

Estate Planning Checklist

By Kimberly French

- Communicating your Wishes
 - Do you have a current and valid will?
 - If you have a will have you reviewed it within the last 3 years?
 - Have you named executor(s) and trustee(s)?
 - Do you have an enduring power of attorney?
 - Have you made a nomination in relation to your superannuation?
 - If you have specific wishes regarding your funeral, have you left instructions with your executor?
 - Have you documented your wishes regarding organ donations?
- Protecting your Family
 - Does your spouse/children/executor know the names and addresses of your professional advisers?
 - Does your will name a guardian(s) for minor children?
 - Does your will provide for children from a previous marriage(s)?
 - If you have dependents with disabilities does your estate plan protect their interests?
 - Do you have the right amount and type of life insurance?
- Protecting their Inheritance
 - Have you considered setting up a trust to protect your family's inheritance?
 - Does your estate plan take account of the possibility of someone making a claim on your estate?
 - Does your will protect potential beneficiaries who may face family breakdown or become bankrupt?
 - Do you know what effect your death would have on your self managed super fund, family trust or family company?
- Other Considerations
 - Have you considered making a planned gift to charity?
 - Do you know what the tax and social security consequences would be for beneficiaries of your current will?