Welcome to the September 2020 New Zealand property market briefing, keeping you informed on national real estate trends.

Negative rate dilemma: Should mortgage-holders delay fixing until next year? My suggestion is that, if you agree the rates could go lower and you want to take advantage of that, you focus on the short-term rates (ie one year). Not only are these the cheapest rates, they will be maturing in the third quarter of next year, which is only a couple of months after economists are forecasting the OCR to drop. Floating rates are typically quite a bit higher than the fixed rates. Leaving your mortgage on floating and waiting for the drop in the OCR means, for the majority of people, paying a premium now on the off-chance that interest rates will drop in the near future.

https://www.oneroof.co.nz/news/38380

Two words that could save you thousands on your mortgage With an offset account, you could use your savings to lower the amount owing on your mortgage, therefore reducing the interest you pay. https://www.oneroof.co.nz/news/38353

Your guide to real estate during COVID-19

The finance environment remains very supportive to buyers who can display good

job stability and a healthy deposit. Speak to your mortgage adviser about any plans to use bridging finance. https://www.trademe.co.nz/c/property/article/your-guide-to-real-estate-during-

covid-19

Building consents scrapped for minor backyard jobs

It will also be easier to install outbuildings such as sheds or sleep outs, with the

following structures no longer requiring a building consent:
- Outbuildings (up to 30m²) where an LBP carries out or supervises construction.

- Kitset buildings (up to 30m²) if designed or reviewed by a professional engineer.
- Lightweight outbuildings (up to 30m²) can be built by non-professionals, provided the materials and components comply with a specified standard of the Building Code.

https://www.interest.co.nz/property/106779/requirement-scrap-building-consents-minor-backyard-jobs-will-also-help-farmers

What happens with negative interest rates?

The changes are that if the each rate gets cut.

The chances are that if the cash rate gets cut by 0.75% to -0.5%, floating and oneyear fixed mortgage rates will fall by perhaps half of that. For terms beyond oneyear the declines will be progressively less the longer the term.

https://mortgagerates.co.nz/news/what-happens-with-negative-interest-rates



In July, 849 lifestyle properties were sold, compared to 594 in July of the year before - an increase of 42.9 percent, the latest data shows. That was also up on

More Kiwis moving to lifestyle blocks in wake of COVID-19

June's numbers, where 643 lifestyle properties were sold.

https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/rural/2020/08/more-kiwis-moving-to-lifestyle-blocks-in-wake-of-covid-19.html

Increase in farm sales reflects 'recovering' sector - REINZ
Farm sales for the three months ending July 2020 were up 15 percent compared

to the same time last year, according to new data from the Real Estate Institute of New Zealand (REINZ). https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/rural/2020/08/increase-in-farm-sales-reflects-

recovering-sector-reinz.html



in a convenient location. Comprising 3 double bedrooms, sun room, lounge area with doors to patio, separate dining/kitchen area, new gas central heating system

throughout the home. Wooden floors, DVS system and bay window, ceiling and underfloor insulation.

Despite this strong market, getting a great sale price still requires strategy and skill. Maximising your result comes down to making the right changes to your home pre-sale and choosing the right salesperson to manage buyer interest on

If you have a real estate move in your near future, we offer free presentation advice and can coach you on how to add maximum value on a limited budget.

Text or call me on 027 271 1274 to book your free consultation.

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Kind Regards

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