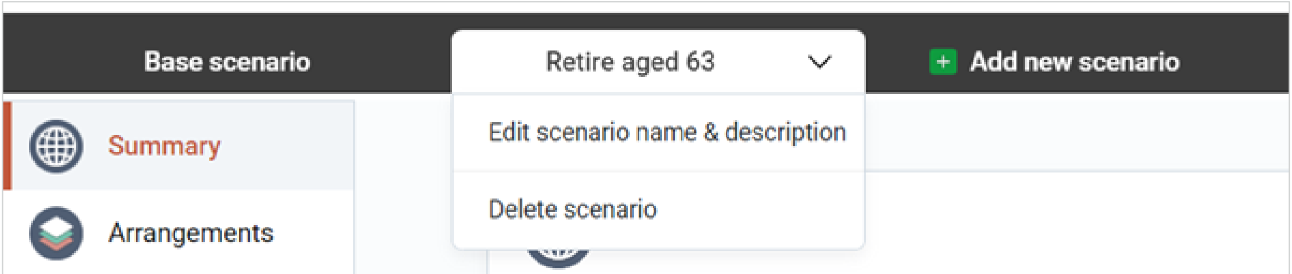
FAQs: Cash Flow Scenarios

1. How many scenarios can I create?

You can have a total of 3 scenarios in your cash flow plan; the base scenario plus two others.

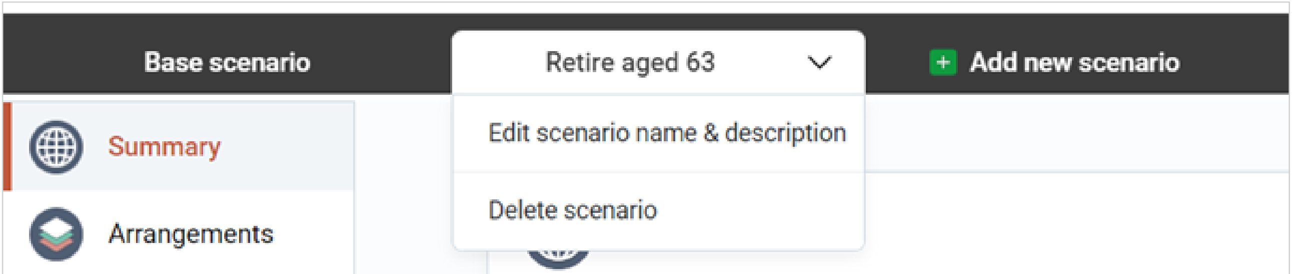
2. How can I add notes or change the name of my scenario?

Click into the scenario, then hover over the down arrow on the tab. From here, you can select ‘Edit name and description’. Both the name and description are included in the ‘Forecasting your finances’ report. You cannot change the name or add a description to the base scenario.



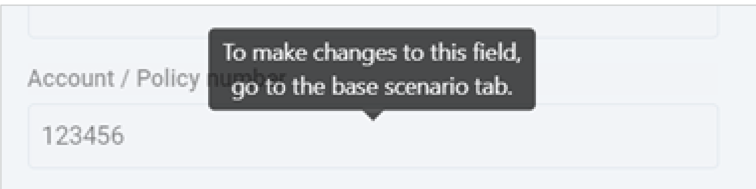
3. Can I delete a scenario?

Yes. Click into the scenario, then hover over the down arrow on the tab. From here, select ‘Delete scenario’.



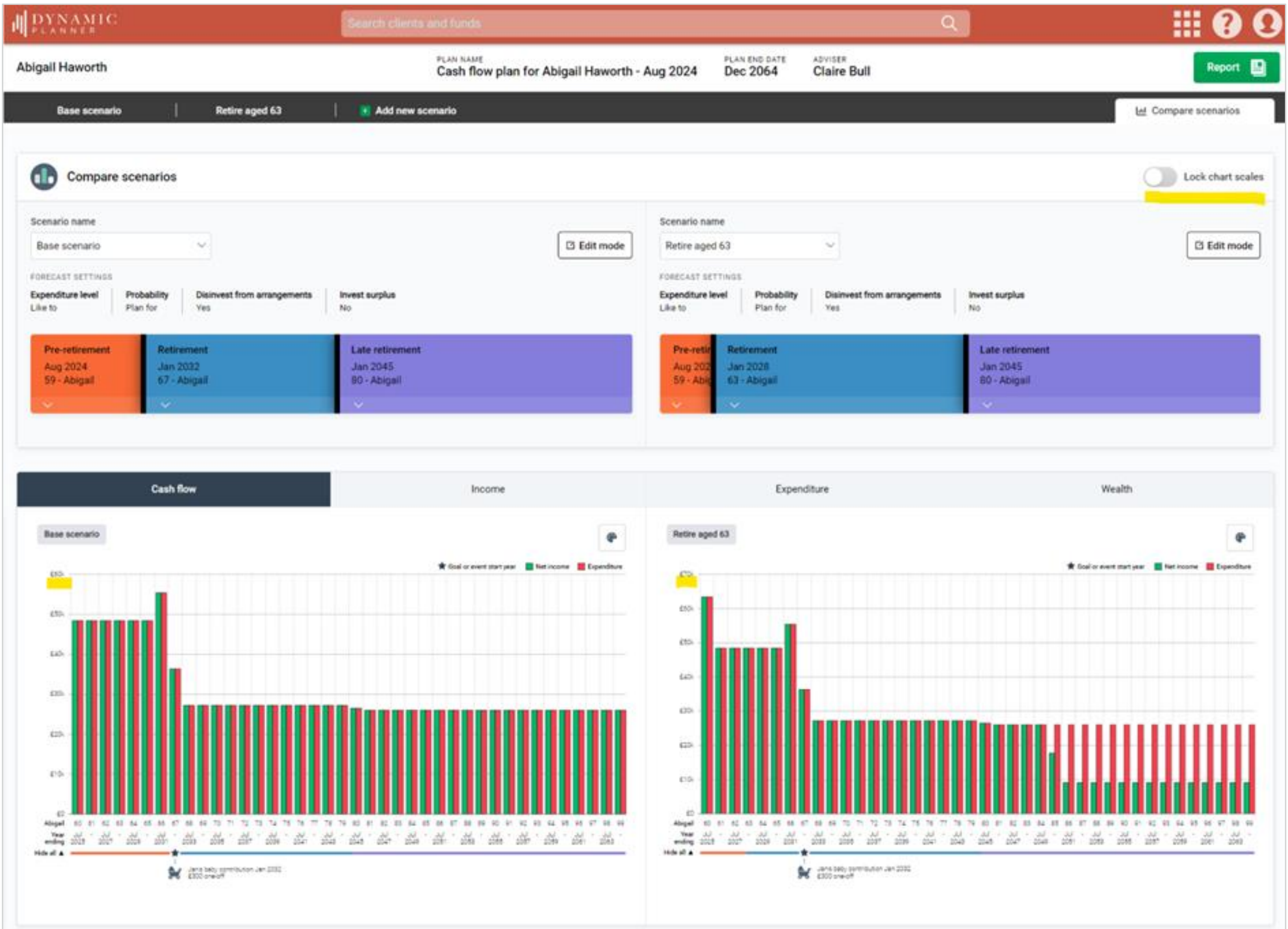
4. Why can’t I edit certain things in my scenarios?

Certain fields of information can only be edited in the base scenario. If you view these fields in a non-base scenario, you’ll notice that they are read-only. The fields that are restricted are core pieces of information that are either factual information that shouldn’t vary between scenarios (such as policy numbers) or that are material to the way we forecast the client’s portfolio (such as the income type or owner). Changing these would fundamentally change the item (including its tax treatment) meaning that comparing the same item between different scenarios would be inaccurate as it would not be a like-for-like comparison.



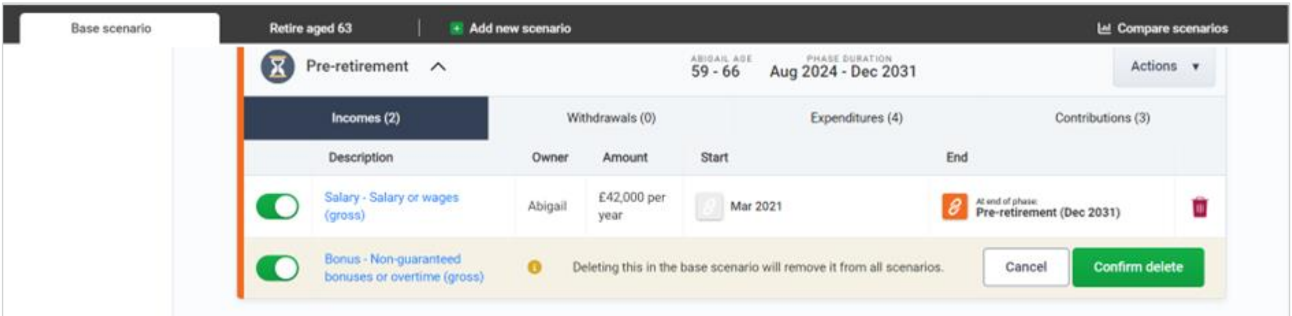
5. What does ‘Lock chart scales’ do?

This feature can be found on the ‘Compare scenarios’ screen. By default, this is enabled and means that across all scenarios in the plan, the charts will have a matching scale. This makes like-for-like comparisons easier. If you click the toggle, you’ll see each scenario updates to have a scale that’s independent and maximised for the data in that scenario alone. You may want to do this if you have a scenario which includes a high value one of income (like an inheritance), so that you can see the charts with greater detail. The choice you make on screen will be reflected in the report.

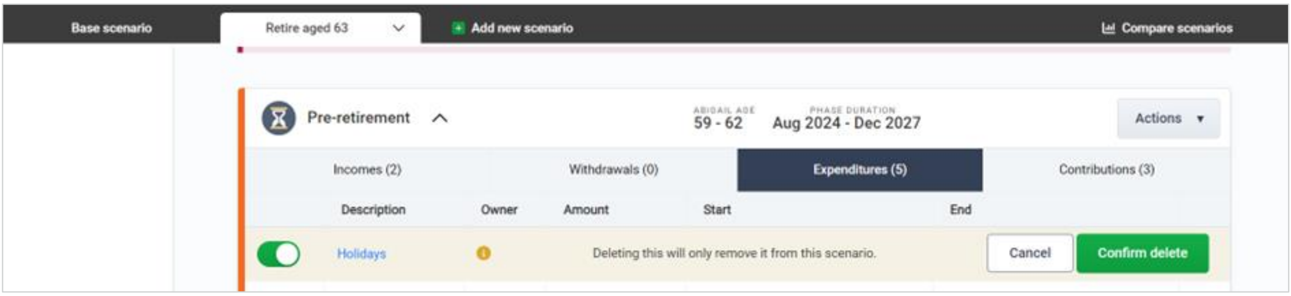


6. I've changed the life phases in my base scenario but those changes aren't showing in my custom scenario. Why?

As a general rule of thumb, the changes you make in a scenario apply to that scenario alone. The exceptions to this are the fields that are read-only in custom scenarios. Those fields will reflect any change you make in the base scenario. We'd recommend that you update your client's information in the base scenario before you create custom scenarios.



On the other hand, if you delete an item from a custom scenario, it will only be deleted from that scenario. Again, we inform you of this when you attempt to delete an item:



7. The Income and Expenditure charts look different. Why?

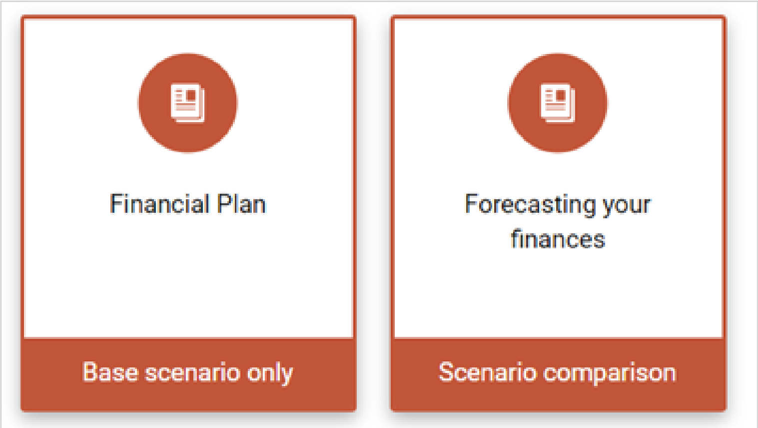
Now that we support multiple scenarios in a single cash flow plan, it's important that we build these charts by looking across all scenarios and identifying which segments are the same. This allows us to display the segments with the same colour in each scenario so that you can easily make like-for-like comparisons. To do this, we match segments using the income or expenditure names and identify which ones are the highest value across all scenarios for the duration of the plan. To accommodate the potential increase in the number of incomes and expenditures across all scenarios, we have increased the maximum number of segments to 10. Note that this is a maximum of 10 across all scenarios and therefore you may have more segments showing in one scenario than another..

8. I want two incomes (or expenditures) to have the same colour in the segmented bar charts. How can I make this happen?

If you have two incomes named 'Part time salary' and 'Full time salary' in different scenarios, for example, but you want them to show with the same colour segment, you simply need to update the names to match one another.

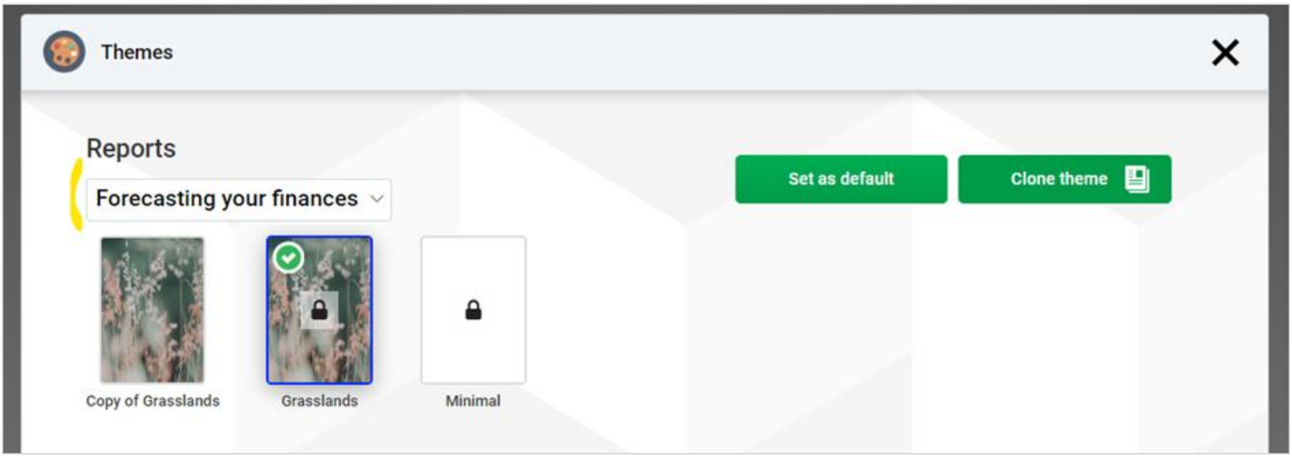
9. There are now two reports. Why?

To minimise any disruption to your current processes, you'll find the existing 'Your financial plan' report is still available to you. This report is unchanged, and only reflects the base scenario. You may choose to continue using this for a simpler cash flow plan. If you have included custom scenarios in your cash flow plan, however, you should choose the 'Forecasting your finances' report. This report includes all scenarios in in and provides a comparison between the custom scenarios and the base.



10. Why aren't my themes available for the new 'Forecasting your finances' report?

The 'Forecasting your finances' report is a completely new report, so you'll need to create themes for it. To do this, in the Dynamic Planner home page, go to Settings > Reports > Report themes > Cash flow and select the new report from the dropdown:



You can then clone the theme and modify it as you choose.

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