INHERITANCE
PLANNING COMPANY

How Business Wills Can Protect Your Company and Family

Introduction

A **Business Will** is an essential tool for business owners to ensure that their company and family are protected in the event of their death. This guide will explain the importance of a Business Will, how it differs from a personal will, and the benefits it provides for both your business and your heirs.

What is a Business Will?

A Business Will is a legal document that outlines how your business assets will be managed and transferred after your death. Unlike a personal will, which focuses on distributing personal assets, a Business Will specifically addresses the future of your business, ensuring that it continues to operate smoothly and that your chosen heirs receive the value they are entitled to.

Key Benefits of a Business Will

Business Continuity

A Business Will ensures that the company remains operational after your death protecting it from potential disruption or liquidation.

Control Over Succession

You decide who will take control of the business, ensuring that it remains in capable hands and preventing unwanted individuals from gaining influence.

Minimising Tax Liabilities

With proper planning, a Business Will can help minimise inheritance tax and other liabilities, ensuring that the maximum value of the business is passed on to your heirs.

Protection for Family Members

A Business Will ensures that your family receives fair compensation for your share of the business, even if they are not directly involved in its management.

How to Create a Business Will

Creating a Business Will requires careful planning and the involvement of legal and financial professionals to ensure that all aspects of the business are protected.

Identify Key Assets

Start by identifying the key assets of your business, including shares, intellectual property, and physical assets.

Choose Your Successors

Decide who will take over the management of the business after your death. This could be a family member, a business partner, or a professional manager.

Consider a Business Trust

A Business Trust can provide additional protection for the business, allowing it to continue operating while ensuring that the value is preserved for your family.

Review Inheritance Tax Implications

Work with a tax advisor to ensure that your Business Will is structured in a tax-efficient manner, taking advantage of **Business Relief** and other available exemptions.

Common Pitfalls to Avoid

Failure to Plan for Business Succession

Without a clear plan for who will take over the business, it may face operational challenges or even collapse.

Ignoring Inheritance Tax

Failing to consider the inheritance tax implications of your business could result in a significant portion of the value being lost to taxes.

Inadequate Legal Documentation

A poorly drafted will may lead to legal disputes or challenges, causing delays and financial strain on your family and business.

FAQs

What happens if I don't have a Business Will?

Without a Business Will, your business may be subject to intestacy rules, which could lead to unwanted individuals taking control or the business being sold.

Can a Business Will help reduce inheritance tax?

Yes, with proper planning, a Business Will can take advantage of **Business Relief**, reducing or eliminating the inheritance tax on business assets.

Do I need a separate will for my personal assets?

Yes, it's important to have both a personal will and a Business Will to ensurethat all your assets are covered and distributed according to your wishes.

How We Can Help

At **Inheritance Planning Company,** we specialise in creating bespoke Business Wills that protect your company and your family. Our team will guide you through every step of the process, ensuring that your business continues to thrive and your family is provided for.

Disclaimer:

This information is correct as of September 2024. Legal updates or changes may have occurred since then. For the most current advice, please contact **Inheritance Planning Company Ltd** at:

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