



Media Release

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Sorted tools to help with New Year's resolutions

Aucklanders making a New Year's resolution to sort out their finances can get guidance along with their groceries in some Auckland supermarkets.

Pak'n Save supermarkets in Mt Albert, Mangere, Henderson, Glen Innes and Royal Oak, are distributing the Retirement Commission's free booklet 'Sorted - Your guide to getting there' along with booklets on specific topics such as budgeting, managing debt and saving.

Mt Albert Pak'n Save manager Brian Carran says he sees how some people are struggling with their finances. "If we can pass on information that can help, then we have a responsibility to do that."

In Mangere, Pak'n Save manager Michael Kennedy says he's happy to have the booklets in his supermarket because he thinks planning for the future is something everybody should be looking at doing.

Retirement Commissioner Diana Crossan says the booklets are helpful tools for Kiwis wanting to get financially sorted in 2009.

"If you spend a quiet hour or two over the holidays sorting out a financial plan, you could finish 2009 better off than when you started."

'Sorted - Your guide to getting there' takes people through the steps from setting goals, making a budget, managing debt, saving, retirement planning to protecting assets. It also includes a useful glossary that explains financial terms like compound interest, equity and net worth.

The booklet's also available from ANZ and National Bank branches, by ringing 0800 SORT MONEY (0800 767 866) or online at www.sorted.org.nz/ordering.

Sorted.org.nz is New Zealand's free independent online money guide, run by the Retirement Commission. It's full of calculators and information to help Kiwis manage their personal finances throughout life.

Note: Please find below tips for getting your finances on track in 2009.

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Tips for getting your finances on track in 2009

Set goals

Write them down, put a timeframe on them, and keep them where you can refer back to them regularly. Use the My Goals worksheet on sorted.org.nz and you can sign up for reminders by TXT or email.

<http://www.sorted.org.nz/calculators/my-goals/>

Make a budget

Making a budget that suits you can be one of your most powerful tools for getting ahead financially. The Budget calculator on sorted.org.nz makes it easy.

<http://www.sorted.org.nz/calculators/budget/>

Manage your cash flow

A budget helps you plan where your money should be going, cashflow shows you where the money goes in reality. After you've completed your budget, track your actual spending with the Cashflow calculator <http://www.sorted.org.nz/calculators/cashflow/>

Or before you go shopping, find out the true cost of paying for your purchases with Sorted's spendometer.

<http://www.sorted.org.nz/spendometer/>

Control your debt

Debt isn't all bad, but allowing it to get out of control is. Find out what your options are in Sorted's Managing debt section.

<http://www.sorted.org.nz/home/sorted-sections/managing-debt>

Start saving

Regular saving can help you towards a specific goal (like a new car or a holiday) or longer term plans (like retirement or buying a house). The Regular savings calculator on sorted.org.nz shows how much your savings will add up to over time.

<http://www.sorted.org.nz/calculators/regular-savings/>

(Source: sorted.org.nz)