This chapter discusses the role of trustees, which is central to the operation of trusts. In most cases, trustees have extensive powers conferred upon them by the trust instrument or by the general law. The way in which they exercise those powers can have a huge impact upon whether or not the objectives of the trust are achieved, and upon the beneficiaries. Choosing the right trustees is, therefore, essential. This chapter thus looks at how the original trustees are appointed and what steps can be taken should the trustees need to be changed through resignation or retirement, or because the settlor or the beneficiaries are no longer content that a trustee should continue in office.
27. Appointing and changing trustees