free of inheritance tax.

Sometimes a gift made in this way can reduce the amount of inheritance tax paid by the estate of the deceased – thus increasing the gains of other beneficiaries.

The main ways of making such a gift are:

- 1 A cash (or 'pecuniary') legacy:** the deceased pledges a specific sum to a particular charity.
- 2 A specific legacy:** the deceased pledges a specific item – for example, shares, an investment or even be a house or other property – to a particular charity.
- 3 A residuary gift:** once family and loved ones have been provided for, the remainder or a proportion of the deceased's estate is pledged to one or more charities.

## Giving by will – how does it work?

All gifts given to Thames Community Foundation will be used to support charities in our area.

As with lifetime gifts, you may wish the legacy or bequest to support the Foundation's general grant-making programmes by naming Thames Community Foundation as the beneficiary. Alternatively, your will may specify the creation of a named fund with specific charitable objectives.

The Foundation will work closely with your relatives and/or professional advisors to ensure your charitable interests are met. If you know which charities you would like to support, leave a gift in your Will to the Thames Community Foundation with instructions to distribute the income between your favourite charities – perhaps over a period of years.

A legacy to charity enables you to make a planned gift to a charity you care about, while ensuring dependants are provided for. A bequest to charity may mean that your generosity will go on making a difference locally for years to come. And if you wish, your name will be remembered through your named fund.

Charitable legacies are paid before tax is deducted, reducing the total amount of inheritance tax due from your estate.



## Legacies – the next step

Name Thames Community Foundation in your Will or leave a sum of money to the executors with instructions on how you would like your donation to be distributed.

Using a solicitor to draft your will ensures that your wishes will be carried out. We have specimen wording available to help your solicitor ensure that your gift can be managed by the Foundation.

## Find out more

Thames Community Foundation is a registered charity managed by local people. This leaflet only gives an outline of how we can help you. Further details can be found in our Annual Review or on our website

**[www.thamescommunityfoundation.org.uk](http://www.thamescommunityfoundation.org.uk)**

If you would like to speak to our friendly team about your charitable intentions or how to leave a legacy to the Foundation, please call **0208 977 2540** or email **[tcf@btconnect.com](mailto:tcf@btconnect.com)**

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Registered Charity No. 1001994

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