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Dear %%First Name%%

### INTEREST RATES REMAIN ON HOLD.

Will they? Or won't they? The question was answered at 2:30 today, when the Reserve Bank of Australia chose to leave interests rates at 4.75%, despite calls from certain sectors of the business and financial world to increase rates. This will come as welcome news to mortgage holders.

The last minute deal allowing the US to avoid defaulting on its debt is almost certain to pass. This has led to Australian shares gaining more than 1%, with markets in Asia and Europe also up with the news of an agreement.

Although Australia isn't immune from problems around the globe, Treasurer Wayne Swan says Australians should have great confidence that the economy was strong.

He cites growth, strong commodity prices and a solid investment pipeline as reasons for Australians to rest assured that our economy remains one of the most stable in the world.

With the last months of winter ahead of us and spring on the horizon, many are looking toward buying or selling properties. It's wise to plan ahead, so if you need any advice, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Until next month,



**Marc Barlow**

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