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Update

September 2025

No PPF levy for 2025/26

Further to the news in last month's issue of Update that the PPF was putting levy invoicing on hold, it has now confirmed that there will be no levy charge for 2025/26.

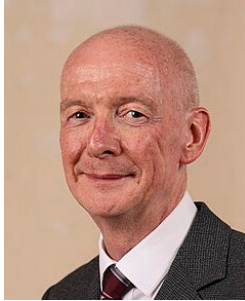
This is due to the Pension Schemes Bill having made good progress in Parliament (it has now completed its Committee stage in the House of Commons; a date for the Report stage will be announced shortly).

The 2025/26 levy estimate was previously £45 million (having originally been set at £100 million).

The PPF will consult later this autumn on its levy plans for 2026/27 which will be informed by the remaining passage of the Bill.

Separately, a Liberal Democrat amendment, intended to abolish the PPF administration levy (which is collected alongside the General Levy and Fraud Compensation Levy by the Pensions Regulator) was not taken forward. However, the Government advised that it intended to lay amendments at a later stage that would achieve the same aim.

[www.ppf.co.uk/news/Zero Levy 202526](http://www.ppf.co.uk/news/Zero_Levy_202526)



Pat McFadden MP

“As we reach this significant milestone on our journey to financial self-sufficiency, we recognise the invaluable contribution levy payers have made over the past 20 years”

Kate Jones, Chair of the PPF

New Secretary of State appointed

Pat McFadden, Labour MP for Wolverhampton South East, has been appointed Secretary of State for Work and Pensions in Prime Minister Keir Starmer’s reshuffle, replacing Liz Kendall. Mr McFadden was previously Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Ms Kendall has become Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology.

TPR report on LDI risk

The Pensions Regulator (TPR) has published a market oversight report on how well pension schemes are prepared for the risks associated with leveraged Liability Driven Investment (LDI) strategies. This follows the Regulator’s guidance published in April 2023 in response to the market disruption experienced in late 2022.

The report highlights how the LDI sector has made significant steps to improve resilience. Key areas of improvement include:

- compliance with interest rate buffers
- improved recapitalisation processes
- increased focus on liquidity

It also highlights where greater focus is needed in future, including:

- diversification of collateral assets
- resilience testing to ensure robust risk management in adverse market scenarios

The full report may be found here:

www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/en/document-library/research-and-analysis/market-oversight-how-well-pension-schemes-are-prepared-for-ldi-risk

Company news

TPR, working with the PPF and the scheme trustee, has secured a rescue of the Edinburgh Woollen Mill Ltd Retirement Benefits Scheme after the scheme’s sponsoring employer became insolvent. Purepay Retail Ltd, a company connected to the employer through shared directors and which bought the business out of insolvency, agreed to take over as the scheme’s statutory employer and make a significant lump sum contribution. This eliminated the need for TPR to pursue a formal anti-avoidance case relating to events that took place before the employer’s insolvency.

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