



Te Uniana Whakanama Pirihimana

## BLUENOTES

Issue 88

November 2021

### **As the original peer to peer (P2P) lender, your Credit Union carries on regardless of Covid..**

The Police Credit Union started in 1974 turning member deposits into member loans and still do exactly that in 2021, only on a much bigger scale. In 1974 member deposits and loans were stated in terms of 100's of dollars, now is \$10,000's or in some cases \$100,000's. Today we look after \$126m of our members deposits.

The biggest difference between 1970's when Police Credit Union started and today is business compliance. Compliance comes in many forms from our own internal controls to external audits. In addition, we are supervised by Public Trust, Financial Markets Authority and Licenced by the Reserve Bank of New Zealand under the Non-bank Deposit Takers Act 2013. Commerce Commission then oversee our efforts to comply

## UPDATE FROM OUR MANAGING DIRECTOR



Covid-19 may be foremost in people's minds in 2021 together with our population having their movements monitored and, in some cases, restricted. That doesn't mean that Police Credit Union business has stopped.

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with Credit Control & Consumer Finance Act 2003 (CCCFA) and its Regulations 2004.

On 1 December 2021 changes to the CCCFA mean that all lenders must make more in-depth enquires into its borrower's loan suitability and affordability. For our borrowers this means providing evidence of affordability including 3 months of bank statements and a comprehensive credit report. We are busy automating this part of the loans process to make it easier for our members. Compliance to this change in legislation will not change our ethos of putting our members first, but actually enhance it.

This week members who have been saving using our Christmas Club account will

get their savings paid to a nominated bank account. We will pay out over \$2m to our members who put away a little each month so that those extras that make Christmas special doesn't break their budget. As well as this, we will be sending New World vouchers to those who have saved each month from March through to October.

Lastly, Covid-19 has meant that we change how we deliver our Financial Literacy programmes and so we have moved to online webinars. Same content but different delivery. I encourage anyone who has any financial questions in their life to take up the opportunities to learn about their own financial personality types, or interest in retirement planning to sign up to the webinars that we provide for free. Just look inside for more information.

Regards  
**Richard Middleton**  
**Managing Director**

# WHAT'S YOUR CREDIT RATING?

**Did you know you can get a free copy of your credit report to get a better understanding of your credit history and credit score?**

Upcoming legislative changes means having a good credit rating and history will be more important than ever before for anyone looking to take on new debt – whether it's a personal loan, home loan or credit card.

If you don't know what your credit rating is and you're planning to apply for lending anytime soon, now is a good time to check your report and identify any possible issues so that you can work on resolving them so that you've got your best foot forward for your application.

## What does a credit report tell you?

It covers off your history of bill payments, use of credit, along with any defaults or court judgments.

It can also include your credit score which is a number between 0 and 1000 that estimates your ability to keep up with bills. Your credit score can be affected by how often you move house, how many inquiries you have as well as your history of payments.

## Requesting your online credit report

There are three credit reporting bureaus that you can request a free copy of your credit report from:

**Centrix** [www.centrix.co.nz/my-credit-score/](http://www.centrix.co.nz/my-credit-score/)  
**Equifax** [www.mycreditfile.co.nz/](http://www.mycreditfile.co.nz/)  
**Illion** [www.illion.co.nz/#illion-for-individuals](http://www.illion.co.nz/#illion-for-individuals)

## Once you've received your credit report

It's important to read through your report carefully to see if there are any errors that need to be fixed. If you see inquiries, accounts or defaults on your report that you don't remember, you should question them to see if they are errors or possibly related to identity fraud.

If your credit report or credit score needs improving because of any legitimate missed payments or defaults, now is the time to put a plan in place to start increasing your positive credit history. Focus on keeping up to date with payments and consider any other changes you might want to make such as prioritising repaying any existing debt you have.

## Why is having a good credit rating important?

The upcoming credit law changes means your credit history will be assessed at a much more detailed level when applying for lending. Your credit report is also used by potential landlords and employers to decide if they should offer you a tenancy or job, so you'll want to make sure it's as good as possible.

**Stay safe out there!**

**Talk soon . . .**

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**POLICE  
CREDIT  
UNION**

# SIGN UP TO OUR FINANCIAL WEBINARS

**Get ahead with our free webinars for you and your family to improve your financial wellbeing.**

Together with NZ Police and Te Ara Ahunga Ora (previously the Commission for Financial Capability), we are again offering free Money Bite webinars.

You and your family can attend as many or as few as you like, depending on your financial situation and interest.



The webinars are delivered by Sorted at Work and most are one hour long. The sessions are simple, fast paced and engaging. They are designed to motivate conversation and action towards financial wellbeing. The content is reflective and allows you to look at your situation and have an opportunity to consider your money matters in a supportive environment.

To register for a webinar just head to our website <https://www.policecu.org.nz/financial-courses/money-bites-webinar/>.

Webinar	Content	Date	Time
Women's	Investigate the unique needs and cultural influences that women may experience when dealing with money.	Tuesday 16 November	4.00pm – 6.00pm
Retirement	Build empathy for your future self. Be motivated to start planning for retirement today.	Thursday 18 November	1.00pm – 2.00pm
First Home Buyers	How to finance your first home – what you need and how to access it.	Tuesday 23 November	4.00pm – 6.00pm
Debt	Use Sorted debt tools and understand the true cost of debt.	Thursday 25 November	3.00pm to 4.00pm
Protect	Review options for protecting your people, your money and your stuff.	Tuesday 30 November	10:00am to 11:00am
Save and Invest	Get to know your investor type and start thinking about the best investment strategies to suit your situation.	Thursday 2 December	3.00pm to 4.00pm

## RAINBOW TICK ACCREDITED

**We've recently become  
Rainbow Tick accredited**

Last year we started working towards becoming a rainbow friendly organisation for both our team and our members. We're proud to announce that we are now Rainbow Tick accredited.

Rainbow Tick is about accepting and valuing people in the workplace,

embracing the diversity of sexual and gender identities.

The Rainbow Tick accreditation shows we are a safe, welcoming, and inclusive place for people of diverse gender identity and sexual orientation, and that we demonstrate support and encouragement of the rainbow community.

Find out more about Rainbow Tick [here](#).



## INTEREST RATES ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

**As at 9 November 2021**

### Term Deposits

3 months	4 months	5 months	6 months	7 months	8 months	9 months	12 months	18 months	24 months
0.55% p.a.	1.00% p.a.	1.10% p.a.	1.50% p.a.	1.50% p.a.	1.50% p.a.	1.65% p.a.	1.80% p.a.	2.00% p.a.	2.25% p.a.

Interest can be paid out monthly, quarterly or six monthly.

Interest on Term Deposits 12 months or longer can be compounded quarterly, six monthly or annually

On maturity, Term Deposits can be reinvested, paid into your Credit Union account or paid out to an external bank account

### Savings

Balance	Bonus Saver	Future Saver	Achiever Saver	Christmas Club
\$1+	0.40% p.a.* Includes bonus interest of 0.30% p.a.	0.30% p.a. Includes bonus interest of 0.20% p.a.	0.15% p.a.	0.10% p.a.

Interest is calculated daily and paid monthly.

\* By depositing at least \$20 per calendar month, with no withdrawals in the calendar month, you will earn bonus interest on your total daily balance.

All interest rates are subject to change without notice.



**Te Uniana Whakanama Pirihimana**  
**POLICE HELPING POLICE**

Copies of our current Terms and Conditions and Product Disclosure Statement are available from the Police and Families Credit Union. These can be viewed at [policecu.org.nz](http://policecu.org.nz), or by calling 0800 429 000.

Police Credit Union is not a registered bank