Guide to the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) levy on financial service providers in 2026

SECTION 1 – Background to the levy and the 2027 Regulations

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (the Commission) was formed on 31 October 2014 following the amalgamation of the Competition Authority and the National Consumer Agency (NCA).

The Commission has made Regulations, with the approval of the Minister of State for Trade Promotion, Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation (who has been delegated responsibility for the Consumer Protection Act 2007) and with the consent of the Minister for Finance, for the imposition of its levies for 2027. These are the Consumer Protection Act 2007 (Competition and Consumer Protection Commission) Levy Regulations, 2026 [S.I. No. 560 of 2026].

The method of calculation of the levies varies depending on the category of financial service provider that a firm comes within (further details below).

The levies imposed by the Commission relate to the functions transferred previously to the NCA from the Financial Regulator (now the Central Bank), which are now functions of the Commission, **and are separate from any levies that are imposed by the Central Bank in relation to its current functions.**

Collection of the levies

The CCPC plans to issue levy notices for 2027 during Quarter 4, 2026.

Firms that receive levy notices are required to pay the amount of the levy indicated therein within 28 days from the date of the levy notice.

A firm that is liable to pay a levy under the Commission Levy Regulations remains liable to pay the levy contribution in accordance with the Regulations even where the firm does not receive a levy notice. Where this arises, the firm in question should request a copy of the levy notice by email from ccpclevy@ccpc.ie . In such cases, the firm must pay the levy contribution not later than 28 days after the expiry of the levy period set out in the Regulations.

The interest rate chargeable for a late payment of the Levy is the European Central Bank main refinancing rate plus 8% points. A list of firms with outstanding levy liabilities may be shared with The Central Bank of Ireland.

Where a firm that is liable to pay a levy contribution under the Commission Levy Regulations has been subject to regulation by the Central Bank for only part of the levy period set out in the Regulations, then the required levy contribution is calculated on a pro-rata basis by reference to the number of days of the levy period for which the firm was regulated.

Payment of the levies

Payment of the levies should only be made by Electronic Funds Transfer, using the following details:

	Danske Bank
Account Name:	**The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission Levy A/C**
IBAN:	**IE36 DABA 9515 9910 0001 16**
BIC/SWIFT:	**DABAIE2D**

Firms **must** include the **Levy Notice Number** in the transfer details (which is included in the 2027 levy notices). Failure to include the required details may result in the Commission being unable to allocate the payment without further correspondence which could result in unnecessary delays.

The payment details are set out in the Information Note (with payment details) that is available on our website. Please note that we have new bank details since 2021 and ensure that your records are up to date before payment of your 2026 levy notice.

Appeals

A firm that receives a notice in respect of the levy that it is liable to pay to the Commission may appeal to the Chairperson of the Commission not later than 28 days following the date on the levy notice, to change the amount of the levy contribution as set out in the notice where it considers that the amount has been incorrectly assessed.

Appeals must be in writing and set out the grounds of the appeal in detail with full disclosure of all relevant facts.

All appeals must be accompanied by the full levy amount as set out in the levy notice; in the event of a successful appeal, the Commission will reimburse such sums as the Chairperson directs to the successful appeal firm.

Proceedings for recovery of levies due to the Commission

The legislation granting the power to impose the levies contains a provision whereby the Commission may, by proceedings in a court of competent jurisdiction, recover as a debt an amount of levy payable under the Regulations made by the Commission.

SECTION 2 – Categorisation of firms and levy amount per category

(i) Categories, or classes, of regulated entities

The legislation giving the power to impose the levies states that the levies are to be upon entities that are subject to regulation by the Central Bank. These entities are authorised and regulated based on the nature of the financial services they provide.

The Commission has adopted the same categorisation of regulated financial services providers that is used by the Central Bank for the authorisation of the providers to carry on various types of financial services business. However, the Commission is not imposing levies on firms in all of those categories in 2027 (further details below).

(ii) Relationship between the Categories of regulated firms and transferred functions

The levies imposed are in relation to the cost of the performance of the personal finance functions of the Commission (consumer information and education on financial services).

The information is provided through the Commission's consumer helpline and through its website www.ccpc.ie. Regarding education and the personal finance function, the focus of the Commission is on providing information and on producing education resources to cover basic money management as well as the main financial products available from regulated providers.

(iii) Total amount of the levy in 2027

The Commission has calculated the total amount of the levy to be collected in respect of the cost of carrying out the personal finance consumer information and education functions in 2027 as follows:

Staff pay and related cost	€2,792,876
Non-pay costs	€3,327,685
Carry-over of 2025 levy surplus	- € 684,690

The net levy amount being imposed in 2027 **(€5,435,871**[1]) is an increase of approximately 11% on the 2026 levy following an examination of resource requirements for the performance of the CCPC's personal finance consumer information and education functions in 2027.

(iv) Proxy Measures used to determine the CCPC levy per category

For levy 2027, the CCPC is using the same methodology for the calculation of the levies as was used in previous years, by apportioning the levy among the relevant categories of firms using proxy measures and calculating the individual levies per firm using 2025 data related to the business levels of the firms. This data consists of Central Bank statistics in the case of credit unions, and data obtained directly from the firms themselves in the case of other firms being levied, except for high-cost credit providers where a flat-rate levy is used.

Each year the Commission carries out a detailed examination of statistics on calls to its consumer helpline relating to personal finance matters, and of the resource requirements involved in providing information on those matters through its website www.ccpc.ie. From this exercise, it calculates proxy measures for the apportioning of the costs associated with the performance of the transferred functions.

These proxy measures show that the resource requirements are not evenly spread across all the categories of financial service providers. Most of the requirements are in respect of work relating to a small number of the categories, while other categories only account for minimal resource use, or in some cases almost none at all.

As in previous years, a review of the categories that it would be appropriate to impose levies upon, particularly in relation to those categories from which only a very small proportion of its overall levy would fall to be collected, was conducted. The cost effectiveness of collecting relatively small amounts of levy from some categories, particularly those that contain large

[1] **NOTE:** Which takes into account the imposition **of rounding and minimum levy amounts** where the calculation of individual levies is below the minimum amount for the relevant category

numbers of individual firms and where the levy amount per firm would consequently be very small, was considered. Following the review, only those providers that come within the Categories listed in the table below are required to pay levies in 2027. The position is subject to review on an annual basis.

(v) Proportion of the CCPC levy applicable to each category

To arrive at an equitable distribution of the levy among the categories of firms that are being levied by the Commission in 2027, the proxy measures referred to above have been used to calculate the proportionate share-out of the total levy among those categories.

The outcome of this exercise indicated that approximately 75% of the resources required for the performance of the transferred functions are accounted for by the Categories of:

- **Credit Institutions,** including those that operate in Ireland on a branch basis.
- **Insurance firms,** including Life Insurance and Non-Life firms.

The remaining 25% (approx.) is accounted for by the following categories:

- Credit Unions
- High-Cost Credit Providers
- Retail Credit Firms and Home Reversion Firms
- Investment Firms

The share-out of the total levy among the categories of regulated entities being charged is set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1

Institution type	Percentage share out of total levy
Credit institutions	49.67%
Life Insurance Undertakings	5.31%
Non-life Insurance undertakings	19.59%
Investment Firms authorised under the European Communities (Markets in Financial Instruments) Regulations 2017	5.18%
Credit Unions	11.01%
High-Cost Credit Providers	0.84%
Retail Credit Firms and Home Reversion Firms	8.4%

Amounts per category: **Table 2**

Institution type	Total amount payable by regulated entities in 2026 (€)	Total amount payable by regulated entities in 2027 (€)
Credit Institutions	2,572,002	2,699,997
Life Insurance undertakings	208,779	288,645
Non-life Insurance undertakings	952,738	1,064,887
Investment Firms authorised under the European Communities (Markets in Financial Instruments) Regulations 2017	203,878	281,578
Credit Unions	564,096	598,489
High-Cost Credit Providers	31,856	45,662
Retail credit firms and Home Reversion Firms	367,569	456,613

SECTION 3 –Calculation of the levy amount per firm within the categories

The Commission wishes to achieve an equitable distribution of the levy among the firms within each category and has therefore decided that the calculation of the levy applicable to each firm should consider the relative size of firms, their authorisation status and relevant activities (where data is available).

As in previous years, the levies for individual firms are therefore based on information relating to the business level of the firms obtained from official sources or from the firms themselves. In the case of high-cost credit providers, the total levy for this category is small and a flat-rate levy is therefore being charged. A summary of the approach is set out below.

Credit Institutions

The levies for credit institutions are calculated on the basis of the number of retail customers each had at the end of 2025, as provided to the Commission by the institutions themselves. The rate is €0.24718 per retail customer. A minimum levy of €500 is payable by each credit institution.

Insurance Undertakings - Life

All life undertakings in these categories that engage in the writing of Irish risk business are being charged levies by the Commission. The levies are calculated on the basis of total net premium on Irish risk business of each firm for the year 2025. The rate is 0.0012842% of that premium income. A minimum levy of €500 is payable by each life assurance undertaking.

Insurance Undertakings – Non-Life

All non-life undertakings in these categories that engaged in the writing of Irish risk business (other than those designated as 'captives' by the Central Bank of Ireland) are being charged levies by the Commission. The levies are calculated on the basis of total net premium on Irish risk business of each firm for the year 2025. The rate is 0.0141856% of that premium income. A minimum levy of €500 is payable by each non-life insurance undertaking.

Investment Firms [regulated under the European Union (Markets in Financial Instruments) Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 375 of 2017)].

Included are entities engaged in the receipt and transmission of orders, and/or provision of investment advice; entities engaged in portfolio management and execution of orders; entities engaged in own account trading and underwriting on a firm commitment basis.

Each of the financial service providers shall pay, in respect of its liability for the year ended 31 December 2027, a levy calculated at the rate of €1.72 per retail client as at 31 December 2024. A minimum levy of €50 is payable by entities in these categories.

Credit Unions

Credit unions in this category are being charged levies by the Commission. The levies are calculated on the basis of each credit union's total assets as at end September 2025, or if these assets figures are not available, of its total assets as at 30 September in the most recent year available, as supplied to the Commission by the Central Bank of Ireland (Registrar of Credit Union Division). The rate being charged is 0.002656% of total assets. A minimum levy of €50 is payable by each credit union.

High-Cost Credit Providers

High-Cost Credit Providers in this category are being charged levies by the Commission. The total levy being charged to this category of firm is relatively small and a flat rate levy per firm of €1,691 is being charged.

Retail Credit Firms and Home Reversion Firms

Retail credit firms and home reversion firms in this category are being charged levies by the Commission. The levies are calculated on the basis of the value of each firm's outstanding loans as at 31 December 2025, as reported to the Commission by the firms themselves. The rate being charged is 0.0015157% of each firm's outstanding loans figure. A minimum levy of €50 is payable by each retail credit firm and home reversion firm.