



## OUR CAPABILITIES

*Pitcher the Opportunity*

### Pitcher Partners Estate Planning Health Check

Pitcher Partners is an accounting and business advisory firm with a strong reputation for providing personal service and quality advice to privately owned businesses and small to medium public companies.

Estate Planning is more than just having a Will. It is a way of ensuring that a person's estate is passed on to their beneficiaries in the most financially efficient and tax effective way possible. It involves preparing a plan while you are alive and well, to protect your wealth and to facilitate passing that wealth to family members or others, according to your wishes.

An estate plan maximises the assets that are passed on after your death, and takes into account non-financial matters such as care of dependent children, medical treatment and accommodation if you are incapacitated. It also takes account of your charitable, community and cultural requirements.

Ultimately, estate planning is about achieving peace of mind, knowing that you've done everything necessary to put things in order so that your wealth is passed on as you wish.

If you die without a Will, your assets will be distributed according to a statutory formula. Even if your family situation is straightforward and your financial affairs are simple, there is a chance that the outcome will not be as you would have wished.

Alternatively, if a Will exists, it may only deal with assets that are owned personally, and not address the issue of wealth housed in business assets, or in the name of spouses, trusts or superannuation funds.

The Pitcher Partners' comprehensive estate planning process creates an "action plan" that can be followed by your executor and family to ensure that the administration of your estate and business interests are managed in a structured and efficient manner.

The action plan takes into consideration the following issues:

- Superannuation – how should this be dealt with after death?
- Who will control non-estate wealth holding entities, such as family trusts?
- Gifts & legacies – to whom should they be made and when?
- How will wealth held in family businesses be dealt with?
- Advisors – who will draft and review estate documents and plans?



*“With Pitcher Partners, you get the team rather than the company, which means the quality and timeliness of responses is excellent. You get good advice quickly.”*

**Client Testimonial**

An estate plan should balance life-time enjoyment of your assets with the preservation of those assets for your family after death. In addition, the plan should be simple to operate, cost efficient to maintain and be regularly revised.

If you are unsure whether an estate plan is really necessary, we suggest you ask yourself the following:

- Do I have a family business to pass on?
- Do I have a superannuation entitlement?
- Do I want to make a gift to a charity?
- Do I have capital losses?
- Do I have a property to pass on where capital gains tax will be an issue?
- Do I have life insurance?
- Do I have family debts?
- Do I want flexibility or do I want certainty in distributing my assets?

For most people with money in superannuation, and a reasonable level of assets, an estate plan is as essential as an up to date will.



### For further information please contact



**David Thomson**  
**Partner**

T 03 8610 5180

E david.thomson@pitcher.com.au



**David Foulds**  
**Director**

T 03 8610 5353

E david.foulds@pitcher.com.au



**MELBOURNE**

+61 3 8610 5000  
partners@pitcher.com.au

**SYDNEY**

+61 2 9221 2099  
partners@pitcher-nsw.com.au

**PERTH**

+61 8 9322 2022  
partners@pitcher-wa.com.au

**ADELAIDE**

+61 8 8179 2800  
partners@pitcher-sa.com.au

**BRISBANE**

+61 7 3222 8444  
partners@pitcherpartners.com.au

**NEWCASTLE**

+61 2 4911 2000  
newcastle@pitcher.com.au

[www.pitcher.com.au](http://www.pitcher.com.au)

Pitcher Partners is an association of independent firms. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.