

#### PROTECTION

# THE DATES THAT MATTER IN 2019

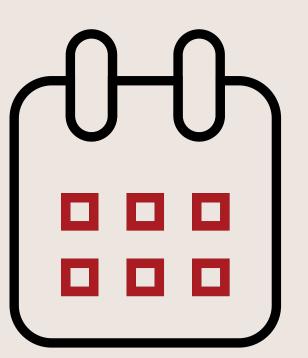
HELPING TO INFORM YOUR CLIENT CONVERSATIONS

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Throughout the year there are a number of notable dates that highlight the need, impact and importance of protection throughout the UK. Whether they're health awareness days or changes to legislation, they can act as valuable talking points in your conversations with clients and offer useful content to support your own client engagement.

Please note: dates are correct at the time of publication however some are not yet fixed and others could change. Where available, we've provided links to websites where you can find out more information on the specific event or topic. Scottish Widows are not responsible for these sites.



2019



## JANUARY





Receiving an Annual Benefit Statement is the ideal time for your clients to review their protection needs. If they don't receive one, suggest doing this in January, as people are often more motivated to get their finances in order at the start of the year.





## FEBRUARY

	HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS
1-28	National Heart Month
1	National Wear Red Day (for children's heart surgery)
4	World Cancer Day
7	Time to Talk Day
11	International Epilepsy Day

0-0	OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS
1	Universal Credit no longer pays an additional amount for a third or subsequent child, or qualifying young person born after the 6 April 2017 – unless special exceptions apply.
7	Defaqto 2019 Star Ratings Announced
7	Professional Adviser Awards
26	ABI Annual Conference

Your clients might be interested to know that Critical Illness Insurance was actually invented by heart surgeon Dr Marius Barnard. Dr Barnard created the cover after seeing the financial difficulties faced by his patients following a serious illness.



# MARCH

	HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS
1-31	Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month
1-31	Prostate Cancer Awareness Month
1-31	Brain Tumour Awareness Month
3-9	Hearing Awareness Week
4	World Hearing Day
4-10	Endometriosis Awareness Week
11-18	Brain Awareness Week
16	Disabled Access Day

	OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS
1-31	Free Wills Month
1	World Wheelchair Day
7	LifeSearch Awards
8	International Women's Day
12	No Smoking Day
13	Government will publish its Spring Statement
14	Cover Mental Health Forum
26	Mortgage Strategy Awards
29	UK leaves the EU
31	Mother's Day
TBC	Cost of raising a child and value of a mum material normally released.



## **APRIL**

	HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS
1-30	Bowel Cancer Awareness Month
1-30	Loss of Limb Awareness Month
1-30	Stress Awareness Month
1-7	NHS Diabetes Prevention Week Campaign
7	World Health Day - Theme is Depression
8-14	Parkinson's Awareness Week
11	World Parkinson's Day
16	World Stress Day
22-28	MS Awareness Week



#### OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS

In April 2019 the Universal Credit Work Allowances will increase for people with children or people with limited capability for work.

- The national living wage which was introduced in April 2016 will increase from £7.83 to £8.21 an hour. This is the statutory national minimum wage (established in 1999) for those aged 25 and over. For 21 to 24 year-olds, the minimum wage will rise from £7.38 to £7.70. The rate for 18 to 20-year-olds will rise from £5.90 to £6.15, while the rate for 16 to 17-year-olds will rise from £4.20 to £4.35.
- The new tax year

  Click here for details of the some of the changes that may impact your clients.
- 11 CII Consumer Trust Awards
- The Swiss Re Term Watch Report released



### THE NEW TAX YEAR - 6 APRIL

• The basic personal allowance will rise from £11,850 to £12,500 – which should mean increased disposable income for millions of consumers. In the October 2018 Budget, the Government claimed this £650 increase means that in 2019–20 a typical basic-rate taxpayer will pay £130 less tax than in 2018–19. Meanwhile, the starting point for 40% higher-rate tax for English, Welsh and Northern Ireland resident taxpayers will rise from £46,350 to £50,000. That translates into an £860 cut in income tax – though higher national insurance contributions cut the net gain to about £495 a year. That's because the national insurance upper earnings limit is linked to the higher-rate tax band for non-Scottish taxpayers, meaning that throughout the UK, employees will now pay a 12% rate on their earnings between £46,350 and £50,000 rather than the 2% previously.

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• Clients could experience an increase in pay packet deductions due to the latest change to the pension "automatic enrolment" regime. This requires all employers to automatically enrol eligible employees into a workplace pension into which both the employee and employer contribute. In Tax Year 2018-19, the total minimum amount paid in is 5% of qualifying earnings (typically 2.4% from the worker, 2% from their employer and 0.6% in tax relief). On 6 April this will rise to 8% – typically 4% from the employee, 3% from their employer and 1% in tax relief. It is estimated that someone earning around £27,000 and paying in the auto-enrolment minimum will see their personal contribution rise from about £500 this year to around £835 in 2019-20.



## THE NEW TAX YEAR - 6 APRIL

The tax regime changes for landlords continues, with the breaks available for buy-to-let investors due to be reduced again. Landlords used to be able to deduct mortgage interest and other finance-related costs from their rental income before calculating their tax liability. However, interest relief - at the taxpayer's highest marginal rate of income tax - is gradually being replaced with a basic rate tax reduction. From 2017, landlords set 75% of their buy to let finance costs against their profits, benefitting from full tax relief no matter what rate of income tax they pay. They get 20% income tax relief on the remaining 25% of their finance costs. From April 2018, they can deduct just 50% of their finance costs from profits, and get 20% tax relief on the other 50%. From April 2019, the split will be 25% / 75%. Then from April 2020, landlords are restricted to basic rate tax relief on 100% of their finance costs. The end result will be that the amount of tax owed by some landlords could double or even triple.

Click for more information

• Those receiving the full old basic state pension will now benefit from a weekly boost of £3.25 per week, with their payment rising from £125.95 to £129.20. Meanwhile, the full new state pension – for those retiring from April 2016 onwards – will rise from £164.35 to £168.60 a week.
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The Pension Lifetime Allowance will increase in line with CPI inflation, rising from £1,030,000 to £1,055,000.

Click for more information



# MAY

	HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS
1-31	National Walking Month
1-31	Action on Stroke Month
8	World Ovarian Cancer Day
10	World Lupus Day
13-19	Dying Matters Week
13-19	Mental Health Awareness Week
17	World Hypertension Day
20-26	Dementia Action Week
20-26	Children's Hospice Week
31	World No Tobacco Day

0-0	OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS
8	Headline Money Awards
10	Cover Claims Convention
10	Cover Customer Care Awards
15-16	BIBA (British Insurance Brokers Association) Conference
TBC	The ABI is expected to release 2018 protection insurance claim stats.
TBC	Swiss Re normally issues its Group Watch and Term Watch data.



# JUNE

	HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS
1-30	MND Awareness Month
3	National Cancer Survivors Day
7-15	British Heart Week
10-16	Carers Week
10-16	Men's Health Week
10-16	Diabetes Week
21	MND Awareness Day

0-0	OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS
16	Father's Day
26	Money Marketing Awards
26	Women in Finance Awards



## JULY



#### HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS

Disability Awareness Day



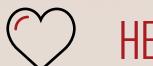
#### OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS

- The Government now plans to start to transfer people from existing benefits to Universal Credit between July 2019 and December 2023.
- The 12-month 'grace period' from the Universal Credit Minimum Income Floor will be extended to all gainfully self-employed claimants who are moved over to Universal Credit by managed migration. It will only be extended to new claimants from September 2020.
- 3 Corporate Adviser Awards
- Women in Financial Advice Awards
- 10 British Insurance Awards
- 11 Protection Review Conference
- **FCA annual meeting.** This tends to throw up interesting insights into FCA thinking. Although no exact date has yet been set, in previous years they were held in mid-July.





## AUGUST



#### HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS

At the time of publication, no health awareness events were planned for this month.



#### OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS

- A-level exam results. Higher education logistics and funding planning are a focus.
- The final deadline for mis-sold PPI complaints.

Enjoy the sun and take some time to review your CPD training requirements to check you're on track.





## SEPTEMBER

	HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS
1-30	Leukaemia and Lymphoma Awareness Month
1-30	World Alzheimer's Month
2-8	Organ Donation Awareness Week
10	World Suicide Prevention Day
21	World Alzheimer's Day
27	Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning
29	World Heart Day
TBC	Stand Up To Cancer



#### OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS

Back to school. Remember, in England in particular, applications for state secondary schools close in November, now is the time parents think about moving to good school catchment areas.

15-18	Liberal	Democrat	Party	Conference
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22-25 Labour Party Conference

29 SEPT - 2 OCT

**Conservative Party Conference** 

TBC Dive In Festival

(The Festival for Diversity & Inclusion in Insurance)



# OCTOBER

	HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS
1-31	Breast Cancer Awareness Month
1-31	Lupus Awareness Month
6-10	Back Care Awareness Week
10	World Mental Health Day
10	World Sight Day
11	World Arthritis Day

0-0	OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS
1	The maximum rate at which deductions from Universal Credit, to repay an advance payment will be reduced from 40% to 30% of the standard allowance.
10	Cover Protection & Health Summit
13-15	LUCID (Life, Underwriting, Claims and Insurance Doctors) Conference
17	Health Insurance Awards



## NOVEMBER

	HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS
1-30	Movember
1-30	Lung Cancer Awareness Month
1-30	Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month
1	National Stress Awareness Day
14-20	Children's Grief Awareness Week
14	World Diabetes Day

0-0	OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS
12-18	Financial Capability Week
12	Purple Tuesday
14	ILAG (Investment & Life Assurance Group) Dinner
30	Small Business Saturday – but let's talk about protecting micro-business and SME's every day!
30	The Help-To-Buy Isa will not be available to new savers after this date. However, if your clients already have one, they can keep the account open and carry on paying into it for another decade, and they have until 1 December 2030 to claim their government bonus. With this Isa, which is for first-time buyers, for every £200 saved, the government will contribute £50. A maximum of £3,000 from the government can be earned this way.
TBC	Budget Day
TBC	AKG Actuaries and Consultants announce star ratings.



## DECEMBER



#### HEALTH AWARENESS EVENTS

- 1 World Aids Day
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities



#### OTHER NOTABLE DATES AND EVENTS

9 FCA Senior Managers and Certification Regime extends to intermediaries.

With the FCA Senior Managers and Certification Regime extending to intermediaries this month, make sure you fully understand any requirements you may be personally accountable for putting into practise.







#### WWW.SCOTTISHWIDOWSPROTECT.CO.UK

## TAKING ON YOUR CLIENTS' FUTURE TOGETHER

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