Identifying an independent financial adviser in the UK—someone who will work with you to determine your financial planning and wealth management needs—is the first step to achieving financial peace of mind.

Be that as it may, many Brits are unaware of the difference a UK independent financial adviser (IFA) can have on their financial lives. Having a qualified and experienced UK financial advisor on your side can help you preserve what you've accumulated and even grow it for the years to come.

Just as a family physician plays a key role in your physical wellbeing, UK IFAs can help clients maintain their financial health.

Since one would take the time and effort to search for a physician of their choice, you should also conduct appropriate diligence when identifying independent financial advisers in London or elsewhere in the UK.

That's why we have put together this list of best UK IFAs and wealth management firms to help you identify the best UK/London financial adviser with the right skills that matches your needs and expectations.
### Top 11 Best Independent Financial Advisers in the UK

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Table: Top 11 Independent Financial Advisors in the UK for 2018 | Above list is sorted by rating

**Tips for Selecting the Best UK Financial Advisers**

When it comes to choosing the best UK financial advisor, there are plenty of firms to choose from. With so many options to consider, how can you narrow the search?

First, take a close look at what each financial advisor in the UK has to offer, and match those services up with your own personal financial goals.

Are you planning for retirement? Have you recently changed jobs? Do you have a recent inheritance or an impending divorce that will affect your financial future?

As you will see in the following reviews for financial advisors in the UK, each UK financial advisor specializes in varying areas of financial planning and wealth management.

If your needs are of a broader nature and you wish to have peace of mind through simple yet comprehensive financial planning, you may be well-suited with a UK financial advisor that offers a broader range of services.

Once you’ve narrowed down your choices to a select few of these top-ranking financial advisers in London and elsewhere, see if any of your selected advisors offers an introductory consultation session.

Whether it’s a free or paid consultation, this can be a good way to “feel out” a prospective financial advisor in the UK before committing to their services.
AdvisoryHQ’s Selection Methodology

What methodology does AdvisoryHQ use in selecting and finalizing the credit cards, financial products, firms, services and products that are ranked on its various top-rated lists?

Please click here “AdvisoryHQ's Ranking Methodologies” for a detailed review of AdvisoryHQ's selection methodologies for ranking top-rated credit cards, financial accounts, firms, products, and services.

Detailed Review – Best Financial Advisors in the UK

Below, please find the detailed review of each firm on our list of the best financial planners in the UK. We have highlighted some of the factors that allowed these UK wealth management firms to score so high in our selection ranking.

Click on any of the names below to go directly to the review section for that firm.

- Alexander House Financial Services
- Almary Green
- Anstee & Co.
Alexander House Financial Services Ltd. Review

Alexander House Financial Services Ltd (AHFS) is an independent UK investment advisory firm with local advisors all over the UK.

With individual, corporate, and specialized services, this top UK financial adviser strives to integrate traditional values, modern thinking, and transparent advice into all that they do.

AHFS does not explicitly say whether they are a fee-only or fee-based UK wealth management firm. As always, we recommend verifying compensation before partnering with any UK IFA.

Key Factors That Enabled Alexander House Financial Services Ltd. to Rank as One of the Top Wealth Management Firms in the UK

Flexible, Upfront Fee Structure

At AHFS, your fees are communicated upfront, including the breakdown of services for which you’re paying. As described by AHFS, their fee structure entails:

Our fees are based wholly upon the provision of our qualified and professional expertise; the time taken to analyse your circumstances and devise an appropriate strategy going forward; the design of an appropriate summary report to communicate this strategy to you; and takes into account our firms exposure to regulatory, commercial and financial risk.
While this UK wealth management firm does not call itself either fee-only or fee-based, they are transparent about what their fees are for different services, representing a strong, client-facing commitment.

**Advice for Buying a Home**

Even for those with multiple properties, purchasing a new residence or commercial property is a financial choice they want to make carefully.

The UK financial advisors at AHFS can help individuals approach buying property strategically by addressing questions like:

- What will my costs be after I buy this house?
- Do I want to repay this mortgage on a month by month basis, or simply pay the interest and save on my own?
- Should I opt for a fixed or variable rate?
- Should I pay my mortgage off over a shorter or longer period of time?

Acquiring the services of a financial planner in the UK can help you answer these questions in a way that will keep you secure moving forward.

*Alexander House Financial Services*

**Rating Summary**

For those looking for the top wealth management firms in the UK, it’s hard to beat Alexander House Financial Services.
With a diverse range of services, a transparent fee structure, a talented team, and multiple offices across the UK, Alexander House Financial Services is one of the best UK financial advisers to consider partnering with in 2018.

See Also: Best Financial Advisers in Leeds, UK

Almary Green Review

Founded in 2001, Almary Green features a team of talented UK IFAs backed by para-planners and administrators, providing investment, retirement planning, tax planning, and more.

While Almary Green does not specify whether they are a fee-only or fee-based firm, they do state that “our advisers are not paid according to sales targets,” ensuring that clients receive truly unbiased advice.

As always, we recommend verifying compensation structure before partnering with any financial advisor in the UK.

Key Factors That Enabled Almary Green to Rank as One of the Top Financial Advisors in the UK

Money Coaching Services

One of the newest offerings from Almary Green is Money Coaching, a service designed to help clients identify and change any negative behaviours and patterns.

This behavioural approach allows clients to separate emotional responses from logical ones, setting clients up for long-term success in improving their financial health. Instances where Money Coaching may be particularly useful include:

- Receiving an inheritance
- Planning for retirement
- Life transitions like bereavement, divorce, or a career change
- Planning for future goals and aspirations

Wide Range of Financial Capabilities

Financial goals and needs are subject to change over time, stressing the importance of finding a UK IFA that can handle a variety of financial challenges. Almary Green maintains a wide range of capabilities, including:
Rating Summary

As one of the top financial advisors in the UK, Almary Green provides clients with comprehensive, client-centric financial services, laying a strong foundation for long-term financial planning relationships.

With a large team of highly qualified chartered financial planners, para planners, and administrative support, Almary Green is one of the best financial advisors in the UK to consider partnering with this year.

Anstee & Co. Review

Founded by Caroline Anstee, Anstee & Co. is a UK independent financial adviser in Kettering, London, Stamford, and Birmingham.

While the firm doesn’t specify their compensation structure, it’s likely that Anstee & Co. is a fee-based financial advisor in London, as they may earn compensation from insurance or mortgage sales.

As always, we recommend verifying compensation structure before partnering with any UK IFA.

Key Factors That Enabled Anstee & Co. to Rank as One of the Top Financial Advisors in the UK

Wide Range of Financial Capabilities

For many clients, part of finding the best UK financial advisers is finding a firm that offers enough services to sustain a long-term financial planning relationship.

Individual goals and needs are subject to change over time, and to meet the ever-changing needs of their clients, Anstee & Co. offers assistance with:
• Investments—Five-step process to uncover each client’s unique preference, needs, and goals

• Pensions—Helps clients understand the complex tax considerations of a pension

• Later Life—Addresses funding for long-term care

• Inheritance Tax Planning—Helps clients plan for taxes on assets that will be passed on

• Wills—While these UK IFAs do not write wills, they can introduce clients to skilled professionals

• Insurance—Life, family income benefit, critical illness, private medical, and more

• Mortgages—First time home buyer, remortgage, equity release, and more

• Business—Advice to owners and employees on investments, retirement planning, tax and redundancy

Experienced Team

Anstee & Co. boasts a large, talented team of advisors, planners, and support staff, ensuring clients that the firm can handle a variety of financial challenges.

With a collective experience spanning nearly two centuries, these UK IFAs bring the following industry certifications:

• Chartered Financial Planner
• Diploma in Financial Planning
• Member of the Personal Finance Society
• Member of the Chartered Insurance Institute
• Lifetime Mortgage & Equity Release specialist
• Diploma in Financial Services
• Certificate in Mortgage Advice & Practice (CeMAP)
• Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning
• Certificate in Mortgage Planning

Rating Summary

As a top UK independent financial adviser, Anstee & Co. brings clients a wide range of benefits, including a commitment to independence and transparency in fees, instilling a strong foundation of trust within the client-advisor relationship.
With a wide range of financial capabilities and a large, talented team of UK IFAs, Anstee & Co. is one of the best UK financial advisers to consider partnering with this year.

Don’t Miss: Top Financial Advisers (IFAs) in Manchester and Cheshire, United Kingdom

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Ashlea Financial Planning Limited Review

Formed in 2005, Ashlea Financial Planning Limited is a UK independent financial adviser located in Cheltenham. The firm provides bespoke financial planning to individuals and businesses with a full suite of in-house services.

The firm does not specifically state whether they use a fee-only or fee-based compensation structure. As always, we recommend verifying fees before beginning a partnership with any financial advisor in the UK.

Key Factors That Enabled Ashlea Financial Planning Limited to Rank as a Top Financial Advisor in the UK

LifeStage Financial Planning

For clients that want a personalized, in-depth process, Ashlea offers LifeStage financial planning.

This branch of service looks at the specific stage of life that each client is in and recommends services accordingly, helping to guide them towards their best financial health. These LifeStages include:

- **Building a Foundation**—May include planning to buy a home, building a career, investing for retirement, saving for a child’s education, and more
- **Living Your Dreams**—May include utilising pension and other savings, updating your financial plan for unforeseen circumstances, estate planning considerations, and more
- **Later Life**—May include long-term care, power of attorney, legacy planning, and more

Client-Centric Process

For each financial planning relationship, the UK IFAs at Ashlea take an in-depth approach when getting to know each client’s unique needs and goals. This includes:
• **Discovery Meeting**—Complimentary meeting to discuss current circumstances, future plans, financial services, and fees

• **Production of the Plan**—Your UK financial advisor will create a comprehensive financial plan based on information in the Discovery Meeting

• **Presenting Your Plan**—Includes current evaluations and future projections for income, expenditure, and net worth

• **Implementation**—Once approved, your UK financial advisor will put your financial plan in action

• **On-Going Review**—Regular review meetings provide the opportunity for updates and evaluations

*Ashlea Financial Planning Limited*

**Rating Summary**

Although the team of UK IFAs at Ashlea may be significantly smaller than that of competing firms, this boutique structure provides clients with the opportunity for one-on-one advice and attention, something that many larger UK financial advisors cannot provide.
With a highly certified team and an in-depth approach that truly puts clients first, Ashlea Financial Planning Limited is one of the best financial advisors in the UK to consider partnering with this year.

Chetwood Wealth Management Review

Based in Wellington, Chetwood Wealth Management is a firm of highly regarded independent financial advisers in the UK that have been serving clients for over 25 years.

Uniquely, Chetwood does not specify whether they are a fee-only or fee-based firm—instead, these UK IFAs allow clients to choose “whatever fee option you decide suits you best,” demonstrating a flexibility that is not often found among financial advisors in the UK.

Key Factors That Enabled Chetwood Wealth Management to Rank as One of the Top Wealth Management Firms in the UK

Chartered Financial Planners

Clients looking to work with an independent financial adviser in London will have peace of mind knowing that the Charted Insurance Institute (CII) has awarded Chetwood the Chartered Financial Planners designation.

This means that not only are these financial planners in the UK highly qualified to practice their profession, but that the company, as a whole, also meets the high standards set out by CII for its member firms.

Structured Processes

As a top independent financial adviser serving clients in London and other parts of the UK, Chetwood follows a highly disciplined and structured process to identify clients’ risk tolerance, current circumstances, and investment goals.

This structured process ensures that investments are continually monitored and that changes are made appropriately, on an ongoing basis, to reflect each client’s evolving lifestyle.

Specific services provided by this UK wealth management firm include:

- Estate planning
- Trust planning
Rating Summary

As a UK independent financial adviser, Chetwood Wealth Management can source suitable alternatives from across a broad universe of products and services that meet clients’ unique requirements.

While the firm excels in their commitment to independence and maintaining a highly qualified staff, our review found room for improvement on how their financial services are communicated.

Without any specific information on what each financial service entails, clients may find it challenging to evaluate the full scope of Chetwood’s potential—or what to expect when partnering with the firm.

By adding details about specific capabilities within each level of service, Chetwood Wealth Management could easily improve both their value proposition to clients and their rating as a top financial advisor in the UK.

Related: Top Financial Advisors and Wealth Managers in Nashville and Memphis, Tennessee

Critchleys Review

With a history dating back to 1906, Critchleys provides accounting, tax planning, wealth management, and financial planning services to clients across the UK from their Oxford office.

Critchleys does not specifically state whether they are a fee-based or fee-only UK financial advisor. As always, we recommend verifying fee structure before partnering with any financial advisor in the UK.

Key Factors That Enabled Critchleys to Rank as a Top Financial Advisor in the UK

Range of Clients Served

As one of the top UK wealth management firms, Critchleys provides financial services tailored to unique client needs. This includes serving the following types of clients:

- School fees planning
- Personal and professional protection
- **Business Owners**—Includes accounting, payroll, tax planning, HR advice, and more

- **Private Clients**—Financial planning and tax services

- **Large Businesses**—Audit services, VAT consultancy, tax planning, payroll services, and more

- **Charities and Non-Profits**—Accounting, auditing, HR, taxation, assurance, and more

- **Academies and Schools**—Financial statements, audits, taxation, VAT, and more

- **Oxford and Cambridge Colleges**—Audit partner for 19 Oxford colleges and one Cambridge college

- **Business Recovery and Insolvency**—Cash flow, business turnaround, investigations, monitoring, and more

**Large Team of Experts**

Part of what makes Critchleys into a top UK financial advisor is their dedication to maintaining a strong team of experts.

Spanning a wide range of financial industries, clients can easily partner with experts that are best-suited to address their needs, including:

- Business Experts
- Personal Tax Experts
- Personal Financial Planning Experts
- Corporate Experts
- Charity Experts
- Academies and Schools Experts
- College Experts
- Business Recovery and Insolvency Experts

For potential clients that aren’t quite sure what type of expert they may need to talk to—or what kinds of financial services they may need—Critchleys provides an [interactive search](#) to help narrow down the best financial experts for each unique circumstance.
Top UK Financial Advisers

Rating Summary

For businesses, individuals, and corporations alike, Critchleys is a top-notch UK financial advisor.

The firm offers a wide variety of services catered to the unique needs of each client segment, a highly accredited team, and additional expertise in areas like accounting and strategic guidance, solidifying Critcheys as one of the best financial advisors in the UK.

Equilibrium Asset Management Review

Founded in 1995, Equilibrium Asset Management is a Chartered UK wealth management firm that provides personalized financial planning advice in Wilmslow and Chester.

Equilibrium does not explicitly call itself fee only or fee based, but the compensation structure they describe on their website sounds like they are like a fee-based wealth management firm in the UK.
As always, we recommend that readers verify a UK wealth management firm's compensation structure before beginning a working relationship.

**Key Factors That Enabled Equilibrium Asset Management to Rank as a Top Wealth Management Firm in the UK**

**Comprehensive Financial Services**

As one of the top UK financial advisers, Equilibrium takes a holistic approach to financial security. Clients can benefit from a wide range of comprehensive financial services, including:

- **Financial Planning**—Customized approach to common financial concerns based on age and life circumstances

- **Inheritance Tax Planning**—Addresses concerns like exemptions, avoidance, and gifting strategies

- **Intergenerational Planning**—These UK financial advisers help families navigate passing gifts and property from one generation to the next

- **Investments**—Uses long-term strategies to balance risk, diversification, cost, and individual preferences

- **Retirement Planning**—Investment products, annuities, common planning objectives, gifts to children, and more

- **Tax Planning**—Capital gains taxes, tax-efficient investment products, AIM portfolios, and more

**Industry-Recognized Firm**

Over the past few years, Equilibrium Asset Management has been recognized by numerous industry publications for their positive contributions to the wealth management industry. Some of their most recent awards include:

- Ranked #5 on the “75 Best Companies to Work For in the North West” in 2018 by [Insider Media](#)
- Ranked #9 on the “Top 100 Small Companies to Work For” in 2018 by [The Sunday Times](#)
- Awarded “Employer of the Year” in 2018 by [The Greater Manchester Business Awards](#)
- Named on the [New Model Adviser®](#) “Top 100 2017” list of financial advisers
Rating Summary

For every aspect of their financial services, Equilibrium provides a wealth of detailed information, making it easy for clients to get to know the firm and their capabilities before even meeting with a UK financial advisor.

With a strong history of industry-recognized excellence, comprehensive financial planning services, and a talented team of UK IFAs, Equilibrium Asset Management is one of the best financial advisors in the UK to consider partnering with this year.

Popular Article: Top Advisors and Wealth Managers in Ohio

Paradigm Norton Review

Founded in 2001, Paradigm Norton is a UK financial advisor offering financial planning and investment management services in London, Torquay, and Bristol.

Paradigm Norton does not explicitly say whether it is a fee-only or fee-based UK wealth management firm. As always, we recommend verifying a firm’s compensation structure before starting a working relationship with any financial advisor in the UK.

Key Factors That Enabled Paradigm Norton to Rank as a Top Wealth Management Firm in the UK

Tax and Estate Planning

This UK wealth management firm can seamlessly combine your investment strategy with your tax planning to provide you with comprehensive service. Clients receive assistance in the following areas:

- Comprehensive financial and cash flow planning
- Personal tax and estate planning
- Investment portfolio management
- Giving and philanthropy planning

The specialists at Paradigm Norton can help clients answer important questions like:

- How much should I give my children to ensure they are secure while preserving their sense of personal motivation?
- Should I divide my assets equally between my children?
- How can I explain to my children that I will be leaving all my assets to charity?
Value-Driven Approach

As a top UK financial advisor, Paradigm Norton features a value-driven approach to each client relationship. This includes:

- **People matter**—The firm values the importance of everyone
- **Actions speak louder than words**—These UK financial advisors understand the impact of their actions
- **Setting the bar high**—As a top UK IFA, Paradigm Norton values the significance of continued improvement
- **Building for the future**—The firm values the importance of building a legacy

Rating Summary

As one of the top UK financial advisers, Paradigm Norton provides clients with a strong history of success and a wide range of financial resources.

Unfortunately, we were unable to access Paradigm Norton’s full listing of UK financial advisors, making it difficult to evaluate the firm’s range of qualifications and certifications.

Additionally, while the majority of the firm’s services are described in detail, our review found some room for improvement when it comes the firm’s financial planning capabilities.

By listing all advisors and providing details on specific financial planning services—like budgeting, retirement planning, or cash flow analysis—Paradigm Norton could easily improve both their value proposition to new clients and their rating as a top UK financial advisor.

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**Partridge Muir & Warren Review**

Partridge Muir & Warren (PMW) is an independent financial advisor in the UK. Based in Esher and founded in 1969, the firm is made up of wealth advisers, financial advisers, and Chartered Financial Planners.

Partridge Muir & Warren does not explicitly say whether they are a fee-only or fee-based wealth management firm, although they explain that their fee is calculated as a percentage of the funds under assessment.

We advise all readers to verify compensation structure before starting a working relationship with any UK IFA.
Key Factors That Enabled Partridge Muir & Warren to Rank as a Top Wealth Management Firm in the UK

Independent Financial and Wealth Managers

Partridge Muir & Warren takes pride in its status as an independent financial adviser in the UK that offers an array of bespoke and unbiased financial and wealth management services to its clients.

As one of the top UK IFAs, the PMW team focuses on providing truly independent and highly customised services. These include:

- Wealth management
- Financial planning review
- Investment review service
- Tax service

This UK wealth management firm’s continued dedication to maintaining its regulatory independence and corporate autonomy demonstrates Partridge Muir & Warren’s commitment to serve its clients over the long term as a UK independent financial adviser.

Team-Based Service

As a top independent financial advisor in the UK, Partridge Muir & Warren has a strong team-based approach to service delivery.

For instance, clients using their wealth management service are assigned two professionals to deal with their needs – an account manager and an adviser. These two lead professionals are also supported by a large operations team.

Overall, this UK wealth management firm uses a well-structured and client-centric approach to deliver all of its services.

Rating Summary

As one of the premier independent financial advisers in the UK, Partridge Muir & Warren credits its longevity and success to a value system of honesty, transparency, integrity, diligence, skill, and care.

With comprehensive services, a talented team, and a value-driven philosophy of service, Partridge Muir & Warren is one of the best UK IFAs to consider partnering with this year.

Read More: Top Financial Advisors in Dallas, Texas (Ranking of Dallas Wealth Advisors)
Based out of Nottingham, Russell Ulyatt is an independent financial adviser in the UK offering financial planning and wealth management services.

Russell Ulyatt describes itself as a fee-based UK wealth management firm, but their wording alludes to a fee-only compensation structure, emphasizing that their UK IFAs are under no obligation or pressure to sell financial products.

We advise all readers to confirm firm’s compensation structure before working with any UK financial advisor.

Key Factors That Enabled Russell Ulyatt to Rank as a Top Financial Advisor in the UK

Independent, Fee-Based Advisers

As an owner-managed firm, Russell Ulyatt acts as an independent UK financial advisor for clients, offering them unbiased and impartial advice. Advisers with the firm do not indulge clients in sales pitches.

This UK wealth management firm offers several service models for clients to choose from, with all fees and service charges discussed up-front and transparently.

Alternately, clients who do not wish to work with a financial advisor in the UK on a retainer basis may opt for service under the Reactive Programme, where fees are determined and paid as needed.

Financial Services

As a UK IFA, Russell Ulyatt offers three primary types of services to its clients:

- **Private Client Service**: This service appeals to individuals and families that need ongoing advice, frequent financial check-ups, and continuing reviews of their financial portfolios and plans.

- **Corporate Service**: This service is ideal for corporations looking to work with an independent financial adviser in the UK that will advise them on corporate pension schemes and employee benefit plans.
- **Reactive Programme:** This service is geared towards clients who prefer to pay for financial advice on an as-needed basis, rather than paying regular retainer fees.

**Rating Summary**

As a top financial advisor in the UK, Russell Ulyatt provides clients with an independent, unbiased approach to financial management, creating a strong foundation for a long-term financial planning relationship.

Additionally, the firm provides a wealth of **Key Guides** that provide clients with an inside look at their process, financial planning tips, and expert wealth management insight, earning the firm a 5-star rating overall as a top UK IFA.
Serenity Financial Review

Serenity Financial is an independent financial adviser with offices in London, Lincoln, and Cornwall, among others.

Serenity Financial does not explicitly say on its website whether it is a fee-only or fee-based wealth management firm. We always advise readers to confirm compensation structure before starting a working relationship with any UK financial advisor.

**Key Factors That Enabled Serenity Financial to Rank as One of the Top UK Wealth Management Firms**

**Structured Financial Life Planning Processes**

As one of the top-rated independent financial advisers in the UK, Serenity Financial follows a highly structured process to address unique client financial planning needs.

Based on leading-edge financial and behavioural research, this process puts clients, their families and friends, and all of their goals and aspirations at the core of the planning process.

**Stage 1: Getting to Know You**

This stage includes a complete audit of your current financial situation, which means reviewing your income, expenditure, savings, investments, pensions, employee benefits, and more.

**Stage 2: Preparation of Your Financial Life Plan**

- Report of your income and expenditure
- Net worth
- Cashflow forecasting
- Risk profiling
- Determination of suitable tax strategy
- Recommendations on actions to take

**Stage 3: Implementation of Your Financial Plan**

The financial advisors at this UK wealth management firm will take the time to analyze your situation and conduct thorough research to choose the best options for your financial plan.
They will process the paperwork, provide written confirmation of any recommendations, and manage the entire investment endeavour.

**Stage 4: Ongoing Monitoring and Review**

- An annual review with your UK financial advisor
- Regular access to your advisor
- Detailed progress report and action plan
- Ongoing wealth management advice
- Online access to your information
- Access to educational seminars, workshops and networking events

**Rating Summary**

As a top UK financial advisor, Serenity Financial delivers a truly personalised financial planning experience, providing clients with an in-depth and customised approach.

Backed by an experienced team and a client-centric foundation, Serenity Financial is one of the best UK financial advisers to consider partnering with this year.

*Related: Top Financial Advisors in Wisconsin (Milwaukee, Pewaukee, Waukesha, Cedarburg, and Mequon)*

**Conclusion - Best Independent Financial Advisers in the UK**

Independent financial advisers in the UK are part of a mosaic that is Britain’s busy financial hub. However, these professionals are unique in the skills that they possess and the services that they offer their clients.

When searching for the right UK IFA to work with you, it is impossible to use a “cookie cutter” approach. Each of the individual advisers listed here bring a certain value proposition to the table.

It is up to you to know what you need, in terms of financial planning or wealth management advice and support, and to then use the resources we’ve provided above to decide which one (or several) of these UK financial advisers is best suited to meet your unique needs.

**Rate Table Disclaimer**

Click here to read AdvisoryHQ's [disclaimer on the rate table(s) displayed](#) on this page.
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- https://www.critchleys.co.uk/
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