

Reading the output

Platform Charge & Cash Interest Calculator — rates as at August 2026

The tool answers one question: for this client, on this portfolio, what does each platform actually cost — counting both the charge it invoices and the interest it keeps on their cash. Everything below explains what each figure on screen means and how it was arrived at.

THE SUMMARY TILES

Tile	What it tells you
Cheapest / most expensive year 1	The lowest and highest total year-1 cost among the platforms you ticked, with the provider name and that cost as a percentage of the client's total assets.
Spread, year 1	The gap between those two. The sub-line isolates how much of the gap is retained cash interest rather than explicit charges — usually the part the client has never seen quantified.
Spread over N years	The same gap projected over your chosen horizon, including the growth foregone on money paid away.
S&P vs selected average	S&P's year-1 cost against the simple average of every other selected platform. A minus sign means S&P is cheaper by that amount per year.

YEAR 1 TAB — COST IN THE FIRST YEAR

Column	What it tells you
Explicit charge	The invoiced cost: the tiered platform charge plus fixed wrapper fees. Tiering is progressive — each slice of the portfolio is charged at its own band rate, so crossing a threshold never re-prices the assets beneath it. Wrappers are aggregated to set the tiers, then the charge is allocated back pro-rata.
Saved by linking	Appears only when family assets are entered. The linked total sets the tiers and produces one household charge; the client is billed their pro-rata share. This column is the difference against the same client unlinked. Family assets pull the client into cheaper bands but never attract a charge or a cash cost themselves.
Eff. %	The explicit charge as a percentage of total assets — the blended rate, for comparing against a headline tier rate.
Cash interest cost	The rate the platform keeps on cash × the client's cash balance. Reads "not disclosed" where a platform retains interest, has not published how much, and estimation is switched off.
Total year 1 · Total as % of assets	Explicit charge plus cash interest cost — the all-in figure — and the same as a percentage of assets. This is the number to compare on.
vs cheapest	What this platform costs above the cheapest selected option in year 1.
Split bar	Blue is the explicit charge, coral is retained cash interest, both scaled against the dearest platform on screen.

LONG TERM TAB — COST OVER THE PROJECTION

Column	What it tells you
Cash cost, simple total	Retained interest added up year by year with no growth applied — the undiscounted cash figure.
Cash cost incl. lost growth	The same cost plus the growth the client never earned on money taken. On the static basis this is the annual cost × the annuity factor.
All charges incl. lost growth	The headline long-term number: every charge and retained-interest cost, plus lost growth on all of it.
Final portfolio value · Total cost as % of final value	What the client is projected to be left with, and total cost measured against it.

Projection basis. Static holds the portfolio flat, so cost = annual cost × the annuity factor (33.066 over 20 years at 5%). Dynamic grows the portfolio, recalculates the charge on each year's balance and re-runs it through the tiers, measuring cost as the shortfall against an identical portfolio bearing no charges. Dynamic figures are higher by design and are the more realistic of the two; static exists so the output reconciles to the source paper.

BADGES, AND A WORKED EXAMPLE TO CHECK AGAINST

Placeholder tiers — tier data is illustrative, not the provider's. Only S&P currently carries real tiers. Exporting a PDF with placeholders selected triggers a warning.

Estimated — the platform admits it retains interest but not how much (Fidelity, Fundment, Aegon, 7IM). The figure comes from your assumed gross rate; it is not disclosed data.

Full pass-through — retains nothing on cash, so its cash interest cost is zero.

No fee on cash — cash is excluded from the base the percentage is charged on. Set by default for any platform that retains interest, on the convention that platforms do one or the other, not both. A convention, not a disclosed fact — confirm it per provider.

£600,000 on the S&P tier structure

£100k @ 0.25% = £250 · £150k @ 0.20% = £300
£250k @ 0.15% = £375 · £100k @ 0.10% = £100

Explicit charge = £1,025

Link £400,000 of family assets: the £1m household charge is £1,425 and the client is billed 60% of it = **£855**, saving £170.

Cash: 1.16% retained on £2,000 = £23.20 a year, which over 20 years at 5% becomes **£767** on the static basis.

WHAT THE OUTPUT DOES NOT TELL YOU

Rates move — cash and retained rates are as published at August 2026 and change frequently; verify before advising. Tier and fee inputs are entered by you and are not validated against provider literature. Two conventions still need provider confirmation: whether a platform charges its percentage on cash, and whether it permits family linking and how it splits the aggregated fee — an alternative linking basis produces materially lower figures. The projection assumes constant growth, constant rates and a constant cash weighting, none of which will hold. Cost is one input to a platform decision alongside choice, functionality, service and suitability.

Not compliance-reviewed and not for client distribution in this form: it names competitors and shows estimated figures. A client-facing version needs locked platform data, competitor names removed or anonymised, no estimated or placeholder figures, an illustration-only disclaimer and compliance sign-off.