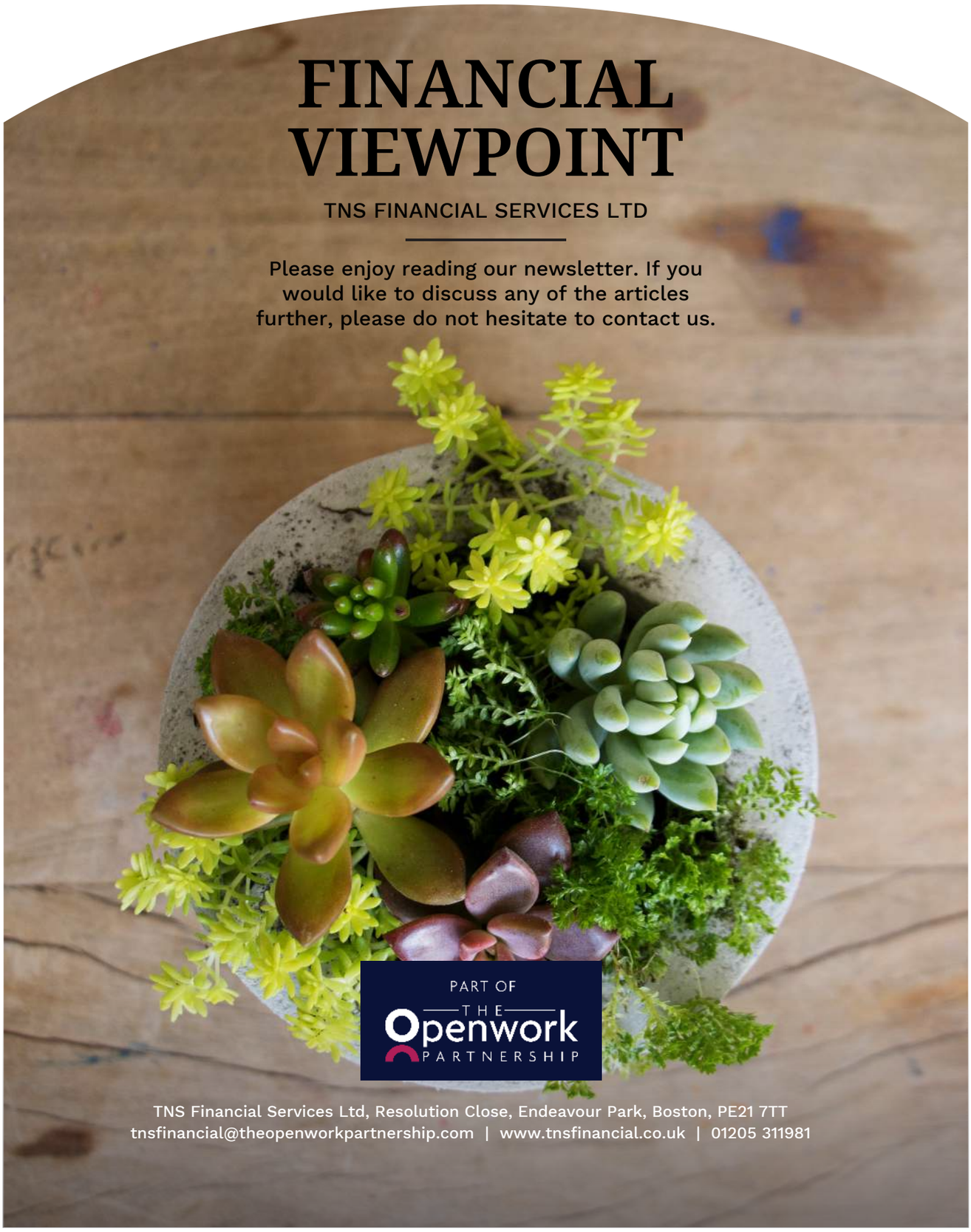
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FINANCIAL VIEWPOINT

TNS FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD

Please enjoy reading our newsletter. If you would like to discuss any of the articles further, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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3 ways to make the most of new tax allowances

6 April brought a new tax year and a host of new possibilities

Whether you're saving or investing, now is the perfect time to maximise your financial options. Here are three things you can do to take advantage of this year's tax allowances.



1. Make the most of your ISA allowance

You can save up to £20,000 across all your ISAs without paying income tax on your returns. ISAs are a great way to save efficiently and there's a huge range of products on the market, from familiar cash ISAs and stocks and shares accounts to Lifetime and Innovative Finance ISAs.

Remember, you can't carry unused allowances into the next tax year so it's worth considering saving as much into ISAs as you can if you want to benefit from tax-free returns.

2. Look for quick wins

Lifetime ISAs incentivise saving for first time buyers and to support in later life. They're a great way to maximise allowances and bonuses and are available to 18-39 year olds.

You can save up to £4,000 each tax year and benefit from a 25% government top-up if you use the funds to buy your first home or save for retirement.

If you use the money to buy a house, it's worth noting that you can only benefit from the bonus if the home is worth £450,000 or less. And if you withdraw the money for any purpose other than buying a first home or for retirement over the age of 60, you'll be subject to a 25% deduction on the withdrawal.

3. Don't forget pension relief

If you're a higher rate or additional rate taxpayer, you can claim the full amount of tax relief which could be an additional 20% or 25%.

Whatever you decide, the new tax year - and the opportunities it presents - are yours for the taking. Get in touch with us for tailored support to help you reach your financial goals.

An ISA is a medium to long term investment that aims to increase the value of your invested money for growth, income, or both. The value of your investments and any income from them can fall as well as rise. You may not get back the amount you invested.

HM Revenue and Customs practices and the laws relating to taxation are complex and subject to individual circumstances and changes that cannot be foreseen.

The Openwork Partnership is a trading style of Openwork Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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Five tips for investing in uncertain times



It's easy to worry about your investments when markets are volatile and the news is filled with uncertainty. And it's normal to be concerned, but taking a measured approach can help you ride out uncomfortable periods and maintain good financial health. Here are five ways to stay calm and focused during periods of volatility.

1. Focus on your long-term goals

It's important to remember why you started investing in the first place. Whether you're saving for retirement, funding a child's education or simply building your wealth, your long-term goals are precisely that: long-term and markets have historically shown resilience to short-term pressures. Staying committed to your objectives can help you avoid hasty decisions that could jeopardise future returns.

2. Diversify your portfolio

Diversification means spreading your investments across a variety of sectors, asset classes and regions. When you diversify, losses in one area may be offset by gains in another, helping to balance your portfolio and increase its resilience. Diversification can act as a buffer against the full impact of volatility, and the knowledge that your eggs are spread across many different baskets can be helpful if market conditions become challenging.

3. Stick to a consistent investment schedule

Committing to regular investments can be an effective way to keep your portfolio on track by taking emotion out of the equation and allows you to buy assets at various price points which smoothes out the effects of volatility. You pay more when times are good and less when the market dips, but the cost will average out over the long-term and your portfolio will continue to grow. This is often referred to as pound cost averaging.

4. Keep cash reserves on hand

Easy access to cash can provide a sense of stability in uncertain times. Cash reserves can help you avoid selling assets at a loss if you need emergency liquidity, but they can also give you the flexibility to act if an opportunity arises. For some investors, a mix of cash and short-term fixed-income investments help balance their portfolio's risk profile and provides easy access to funds without having to sell when prices are low.

5. Reevaluate your risk tolerance

It's normal to worry about your portfolio when things are uncertain, but if market volatility has you losing sleep it could be a sign that your investments aren't aligned with your risk tolerance. Consider adjusting your portfolio to reflect a level of risk you are comfortable with.

We can help you stay focused on your goals through periods of volatility. Please get in touch if you want to talk about your investments.

The value of investments and any income from them can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the original amount invested.

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OPW_0212_A483_Nov24 | OW 5786 | Expires 09/12/25

Do you keep meaning to sort out your will?
We can help you.

Life is busy, we get it. But is anything more important than being in control of your future?

Recent research suggests that only 44% of UK adults have made a will, which means that you're far from alone if you haven't yet got around to completing what, for some, appears to be a daunting task.

It's always worth bearing in mind that if you die without a will, the law decides who in inherits everything you own (your assets) according to certain criteria called 'intestacy rules'. So your assets may not be divided up as you would like, meaning your loved ones' future isn't in your hands, but in the hands of HM Treasury.

What is a will?

A will allows you to direct how your assets are distributed after you die. These might consist of properties, bank balances or prized possessions. If you have a business or investments, then your will describes in black and white who will receive these assets and when. It also enables you to leave gifts to a charity or charities of your choice, should you wish to.

In short, a will is the only way to ensure your money, property, possessions, and investments go to the people or the causes you care about most.

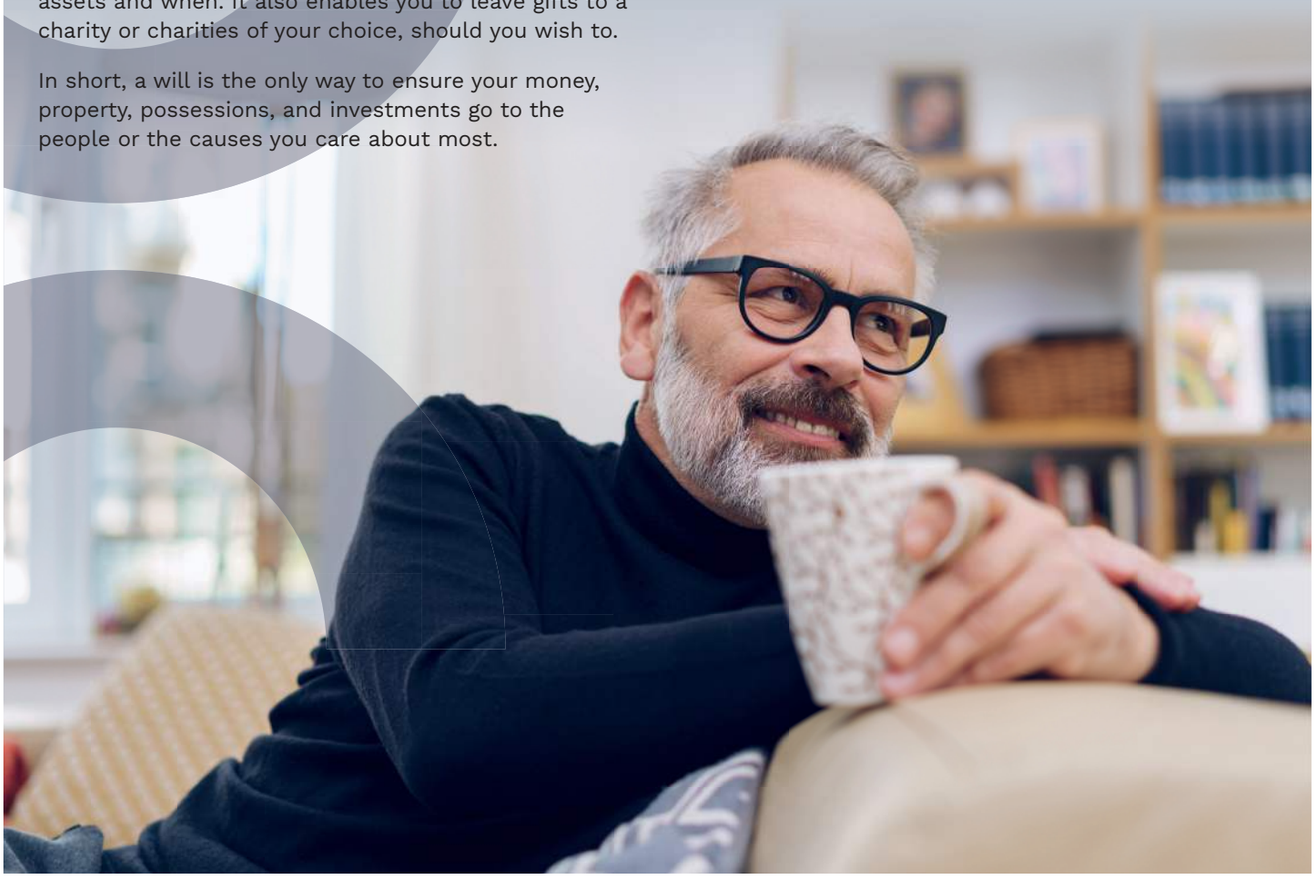
Don't put it off

A 2023 report from the National Will Register found that 42% of adults in the UK hadn't spoken to anyone about what should happen to their assets after their death. Even among the age group most likely to have written a will, three in ten over 55s hadn't discussed their wishes with anyone.

It's easy to understand why people put off such major decisions but this isn't a subject which should be parked – it's one that needs to be proactively tackled before it's too late.

Which is where we come in. Getting it right is too important to leave to chance, so get in touch and we can ensure you're directed to the right place to ensure the will you write is uniquely designed to express your wishes and safeguard your loved ones' futures.

Will writing is not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.



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