

# Cushon General Investment Account (GIA)

## Key Information

This document provides key information about the Cushon General Investment Account (GIA). It is not marketing material or advice but gives you information about the product so that you can decide if it is right for you.

## What is a GIA?

A GIA is an investment account that does not offer any tax efficiency. It would normally be used by investors who have already invested their maximum annual allowance into Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs).

Any interest, dividends or capital growth earned are **subject to tax**.

There is no limit on the amount you can invest in a GIA.

## Who can open a GIA?

Any UK resident over the age of 18 can open a Cushon GIA.

As these accounts do not offer any tax efficiency, there are no limits on the amounts that investors can invest.

## Can I withdraw money?

Yes, you can withdraw money at any time.

## How does the money get invested?

With a Cushon ISA you have three options:

1

### CushonMix portfolios

If you are new to investing, you might want to select one of our ready made CushonMix portfolios. CushonMix spreads your money across a specially selected range of top-rated funds. There are four ready made portfolios for you to choose from.

2

### Select your own investment

If you are more comfortable with investing, then you can select your own funds from our comparison tables to invest in. We have over 90 top-rated fund managers and over 1,000 funds to choose from.

3

### Cash

If you are not comfortable with investing, there is a cash option.

As with all investment accounts, your investments can go down as well as up and you may get back less than you put in.

## How much are the investment charges?

There are no charges for holding your money in cash.

If you decide to invest, there are two main charges; a platform charge and a fund charge.

### Platform Charge

As an employee you receive a **50%** discount on the platform charges applied by Cushon. Your discounted platform charge is **0.4%** (normally **0.8%**). Even if you leave your employer you keep this discount for life.

### Fund Manager Charge

In addition to the platform charge, each fund manager applies a charge. The exact fund manager charge will depend upon the investment(s) you select. As a guide the fund manager charges for the CushonMix portfolios are typically between **0.1%** and **0.4%**.

## Total Charges (Platform & Fund Manager Charge)

The total charges will be displayed before you confirm your GIA selection, but as a guide the total charges for the CushonMix portfolios (including the discounted platform charge) are typically between **0.5%** and **0.8%** depending upon which portfolio you select (this is only a guide and exact charges will be confirmed before you proceed).

## Are there any other charges?

When investing your money, fund managers may incur their own costs of trading which are passed on to investors. The trading costs are incurred directly by the fund, so are the same irrespective of whether you buy the fund via Cushon or another provider.

But other than this there are no other charges which means:

- No switching or trading charges
- No fixed monthly account charges
- No minimum charge
- No entry or exit charges
- No hidden fund manager charges
- No performance fees

While Cushon can give you plenty of information about the options, we're not able to give financial advice. The value of investments can go down as well as up.

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