



wellway INSIGHTS

OCTOBER 2025

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October's message from the Wellway team...

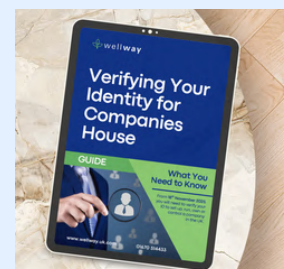
As we're writing our October newsletter, autumn is settling in nicely here in Morpeth. The trees along the Wansbeck are turning gold, the office kettle's on (again), and there's a noticeable rise in knitwear. It's the season to get cosy, catch up on key updates, and plan ahead for change.

Speaking of change, our eyes are already on the upcoming **Autumn Budget**, where further tinkering to Inheritance Tax and Capital Gains Tax could be announced. We're carefully weighing where it makes sense to act now vs. hold off. Timing is everything - and we want to help you make informed and considered decisions.

We've also been busy supporting company directors to prepare for the new **ID verification** requirements. Many clients are already set to continue smoothly with their compliance for Companies House.

With plenty to do, it's perfect timing for it to be **'birthday season'** in our office - with a celebration nearly every week this month, we're being fuelled by lots of cake. So, how about you treat yourself to something tasty and also the latest tax and business news in this month's edition of Wellway Insights, so you can stay informed and stay ahead!

Thank you for reading!



Key Tax Dates for Your Diary

19/10	PAYE & NIC deductions, and CIS return and tax, for month to 05/10/2025 (due 22/10 if you pay electronically)
31/10	Paper tax return filing deadline
01/11	Corporation Tax for year to 31/01/2025, unless quarterly instalments apply
02/11	P46 (car) forms due if there have been company car changes in the period
19/11	PAYE & NIC deductions, and CIS return and tax, for month to 05/11/2025 (due 22/11 if you pay electronically)



State Pension Set for Rise — But More Retirees May Face Tax

From April, people receiving the state pension could see an increase of over £500 a year, thanks to the government's triple lock guarantee. This policy ensures the pension rises each year by the highest of 2.5%, inflation, or average wage growth. The latest data from the Office for National Statistics suggests average earnings growth of 4.7% will be used. For those on the new state pension (anyone reaching pension age after April 2016), the full weekly payment is expected to rise to £241.05, or £12,534.60 a year – an increase of £561.60. Those on the old basic state pension will see it rise to £184.75 a week, or £9,607 a year – an increase of £431.60.

Tax Implications

While the increase is welcome, the personal income tax allowance – currently £12,570 – is frozen until 2028. With the new state pension nearing this threshold, many pensioners may begin paying income tax by 2027. Those with additional sources of retirement income may already pay tax, but this freeze means more people will be drawn into the tax net in the coming years.

What This Means for You

While the rise in pension offers relief amid ongoing living cost increases, frozen tax thresholds could reduce the benefit to your disposable income. If you'd like personalised advice on how this might affect your tax situation, please get in touch!



TAX NEWS

Autumn Budget Date: 26 November 2025

What to expect...

The Chancellor is due to deliver the Autumn Budget 2025 on 26 November 2025. The content of the Autumn Budget is anticipated to address significant fiscal challenges, including potential tax rises to address the public finance deficit.

But, before turning to Autumn Budget 2025, we must note that some of the ramifications of Autumn Budget 2024 are still to come. These include:

- **Capital Gains Tax (CGT)** - in addition to the tax hikes that have already taken effect on 30 October 2024 and 6 April 2025, the rate of CGT where Business Asset Disposal Relief (BADR) applies is set to further increase from 14% to 18% from 6 April 2026.
- **Inheritance Tax (IHT)** - as initially announced in the last budget, IHT increases are already on the cards due to:
 - Restrictions on 100% relief for business and agricultural property from

6 April 2026.

- The inclusion of unused pension funds and death benefits in IHT estates from 6 April 2027.

Now let's consider some of the potential announcements in Autumn Budget 2025.

What's unlikely to change?

Labour's 2024 manifesto pledged that there would be **no** increases to National Insurance, the basic, higher or additional rates of Income Tax, or VAT.

The Corporate Tax Roadmap of October 2024 also included commitments not to increase the 25% main rate of Corporation Tax and to retain the small profits rate and marginal relief. The £1 million annual investment allowance for plant and machinery capital allowances is also due to be preserved, as is the system of permanent full expensing.

Despite the government saying that extending frozen Income Tax

thresholds any longer would hurt working people, it now seems inevitable that the thresholds will remain at their current levels until 5 April 2030, mirroring the time period for which IHT thresholds are frozen.



What could change?

- The scope of National Insurance Contributions (NICs) could be widened to include landlords, levelling the playing field with those running their own trading business.
- Pension savings are currently afforded tax relief at the saver's marginal Income Tax rate (20%, 40% or 45%). The rate could be capped at, say, 30%.
- Salary sacrifice for additional employer pension contributions is currently exempt from the Benefit In Kind rules. Removing the

TAX NEWS

exemption would make the contributions subject to NICs and Income Tax.

- The rates of CGT (currently 18% for basic rate taxpayers and 24% for higher/additional rate taxpayers) could be aligned with those for Income Tax, making the rate as high as 45%.
- There may be further restrictions to available IHT reliefs, possibly by introducing limits on exempt lifetime gifting.
- The VAT registration threshold, currently £90,000, may be lowered or abolished.
- The rate of VAT on domestic fuel is currently 5%. There are rumours that, in order to help with the cost of living crisis, such supplies will become zero-rated.



It isn't possible to predict what the Chancellor will announce on 26 November, but it's worth considering what may happen so you can be prepared. If you wish to discuss any of these issues in more detail, please get in touch – we'd be happy to help!



ADVISORY FUEL RATES FOR COMPANY CARS



The table below sets out the HMRC advisory fuel rates from 1 Sep 2025. These are the suggested reimbursement rates for employees' private mileage using their company car.

Where the **employer** does **not** pay for any fuel for the company car, these are the amounts that can be reimbursed in respect of business journeys without the amount being taxable on the employee. (Previous rates are shown in brackets.)

Engine Size	Petrol	Diesel	LPG
1400cc or less	14p (14p)		10p (10p)
1600cc or less		13p (13p)	
1401cc to 2000cc	16p (16p)		12p (12p)
1601 to 2000cc		15p (15p)	
Over 2000cc	26p (26p)	20p (20p)	18p (18p)

Note that for hybrid cars, you must use the petrol or diesel rate. For fully electric vehicles the rate is 8p (7p) per mile where the vehicle is charged at home. The rate applicable to vehicles charged using public facilities is 14p per mile. This is the first time there is a separate rate depending on where the car is charged.

Employees using their own cars for business purposes

The Advisory Mileage Allowance Payment (AMAP) tax-free reimbursement rate continues to be 45p per mile (plus 5p per passenger) for the first 10,000 business miles, reducing to 25p per mile thereafter. Note that for NIC purposes the employer can continue to reimburse at the 45p rate as the 10,000 mile threshold does not apply.

Input VAT

Within the 45p/25p AMAP payments, the amounts in the above table represent the fuel element. The employer is able to reclaim 20/120 of the fuel amount as input VAT provided the claim is supported by a VAT invoice. For a 1300cc petrol-engine car, 2 pence per mile can be reclaimed as input VAT (12p x 1/6).

TAX NEWS

Could Your Child Be Sitting on £2,000 (Tax-Free) Without Knowing It?

New figures show that more than 750,000 young people haven't claimed their matured Child Trust Funds – savings pots worth an average of £2,242 each. If your children, employees, or even apprentices are aged between 18 and 23, there's a good chance some of them could be sitting on money they don't know about.



What is a Child Trust Fund?

Child Trust Funds (CTFs) were set up by the government for children born between 1 September 2002 and 2 January 2011. Each account started with a government deposit of at least £250, and many families topped them up over the years. The accounts are tax-free, and once the child turns 18, the money becomes theirs. They can either withdraw it or reinvest it.

Why are so many unclaimed?

When the scheme was running, if parents didn't open an account, the government did it for them. Now, according to HMRC, 758,000 accounts are sitting unclaimed. September is the most common birth month so there is a new wave of 18-year-olds who have just become eligible to claim their savings pot.



How to find out if you've got one

If you already know who the provider is, you can contact them directly. If not, there's a [locator tool](#) on GOV.UK – it takes a few minutes to submit a request, and you'll usually hear back within three weeks.



You'll need the young person's National Insurance number and date of birth when using the tool. A quick reminder for business owners

If you employ young people in this age group, it might be worth mentioning this to them. Some may not know they might have a CTF waiting.

A quick word could genuinely make a difference to their finances – and they'll likely remember you helped point them in the right direction!

VAT Error Correction

Form VAT652 (Error Correction) was withdrawn on 8 September 2025. The form was used to notify HMRC of VAT return errors that could not be corrected on the next VAT return. The procedure for correcting VAT return errors is now as follows.

If you have discovered an error in a VAT return, the first step is to check whether the error can be amended in the VAT return for the period in which the error was discovered. Errors can be amended in the next VAT return if:

- The net errors, i.e. output VAT less input VAT errors, are less than £10,000; or
- The net errors are between £10,000 and £50,000 and less than 1% of the Box 6 figure for the VAT return in which the correction is being made.

If the errors cannot be amended on the VAT return, they must be disclosed using HMRC's online error correction service – and it requires signing in using a Government Gateway user ID and password. Those who cannot use the online service should notify the error to HMRC's Error Correction Team by post or email. If the error was a result of careless behaviour, HMRC is still entitled to charge penalties in the event that they discover it at a later date, even if it has already been adjusted on the VAT return. HMRC advise that including the adjustment on the return does not constitute a disclosure. This means that without also notifying HMRC using the online error correction service, unprompted penalties could still be charged.

TAX NEWS

Sideways Loss Relief Disallowed

In a recent First Tier Tribunal case, Charlotte MacDonald v HMRC, a taxpayer was denied sideways loss relief for losses that she had incurred when organising an annual 'woodland shoot' on an estate because the activities were not carried on with a view to the realisation of profits. A taxpayer can offset trading losses against their general income in the year of the loss, the previous year, or both. In order to do this, the loss must have arisen from a trade that was carried on:

- *on a commercial basis, and*
- *with a view to the realisation of profits of the trade.*

HMRC argued the shoot wasn't commercial and lacked any intention to make a profit. However, the First Tier Tribunal found it was carried on as a commercial activity, not just a hobby. That said, the shoot had made losses in all but 1 year over 15, with little profit overall and no reasonable expectation of future profit. As a result, the conditions for claiming sideways loss relief weren't met, and the appeal dismissed.



TAX NEWS

Spotlight on Umbrella Companies

While there's no strict legal definition, "umbrella companies" is a commonly used term for employment intermediaries that hire temporary workers. These workers are then assigned to various agencies or end clients—the businesses that ultimately benefit from their services. Umbrella companies will often contract with recruitment agencies, who then source the work opportunities.

'Employment intermediaries' rules apply to staff and employment agencies:

- Agency workers are generally subject to PAYE and NICs on their earnings.
- The rules for determining employment status changed in 2014: workers who are supplied through an agency and are subject to (or to a right of) supervision, direction or control by any person will automatically be treated as employees.
- Special reporting instructions for employment intermediaries (agencies) who supply self-employed workers apply from April 2015. These make it difficult

for agencies and other employment intermediaries to pay workers gross i.e. treating workers as being self-employed in their own right. Returns are to be completed from 6 April 2015 for each quarter ending 6 July, 6 October, 6 January and 6 April and late filing penalties apply.

In June 2025, HMRC released Spotlight 71: 'Warning for agency workers and contractors who are moved between umbrella companies'. This Spotlight highlights signs that agency workers and contractors should be aware of and that may indicate that the umbrella company they are engaged with is operating a tax avoidance scheme.

HMRC highlight the areas where taxpayers should be extra vigilant if they are engaged with an umbrella company.

If you're unsure about your current setup—or just want peace of mind—we're here to help make sure everything adds up properly and stays within the rules.

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Companies House WebFiling to Switch to GOV.UK One Login

Are you ready for change this October?



From 13 October 2025, Companies House will require all businesses to use a GOV.UK One Login to access WebFiling. This change is part of a wider government move to introduce a single, more secure login system across all online services.



What's Changing?

From 13 October 2025, you'll need to connect your WebFiling account to GOV.UK One Login before you can continue filing.

If you share your WebFiling account with others, only one person will be able to connect each WebFiling account to their GOV.UK Login. Anyone who shares access will need to create their own GOV.UK One Login, using a different email address.

This is part of a wider move as the government intends for GOV.UK One Login to be increasingly used for accessing online services.

What You Can Do to Get Ready

To avoid last-minute issues, here are a few simple steps to take before October 2025:

- Check your email addresses – make sure the email you use for WebFiling is current and accessible. If you also use “Find and update company information,” use the same email address for both.
- If you don't already have one, you could set up a GOV.UK One Login in advance, using the same email as your Companies House accounts. This will make connecting smoother.
- Check that you have the authentication code handy for each company you file for. You may need to enter it when you connect your WebFiling account to GOV.UK One Login.
- Review who has access – if your team shares a WebFiling login, each person will need their own account going

- forward. Start planning how to manage this.
- Think about identity verification – while not compulsory until November 2025, directors and People with Significant Control (PSCs) can verify their identity early using GOV.UK One Login.

If you try to sign into WebFiling after 13 October 2025, you'll be redirected to connect your account with GOV.UK One Login.



We can help you!

If you need assistance with WebFiling or any other company secretarial matters for your company, please give us a call. We would be happy to help you!

Preparing Your Business for Life Beyond You

Lessons from Spotify

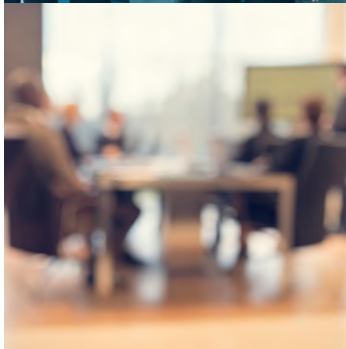
When Spotify's founder Daniel Ek announced he would step down as chief executive, it made headlines. After nearly 20 years running one of Europe's most successful tech companies, he's shifting into a chairman role and leaving day-to-day control to two long-serving deputies.

For most business owners, the sums and scale are very different – but the principle is the same. At some point, you may want (or need) to step back. Maybe that's for retirement, maybe to focus on new opportunities, or simply to avoid burning out. The question is: how do you prepare your business to thrive without you in the driver's seat every day? Here are some practical steps worth thinking about:



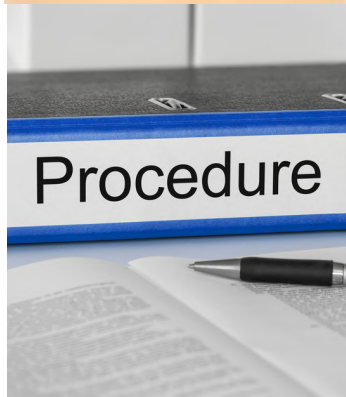
Build a capable leadership team

Ek's handover wasn't sudden. His deputies have been running much of the business since 2023, which means staff and customers are already used to them leading. For a smaller business, this might mean gradually giving key managers more responsibility. Let them make decisions, even if you'd sometimes do things differently. Better to iron out issues while you're still around than to hand over untested.



Separate ownership from management

Many founders assume stepping back means selling up. Not necessarily. Ek is still chairman and still guiding long-term strategy, for the time being at least, but no longer managing the day-to-day. As a business owner, you could consider keeping your shares and remaining involved at board level, while hiring or promoting someone to run day-to-day operations. That way you benefit from the company's growth without being tied to the grind.



Get your systems in order

The bigger the reliance on "what's in your head", the harder it will be for anyone else to run things. This isn't always easy to detect, particularly if you enjoy being in the middle of things. You could ask yourself: how many decisions come my way during a typical day? Do all those decisions need my input, or if some of the business processes were written down could staff get things done without waiting? Having up-to-date procedures, good accounting systems, and clear contracts with customers and suppliers can all help. The more clarity there is, the less your team has to guess.



Think about your own role differently

Ek is shifting his focus to strategy, capital allocation and regulatory efforts – this long term, strategic work is likely to be work that he is best placed to do. This is a useful way of thinking about your own role. Ask yourself: what are the tasks that genuinely require you? And what could be delegated? Freeing yourself from day-to-day firefighting gives you time to work on the bigger picture.



Plan the story you'll tell staff and customers

Spotify's share price dipped when Ek's decision was announced, a reminder that transitions can unsettle people. The same is true in smaller businesses – staff may worry about job security and customers may have concerns about service quality. Good communication can help. Explain the plan, show confidence in your team, and reassure people.

A final thought

You don't need to be running a global giant to learn from this. Every founder has a choice to make about how long they stay hands-on. Planning your own "step back" early can help to make your business stronger, give you more options, and protect the value you've worked so hard to build.

Digital ID to Become Mandatory for Right to Work Checks

The government has announced its plan to introduce a new digital ID scheme, which will become the standard way to complete Right to Work checks by the end of the current Parliament. The digital ID will be available to all UK citizens and legal residents and will be stored securely on mobile phones in the same way as the NHS App or contactless payment methods.

The new system should make compliance simpler for employers carrying out Right to Work checks. Guidance will follow as the roll-out progresses, with a consultation later this year to help shape how the service works. The government has confirmed there will be options for people unable to use smartphones, and security will be built in through encryption and authentication technology. For now, employers should watch for updates and prepare for digital checks becoming mandatory.



BUSINESS

YouTube Creators Add £2.2bn to UK Economy

Digital content creation providing opportunities for growth

A new impact report by Oxford Economics has revealed that YouTube content creators contributed £2.2 billion to the UK economy in 2024 and supported around 45,000 jobs. The figures highlight how digital content creation has grown into a serious business sector, with creators turning their platforms into careers and even launching companies of their own. For example, Lilly Sabri, who creates fitness videos, has built a community of over six million followers on YouTube, using the platform as a springboard to launch two businesses and create jobs.

A growing marketplace

These numbers are worth noting. The creator economy represents a growing marketplace and offers opportunities for partnering with creators to increase your brand exposure. It can also be worth learning from the way creators build loyal communities online.

Opportunities for growth

The “creator economy” indicates that people now want more than just adverts - they want stories, interaction and authenticity. Are there ways that you could lean into that, even in small ways, to find new growth? For instance, could experimenting with short-form video (TikTok, Instagram Reels, YouTube Shorts), podcasts and email newsletters help you reach customers in spaces where they’re already spending time?

Running behind-the-scenes content, live Q&As, customer spotlights, or collaborating with local influencers who fit with your business can also be beneficial. These days, it’s about building trust and a sense of community around what you do, not just pushing products.

This development shows that the creator economy isn’t just about social media personalities. It’s part of a wider shift in how value is being created - and for businesses willing to adapt and engage, it could open opportunities.

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Weekly Cash Flow Checks: Stay Ahead of Surprises

Cash flow is the lifeblood of any business. Without it, even profitable businesses can run into trouble. Yet many business owners, and even some finance teams, treat cash flow as a monthly or quarterly review item. That's a mistake. A weekly cash flow check is a simple, powerful habit that keeps you informed, proactive and in control. It's a simple routine that will help you to keep your business financially healthy, spot opportunities early, and gain confidence in every decision.

What can weekly checks can do for you:

Avoid surprises



When you review your cash inflows and outflows weekly, you'll spot timing gaps, slow-paying clients, or unexpected expenses before they become urgent.

Plan smarter



Being able to see what happens to cash will help to make better decisions and avoid problems. e.g. should you delay a payment, push harder on collections, or hold back on spending?

Spot opportunities early

Regularly reviewing cash flow can reveal trends and openings you might otherwise miss, such as funds that are available to grow the business or potential savings on expenses.

What are the core steps for a weekly check on cash flow?

Hopefully, you're convinced of the benefits, but how do you do it?
Here are five steps to a weekly check on cash flow.

1

STEP 1: Update Cash Position

Start by reviewing your bank balances and reconciling them with any outstanding invoices and bills. You'll need to make sure your accounting data is accurate and up-to-date, but this should help you know exactly how much cash is available.



2

STEP 2: Project the Next 2-4 Weeks

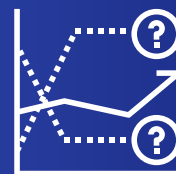
List out everything you expect to receive and everything you expect to pay out over the next 2-4 weeks. This will help you to see where potential shortfalls could come, or where you might have an opportunity.



3

STEP 3: Compare Forecast to Reality

Look back at last week's projections and notice how they differed from what happened in reality. Make sure you know the reason "why" behind differences. Was it a late payment? Were there unexpected expenses? Or did a sale you were expecting not come off? As you do this, you'll get better at estimating what's likely to happen in future. For instance, you might tend to be too optimistic about when customers will pay you.



4

STEP 4: Identify Action Items

Based on what you've learned, you should be able to list out some actions that can be taken over the coming week. Don't necessarily try and list everything possible. You only have a week before the next review. Make sure that you flag the most critical issues so that you can make a meaningful adjustment. You might decide to set a program of calls to customers to chase collections, defer non-critical expenses, or adjust staffing plans.



5

STEP 5: Document and Track Trends

Keep a simple log of your weekly checks. Over time, patterns can emerge that will help you in your budgeting, forecasting and decision making.

Tips:

- A simple spreadsheet with columns for inflows, outflows, net cash and comments can be a good start and make it easier to collect and record the information you need.
- Many banking apps can be set to automatically notify you if balances drop below a preset threshold.
- Consistency is key, so you'll want to schedule a fixed day each week for this review. Mark it in your calendar and make it non-negotiable.

Bottom line

Weekly cash flow checks can transform your financial management from reactive to proactive. It can mean peace of mind and smarter decisions, and give you an insight into your business that goes way beyond what day-to-day bookkeeping allows.

If you would like assistance in making a cash flow check part of your weekly routine, please get in touch.
We would be happy to help you!

Why Thinking Like a CFO Can Help You Shape Your Business

For many small and medium-sized business owners, bookkeeping, payroll and VAT returns are seen as a necessary part of their routine. These tasks are essential, but in terms of shaping your business, they can only tell you what has *already* happened.

It can give you a real advantage if you also spend some time thinking like a strategic Chief Financial Officer (CFO). That means using your financial data to plan and forecast so that you make smarter decisions for your business.

Bookkeepers record history, CFO thinking shapes the future

While bookkeepers ensure your numbers are accurate, a CFO - or a business owner thinking like one - asks questions like:

- Which customers or products generate the most profit?
- How much cash do we really need in the next six months?
- Where should we invest resources for maximum impact?

Adopting this kind of mindset can transform how you run your business. The good news is that it's not that difficult to develop some core skills that will help you to do this.

Core skills every business owner can learn:

- **Financial Literacy:** Understand P&Ls, balance sheets and cash flows. These aren't just for accountants; they can be your roadmap for understanding the financial performance of your business.
- **Forecasting and Budgeting:** Forecast what your business income is likely to be, plan for expenses and prepare for seasonal variations.
- **Key Metrics:** Track metrics that matter to your business - cash flow, margins, costs to acquire customers - so that you can make decisions based on data, not just gut feel.
- **Risk Awareness:** Identify risks to your finances early on, whether it's a slow-paying customer or an investment that's costing too much.

Just picking one of these areas and making a small improvement can pay dividends.

Start small, think big

You don't need fancy software or a finance degree. You could begin with:

- Weekly checks on your cash flow.
- Reviewing profit margins per product or service.
- Setting simple financial goals for the quarter.

Gradually, these habits build the foundation of strategic financial thinking allowing you run your business more confidently and proactively.

The bottom line

Treating finance as a back-office chore keeps you in the dark. Thinking like a CFO - tracking the right numbers, asking the right questions, and planning ahead - can give you control, clarity, and confidence.

Bringing a CFO's mindset into your business doesn't mean you need to do it all alone. Sometimes an outside perspective can make the numbers clearer and the decisions easier.

That's where we can help. If you'd like a sounding board to help you step back, see the bigger picture, and plan with confidence, we would be happy to help you!

Striking Off vs Winding Up: What's the Difference for Your Company? Insolvency

The Insolvency Service has reported on an investigation it made into a company that was serving as a front to enable unlicensed insolvency activities previously carried out by another firm.

The investigation resulted in the Insolvency Service winding up the company in the public interest. The case serves as a reminder that only properly licensed insolvency practitioners can act as a liquidator or administrator for a company.

However, if you've reached the point where your company has run its course and you want to close it down, does that mean your only option is to formally wind it up using a licensed insolvency practitioner? No. Another option open to many companies is to have the company 'struck off.'

Let's explore the differences between striking off a company and winding it up, and in what circumstances you might choose one over the other.

What is striking off?

Striking off, often known as 'dissolution,' is the simpler and usually cheaper way to close a

company. Basically, you apply to Companies House (using form DS01) to have the company removed from the register. Once that happens, the company no longer legally exists.

It's typically used when the business is no longer trading, there are no debts outstanding, and all assets (like cash in the bank or equipment) have been distributed to shareholders.

What is winding up?

Winding up (or "liquidation") is a more formal process. A licensed insolvency practitioner is appointed to sell off the company's assets, settle debts, and distribute anything left over to shareholders. Once everything is complete, the company is struck off the register.



It's typically used when:

- The company cannot pay its debts (insolvent liquidation).
- The directors or shareholders want a formal, orderly closure, even if the company is solvent (members' voluntary liquidation).
- There are complex affairs that need professional handling.

Key differences at a glance:

- **Cost:** Striking off is inexpensive (a small Companies House fee), while winding up involves professional fees for the liquidator.
- **Debts:** Striking off is only an option if debts are cleared. If creditors are owed money, they can object and force the company into liquidation.
- **Control:** Striking off is handled directly by directors, whereas winding up requires external oversight.
- **Risk:** If directors strike off a company without properly settling debts or assets, creditors can restore the company to the register and pursue them. Winding up offers more protection.

Why choose one over the other?

If your business is small, debt-free, and you just want to wrap things up simply, striking off is often a good option. It's also common for dormant companies or businesses that never really got off the ground.

On the other hand, if your company is insolvent, if you want legal certainty that everything has been settled

properly, or if you're dealing with significant assets or liabilities, then the formal winding up process is better.

Final thought

Both routes end with the company being removed from the register, but the right choice depends on your company's financial position and how much formality is needed.

We're here to help

To get personalised advice on the right option for your company, please give us a call. We would be happy to help you!

Directors ID Verification at Companies House



From 18 November 2025, identity verification will be a new legal requirement to deter those wishing to use companies for illegal purposes. Anyone setting up, running, owning or controlling a company in the UK will need to verify their identity to prove they are who they claim to be. If you do not comply with identity verification requirements on time, you'll be committing an offence. There will be a range of consequences, including a financial penalty. You will not be able to make any filings for your company or start a new company.

You therefore need to verify your identity, and forward your identity verification code to us as soon as possible so we can still submit documents to companies' house on your behalf.

ID verification can be done via one of three ways:

- **Option 1:** You can do this yourself using your internet browser and smartphone app
- **Option 2:** We can use an external provider to do a verification check on your behalf using software.
- **Option 3:** Visit the Post Office

Next steps

To talk you through any of these processes, we've created a very handy PDF guide. Please do get in touch and we'll be more than happy to send it to you by email!

As always, we're here to help you navigate the latest tax and business developments with confidence. If you have any questions about how these updates affect you or your business, don't hesitate to get in touch with our team of experienced accountants and financial advisers.

See you next month!

Wellway Accountants

Thank you for reading!

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