



Bank to pay for home duty bill

BANK of Ireland is to refund stamp duty to first time buyers for home loans drawn down by September 30.

The payback will be equivalent to one per cent of the mortgage.

In a statement, the bank said house affordability is now at its best level since 1998 and believes many first-time buyers have saved sizeable deposits.

Ken Murray of the Association of Expert Mortgage Advisors warned that first time buyers should make sure they are 'content with the long-term offer' on mortgages.