

Case Study: Estate Planning



If there was a league table of taxes people hate, Inheritance Tax would probably be at the top of the list. Most people don't want to hand their hard earned wealth to the State when they die. This was certainly the case for George and Fiona.

"We wanted to pass as much of our wealth as possible to our children and grandchildren."

"Whilst we do not think of ourselves as particularly wealthy, we were not happy with the prospect of the government taking a big slice when we die. Informed Choice was able to show us how to keep that to a minimum. "

We find that most people resent the thought of having to pay a large amount of inheritance tax when they die. Doing nothing is always an option, but it doesn't solve the problem.

Funding the ultimate cost of inheritance tax is another popular option, as is investing money in a suitable trust arrangement. Even giving money away can help to reduce the size of the eventual tax bill, as long as you live for at least seven years after making the gift.

There are advantages and disadvantages associated with all forms of estate planning. We were able to work with George and Fiona to explain the impact of each of the choices and recommend the most suitable option.

For George and Fiona, a key component in any action they might take was the fact that they needed to receive an income from their investment capital, so this restricted the options available.

We helped George and Fiona to create an estate plan to reduce the eventual inheritance tax bill whilst retaining access to income, and implemented this with them in conjunction with their Solicitor.