

# Matthew Edwards

## Partner



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 01708 963 377

Matthew Edwards studied his law degree at the University of East London, graduating in 2000, before completing his legal practice course at Anglia Ruskin University in 2002.

Matthew subsequently joined Birkett Long LLP, a leading tier 1 Legal 500 firm to complete his two-year training contract, qualifying as a solicitor in 2004. There he remained for a further five years practising as a private client solicitor.

Matthew joined Pinney Talfourd in 2009 to head the private client team and was made a partner in 2011.

Matthew leads a team of 17 private client lawyers and has overall responsibility for the management and supervision of all private client related matters. Whilst heading up the department, Matthew continues to act for various clients.

Matthew has acted as a professional executor and trustee on numerous cases throughout his career and leads with all the firm's executor and trustee appointments. In addition, he acts as a Deputy and Attorney for over 80 vulnerable clients.

## EXPERTISE

Matthews expertise covers:

### WILLS

- [Wills](#)

#### Upminster

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#### Leigh-on-Sea

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#### Canary Wharf

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## LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY

- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Decisions affecting Property and Finances
- Decisions affecting health and welfare

## PROBATE

- Probate
- Intestacy
- Executors
- Estate Administration Services

## TRUSTS

- Trusts

## COURT OF PROTECTION

- Court of Protection
- The role of the Office of the Public Guardian
- The role of a Deputy
- Referrals
- Court of Protection Services
- Applying to become a Deputy

Matthew is regularly consulted by lawyers from other firms and other professionals to act as an independent administrator to resolve long-running contentious estates and complex court of protection work.

He is an experienced Court of Protection lawyer able to deal with a wide range of Court applications including complex statutory wills, estate planning and gifting, and trust related matters.

In 2015, Matthew became one of only 71 solicitors in the country to be appointed to the Court of Protection Deputyship Panel. In this capacity, Matthew regularly accepts Court appointments to act for highly vulnerable clients who do not have capacity to make decisions concerning their own property or finances – often these clients have unknowingly been victims of serious financial abuse or have complex financial needs

Matthew is a highly experienced probate practitioner able to deal with a wide range of complex cases. Most of Matthew's cases include Inheritance Tax considerations.

## BADGES & AWARDS

Matthew is a full member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) having completed his STEP Diploma in 2009. Matthew is recognised by Legal 500 as a Leading Individual in their 2023 Guide. Matthew is an Accredited Lifetime Lawyer – one of the most qualified lawyers in the country supporting vulnerable and older people. Matthew is a member of the Office of the Public Guardian Panel of Professional Deputies

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(appointed in 2015), one of only two in Essex and 71 in the country.

## ON A PERSONAL NOTE

On a personal note, in his spare time Matthew likes to spend time with his young family. He also enjoys regular fitness training including boxing.

## Areas of Expertise

### Court of Protection

Matthews expertise covers:

#### WILLS

- [Wills](#)

#### LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY

- [Lasting Powers of Attorney](#)
- [Decisions affecting Property and Finances](#)
- [Decisions affecting health and welfare](#)

#### PROBATE

- [Probate](#)
- [Intestacy](#)
- [Executors](#)
- [Estate Administration Services](#)

#### TRUSTS

- [Trusts](#)

#### COURT OF PROTECTION

- [Court of Protection](#)
- [The role of the Office of the Public Guardian](#)
- [The role of a Deputy](#)
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## Notable Court of Protection cases

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### Court of Protection

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Evidencing serious financial abuse involving the loss of £500,000 to a client, and successfully recovering this sum through the deputy security bond.

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### Court of Protection

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An application involving the complex interaction of statutory will, retrospective approval of a lifetime gift and a declaration of trust.

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### Court of Protection

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An application to obtain authority to sell a property and the related removal of family members who were illegally occupying it.

## Estate Administration

Matthew is a highly experienced probate practitioner able to deal with a wide range of complex cases. Most of Matthew's cases include Inheritance Tax considerations.

### Notable Estate Administration cases

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#### Estate Administration Services

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Advising on a multi-million-pound estate involving a wide range of assets including properties, land, business property relief investment products, enterprise investment schemes and pension funds.

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#### Estate Administration Services

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Advising on a multi-million-pound estate that included unquoted shares in two limited companies, the related negotiations with the district valuer to maximise the availability of business property relief, and a deed of variation to eliminate the Inheritance Tax liability.

## Wills

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The preparation of Wills is an increasingly complex area of private client work. Matthew combines a high level of technical expertise with a practical common-sense approach that he has developed over many years of advising individuals and families.

## Notable Wills cases

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### Wills

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Preparing Wills for the shareholders and directors of a limited company to regulate the transfer of shares on death through the use of a discretionary trust combined with a cross option agreement and in the process maximising the availability of business property relief.

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### Wills

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Preparation of Wills for a re-married couple who both had children from previous marriages. Multiple asset protection Will trusts were put in place having careful regard to the need to balance the competing interests of the surviving spouse and children, and the risk of future care home fee payments and financially irresponsible adult children.

## Memberships

- Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP)
- Court of Protection Deputyship Panel
- Law Society Private Client Section

## Awards

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