

Legacy Factsheet 7: Frequently Asked Questions

Why is it so important to make a Will?

Writing a Will is the only way to ensure your wishes are carried out after your death. Making a Will lets you plan how to take care of your family, friends and support your favourite charitable causes after your death.

What is a legacy?

A legacy is a gift left in a Will to a person or charity. This could be a specific sum of money (pecuniary legacy), specific item of jewellery or another possession (specific legacy) or whatever is left of your estate after you have paid all other debts and legacies (residuary).

Do I have to name an actual charity or can I just leave money to ‘help people with spinal cord injuries’?

It is best to be specific to ensure that your legacy goes to the correct place. If you are unsure of SIA’s legal name, charity number or address, take a look at the website, www.spinal.co.uk, or call Amanda Lee on 0845 678 6633 Ext 218.

Do I need to tell SIA if I decide to include them in my Will?

No, you don’t need to tell us but we would be delighted to hear if this is what you have chosen. Notifying us of your decision is not legally binding in any way and you can still change your Will, should your circumstances change.

Do I have to leave a lot?

Any amount, no matter how big or small is greatly appreciated by SIA and helps us to continue providing services to support spinal cord injured people and their families as they rebuild their lives after paralysis. SIA receives less than 3% of its funding from the government and so relies on the generosity of individuals and companies to continue providing and developing services and information.

What would happen if I left a gift to SIA?

All legacies left to SIA contribute towards supporting spinal cord injured people and their families. This includes funding existing services such as the Freephone Advice Line and contributing towards new services to meet areas of unmet need.