

Next Gen Newsletter: Issue 2

Next Gen will be the only PPL platform available to place business from October 1st

Welcome to the second issue of the PPL Newsletter

We are emailing you directly as part of the transition to the Next Gen platform and to ensure you are fully aware of what you need to do to be ready for the switchover. We will continue to publish updates monthly until October.

In this issue, as well as focusing on the switchover, we cover the latest major upgrade, broker adoption and training.



PPL deploys major upgrade to Next Gen platform

PPL (Placing Platform Limited) is pleased to announce that it has successfully deployed its first planned major release since Next Gen was launched in March 2023. The release was promised to the market earlier this year and is being published on schedule. This follows five minor releases that have introduced continuous improvement via small changes and market raised defect fixes.

Release 2.0 contains over 100 functional changes and introduces enhancements to almost all areas of the platform. The upgrade includes quote functionality, with the ability to annotate and compare documents as well as underwriter team email notification capability.

This release also contains a number of fixes to problems raised by market users. These users will receive confirmation that their ticket has been resolved via an email from the PPL Business Service Desk.

PPL is planning 3 further releases in 2023, focusing on cutover priorities to assist the market with transitioning off the old platform.

To read the full summary of what's in version 2.0, please visit our website.





Top ten brokers now live on Next Gen platform

All three of the largest global brokers: Marsh, Aon and WTW, are now live with Next Gen as the market heads towards full transition to the new platform by October 1st. Major London market specialty broker McGill & Partners, and Guy Carpenter have also recently gone live, meaning that all the top ten brokers in the market are actively using PPL.

Added to those already on the platform, including Howden, Lockton, AJ Gallagher and Tysers, PPL estimates that brokers who place over 95% of the risks in the market are in place on PPL Next Gen.

To read the full press release and to review brokers' adoption plans, please visit our website.



Planned shutdown & switchover

With October 1st rapidly approaching, please see below a re-cap of the key dates:

- October 1st, 2023: the option to initiate new placements on the old platform (PPL v3) will be disabled. This includes open market, mixed market and facility declaration placements.
- December 15th, 2023: the option to initiate endorsements on PPL v3 will be disabled.
- December 31st, 2023: user access to PPL v3 will be removed.
- Subsequently the platform will be decommissioned. Each company will have the opportunity to request a full Audit Trail of their platform activity including documentation. After that, all data held will be deleted.

To read the full update, including instructions and guidance for what market firms should do to prepare for shutdown – e.g. request their Audit Trails – please visit our website.





What can I do to get ready for October 1st?

We have our next planned release in mid-September. It contains 16 changes, including the ability for a broker to add a facility market(s) to a v3 placed Declaration brought into PPL Next Gen via the Archive upload function. In readiness for this, it is recommended brokers: -

- Identify all your facilities (Master facilities, Binders, Lineslips and Covers) where you may need to process new declarations from 1st October 2023 on PPL Next Gen in preparation for new business being switched off on v3.
- Identify v3 facilities, even those that may have expired and still have active declarations against them that could require endorsement.
- Identify v3 declarations that have potential for an endorsement tail post 15th December when v3 can no longer be used for endorsement processing.

Once identified: -

- Add your facilities and declarations to the Next Gen archive.
- Add supporting docs and markets to your facilities.
- Add supporting docs, but not markets to your v3 declarations.

From mid-September, after release 2.1 has been deployed, you can then add facility markets to archived v3 declarations so they can be signed and closed ready for subsequent endorsement processing.

NB. All open market business placed this year on PPL v3 will also need to be brought into the new platform via the Archive for subsequent endorsement processing.

For more information on how to use the archive, please refer to the LMS via link in the PPL Next Gen platform or visit our website.





How do I get trained on Next Gen?

PPL has developed core training videos for brokers (15 minutes) and carriers (6 minutes), which can be accessed via our new learning management system (LMS). The LMS can be accessed directly from the Next Gen platform using the PPL Learning link in the menu on the left-hand side of the main screen.

As part of the latest 2.0 release, we have added a quote user guide and video on creating and processing quotes on the LMS.



Why does PPL not have links in its emails?

PPL, in consultation with the market technical and security community, took the decision with PPL Next Gen to remove links in emails due to the potential security risk. Links in emails are the most common way hackers phish (phishing is a type of cyber-attack where a legitimate email with an attachment or link is copied and modified to contain malicious content). You will have noticed that your bank's emails no longer contain such links.

Therefore, when you receive an email notification from PPL Next Gen, you will need to go to the platform via your browser rather than directly from the email.





How does PPL communicate with you?

Whilst PPL will continue to communicate via a designated Point of Contact at each firm, we have received multiple requests to provide information direct to market users. Until we have completed the cutover, we plan to communicate directly each month via this newsletter. However, if you can't wait for the next edition, you can always visit our website or follow us on LinkedIn.

If you would like to unsubscribe from future newsletter emails, please reply to this email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.