For customers

Tax year checklist

There are lots of ways to maximise the tax-efficient opportunities available to you in a tax year. You can use this checklist to help in conversations with your financial adviser, when reviewing some of the main tax-efficient opportunities available to you during 2025/26.

The following checklist isn't exhaustive and your financial adviser can help you consider the most suitable approach to your individual requirements. If you don't have an adviser, you can visit **Money Helper** to find the right one for you.

Take advantage of your ISA allowance	An ISA is a tax-efficient investment as there is no personal liability to capital gains tax (CGT) or income tax. Your annual allowance is £20,000 and you can split it across different types of ISAs (cash, stocks and shares, a lifetime ISA or an innovative finance ISA) and ISA managers in the 2025/26 tax year. Also, don't forget about any eligible un-repaid withdrawals from a flexible ISA.	☐
Use the Junior ISA (JISA) allowance to help a child plan for the future	A JISA provides a tax-efficient way of saving for a child's future. The 2025/26 annual JISA allowance is £9,000 for each child. Parents, friends and family can all save on behalf of the child as long as the total stays under the yearly limit. You have until 5 April 2026 to take advantage of this year's allowance.	☐

Take advantage of your pension annual allowance	You (and your employer if applicable) can normally save up to £60,000 each tax year in your private pensions, without paying tax. This may be less if you're a high earner or you've flexibly accessed any of your pension savings. Your ability to make tax-relievable personal contributions may be restricted by the level of your taxable earnings in the current tax year.
Bring forward any unused pension annual allowance	If you've already used your pension annual allowance in the tax year, consider carrying forward any unused allowance available from the previous three years. Please note this isn't applicable for contributions to defined contribution schemes if you've already flexibly accessed any of your pension savings and therefore subject to the money purchase annual allowance.
Make pension contributions for a non-working spouse or partner	You can set up a pension plan for a non-earning spouse or partner and you can pay up to £2,880 into the plan each tax year. With the addition of tax relief from HMRC at 20% for schemes operating tax relief at source, this tops it up to a maximum of £3,600.
Use your capital gains tax (CGT) allowance	Every tax year you have a CGT allowance, this lets you realise some of the profit from your assets without incurring CGT. The allowance for 2025/26 is £3,000, and as this can't be carried over, you may want to consider if it's worth selling some assets before 5 April 2026. It's also possible to gift assets to your spouse/partner to make the most of their CGT allowance, or if they might pay a lower rate of CGT.
Reduce inheritance tax liability by using your gift allowances	Inheritance tax (IHT) is a tax on your estate that your personal representatives may need to pay when you die. You could consider gifting up to £3,000 each tax year – also known as your annual gift allowance – to reduce your potential IHT liability. If you don't use your full gift allowance you can also roll the rest over to the following tax year, but not beyond this. You can also make use of other IHT exemptions such as the £250 small gifts exemption, normal expenditure out of income exemption or make a wedding gift to your child or grandchild to reduce your IHT liability.

Consider pension contributions to reduce income to regain your personal allowance or child benefit	If you or your spouse/partner earn over £60,000, you'll lose part or all of your child benefit entitlement. If you earn over £100,000, you'll lose part or all of your tax-free personal allowance. One option in these circumstances is to consider contributing more to your pension personally to lower your net income and potentially regain some of your child benefit entitlement or your tax-free personal allowance (this is subject to your individual circumstances, taxable income and your available annual allowance).	☐
Review your pension death benefit nomination	If you hold a pension with Aegon, you can nominate who you'd like to receive death benefits from your pension when you die. As scheme administrator, Aegon has discretion to choose the beneficiaries of the death benefits. We'll take into account any nomination supplied by you before making our decision. It's important that you regularly review and update any nomination as and when your circumstances change.	☐
Use the new tax planning available to those who have previously registered for LTA protection	From 6 April 2023, if you registered with HMRC for enhanced and fixed protections prior to 15 March 2023 you can review your circumstances and, if suitable, restart your pension contributions without affecting your existing protections. The Lump Sum Allowance and Lump Sum and Death Benefit Allowance applying from 6 April 2024 in these circumstances are linked to the levels offered by your previous protections.	☐

This information is based on our understanding of current taxation law and HMRC practice, which may change. The value of any tax relief will depend on individual circumstances, which may change. The favourable tax treatment of ISAs may not be maintained in the future.

It's important to seek financial advice to help review the most suitable options for your individual circumstances. We hope this checklist helps support you in your conversation with your financial adviser as you look to make the most of the opportunities available to you ahead of the tax year end on 5 April 2026.

If your personal circumstances mean you need any additional support, or if you'd like a large print, Braille or audio version of this document, please call 03456 081 680 (call charges will vary) or visit **aegon.co.uk/additionalsupport**.

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