

# Buying a Vehicle When the Owner is Deceased

Is the customer able to provide a copy of the death certificate? (We also accept a copy of an Interim Death Certificate or Coroners Certificate if the Death Certificate has not yet been issued)

YES

NO

Is the value of the deceased estate less than £10,000 <sup>1</sup>

YES

We can proceed with purchasing the car from the next of kin.

Documents required:

- Death certificate
- Photo ID (Passport/Driver's License) for Next of Kin
- Proof of Next of Kin account details (Bank statement/Bank card)
- We will also require the Next of Kin to complete a declaration form at the point of sale

NO

Stop. Do not proceed without a copy of the death certificate

Has probate <sup>2</sup> been granted?

YES

We can buy the car from Executor named on the Grant/Confirmation document.

Documents required:

- Death certificate
- Photo ID and proof of address for the executor
- Grant of Probate/Confirmation document
- Payment is to be paid into the account used to manage the deceased's estate so proof of the account details will be required.

NO

Is a Solicitor managing the Estate?

YES

We will require a letter or email from the Estate's Solicitor granting permission for the vehicle to be sold and confirming who payment should be released to.

Documents required:

- Death certificate
- Photo ID (passport/driving licence) for the person bringing the car to branch for sale
- Written authority from the solicitor (letter/e-mail) advising that the vehicle can be sold. The letter should also include instructions on where the payment should be made to (full account details)

NO

Sometimes, a family prefers to manage the estate themselves, instead of instructing a solicitor to act on their behalf.

We can still buy the car however to aid the company, if you can provide a copy of the last Will and Testament, with written confirmation from the solicitors that drafted the will that the copy is the last known version, we can proceed with a payment to the Executor named on the Will.

Documents required:

- Death certificate
- Photo ID (passport/driving licence) for the person bringing the car to branch for sale
- Copy of the last known Will/Testament
- Written confirmation from the solicitors that drafted the will, that the copy is the last known version.

This information together with the notes below are for guidance only. Please ensure the customer consults with professional advisors who will help them understand the steps required in order to be able to sell a deceased person's car or van. They must have the right to sell the car.

1. The estate is the total amount in £s which has been left by the deceased car owner before it is distributed.
2. 'Probate' is the English law court process by which a Will is proved valid or invalid. It also describes the legal process wherein the estate of a deceased is administered.