

Easy to understand charges at a glance

Scottish Widows Platform – Platform Charges

We understand that it's important to keep things simple when it comes to charges. The Scottish Widows Platform has a straightforward, easy to understand charging structure, so you are clear on what the charges are and when they apply.

Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) charge

This is a percentage charge based on the value of the assets under administration, excluding uninvested cash in your Scottish Widows Platform Account(s).

The percentage charge is:

- On a reducing scale, so the greater the value of assets under management the lower the overall percentage charge will be.
- Calculated and accrued daily and is deducted on the monthly anniversary of the date you first set up your client's Scottish Widows Platform Account(s). This may be prior to the date you submitted the application.
- Paid from available cash in the accounts, in proportion to the overall value of your Scottish Widows Platform Account(s).
- Not applied to any cash within your Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) held outside a model portfolio.

The following table shows the current standard Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) charge as from March 2025.

The first band of assets held is charged at an initial percentage rate and subsequent bands at lower percentage rates as follows:

Value of assets	Platform charge at each band
On the first £100,000	0.35%
On the next £100,001 - £250,000	0.30%
On the next £250,001 - £500,000	0.25%
On the holdings above £500,000+	0.10%

Family linking

Where account holders are married, in a civil partnership or are directly related family members (including a spouse or civil partner of a directly related family member), the Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) may be linked and the value of the eligible assets in each, aggregated for the purposes of calculating the Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) charge.

The combined value of the Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) must be £200,000 or more at the time they are linked.

If a Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) is held in trust it may also be eligible for family linking, please see the guide on family linking for trusts for more information.

Scottish Widows Personal Pension ongoing charge

There is an ongoing charge which is currently £75.00 each year. £6.25 is taken monthly in arrears for as long as the account is open. There is one charge irrespective of whether the account is pre or post retirement. If the account has pre and post retirement arrangements the ongoing charge will be split proportionately to the amount held in each.

Stockbroker Trading Charge

The stockbroker trading charge is calculated as a percentage of the total value of the asset that has been bought or sold.

The charge is 0.07%, subject to a minimum amount of £7.50 and a maximum amount of £120. This charge is applied per individual asset transaction for each product.

Where dealing occurs within a discretionary model portfolio, you will pay £1 for each trade made within the model.

Charges on assets

The following charges will be deducted by mutual fund managers, or our nominated stockbroker and will depend on the assets that you are invested in.

Mutual fund charges

The annual management charge and annual expenses are included in the mutual fund prices we quote. In addition there may be:

- An initial charge which applies each time an investment is made into a fund. Although for the vast majority of mutual funds we have negotiated a zero charge.
- A bid/offer spread.
- A performance related fee.
- A dilution levy or adjustment.

We have negotiated preferential terms for you on most of the mutual funds available. These come in the form of 'discounted initial charges'. We have also negotiated preferentially priced terms for over 100 funds on the platform.

Charges information document

A Charges information document will be produced from the Platform to give the details of the charges applicable to your account each time a disclosure point is triggered.

Disinvestment strategy

Where there is insufficient available cash to meet a charge due on your account(s), we will sell mutual funds held in the account(s) to cover the amount outstanding.

The charges this applies to are the:

- Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) charge,
- Scottish Widows Personal Pension ongoing charge.

We will sell mutual fund assets equivalent to the value required, subject to a minimum disinvestment of £10 or 110% of the debt, whichever is greater. This applies to each account.

When your Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) is set up, a disinvestment strategy must be set to determine what basis we sell mutual fund holdings. There are three options:

- Least volatile fund first.
- Most recently purchased fund first.
- Proportionately.

As part of a disinvestment strategy, we will not automatically sell:

- Assets that are held within a model portfolio, unless you have chosen the proportionate disinvestment strategy.
- Assets that have been specifically excluded from the disinvestment strategy. For example, those that have been marked as treasured.

We may also choose to exclude mutual funds where we believe this is appropriate, such as where they are not priced daily.

If you do not have sufficient value held in mutual funds to cover an amount due, we will contact you to determine the action needed.

Where you are invested in a model portfolio managed by an investment adviser and there is insufficient cash inside the model to pay the investment adviser's charges then the least volatile fund will be sold first to pay this charge.

Where the disinvestment strategy on your Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) is Proportionately it will include any assets held within the investment adviser's model portfolio. In this case the investment adviser's sell strategy would be used to generate the cash required to cover the platform charges.

See 'Adviser charging options – at a glance' for an explanation of how the disinvestment strategy applies if there is insufficient cash for an agreed remuneration deduction and for further details of an investment adviser's sell strategy.

Further information on charges is included in the Scottish Widows Platform Account(s) terms and conditions, the applicable account key features document and the client specific charges information document.

For more information on the Scottish Widows Platform, please contact your consultant.
We may record or monitor calls to improve our service.

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Every care has been taken to ensure this information is correct and in accordance with our understanding of the law and HM Revenue & Customs practice, which may change.

Scottish Widows Platform is a trading name of Embark Investment Services Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales (company number 09955930) with its registered office at 33 Old Broad Street, London, EC2N 1HZ. Embark Investment Services Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (Financial Services Register number 737356).

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