

TURN ONE PROPERTY INTO A STRONGER INCOME ASSET.

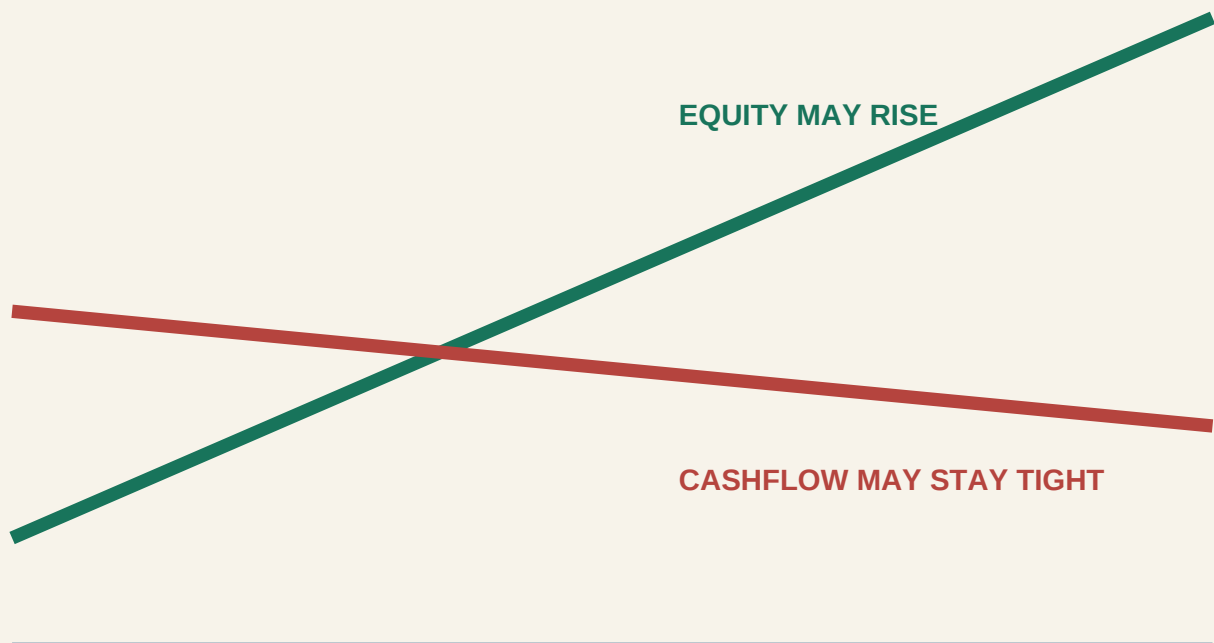
WITHOUT BUYING THE HYPE.

The numbers, risks and decisions behind higher-income property - explained before you commit capital.

THE INVESTOR PLAYBOOK | READ. TEST. DECIDE.

The problem is not always growth. It is holding power.

A property can rise in value while still demanding cash from its owner every month. That can restrict borrowing, flexibility and the ability to buy again.



The question

Can the property support the owner through realistic income, vacancy, operating costs and finance - without depending on a perfect scenario?

More breathing room. Better decisions.

1

HOLD

Meet costs without constant personal top-ups.

2

BUFFER

Absorb vacancy, repairs and rate movements.

3

CHOICE

Keep, improve, refinance or sell from a stronger position.

4

MOMENTUM

Potentially preserve capacity for the next move.

THE TARGET IS NOT MAXIMUM YIELD

The target is repeatable net cashflow after the real costs and risks are allowed for.



Four strategies. Different moving parts.

STANDARD RENTAL

One household, familiar operation

UPSIDE Lower operational complexity

TEST Income concentrated in one tenancy

DUAL INCOME

Two income streams on one site

UPSIDE Some income diversification

TEST Approval, build and valuation need test

ROOMING / CO-LIVING

Income from individually rented rooms

UPSIDE Potentially stronger gross income

TEST Higher management and compliance load

SMALL DEVELOPMENT

Create or reconfigure dwellings

UPSIDE Multiple value-creation levers

TEST Planning, build, finance and timing ris

HOW THE ROOMING MODEL WORKS

Several rooms. One operating system.

1

ROOM INCOME

Each occupied room contributes rent.

2

SHARED COSTS

Utilities, internet and common areas sit with the operator.

3

VACANCY

Turnover is tested room by room.

4

MANAGEMENT

Leasing, inspections and resident issues require a capable system.

5

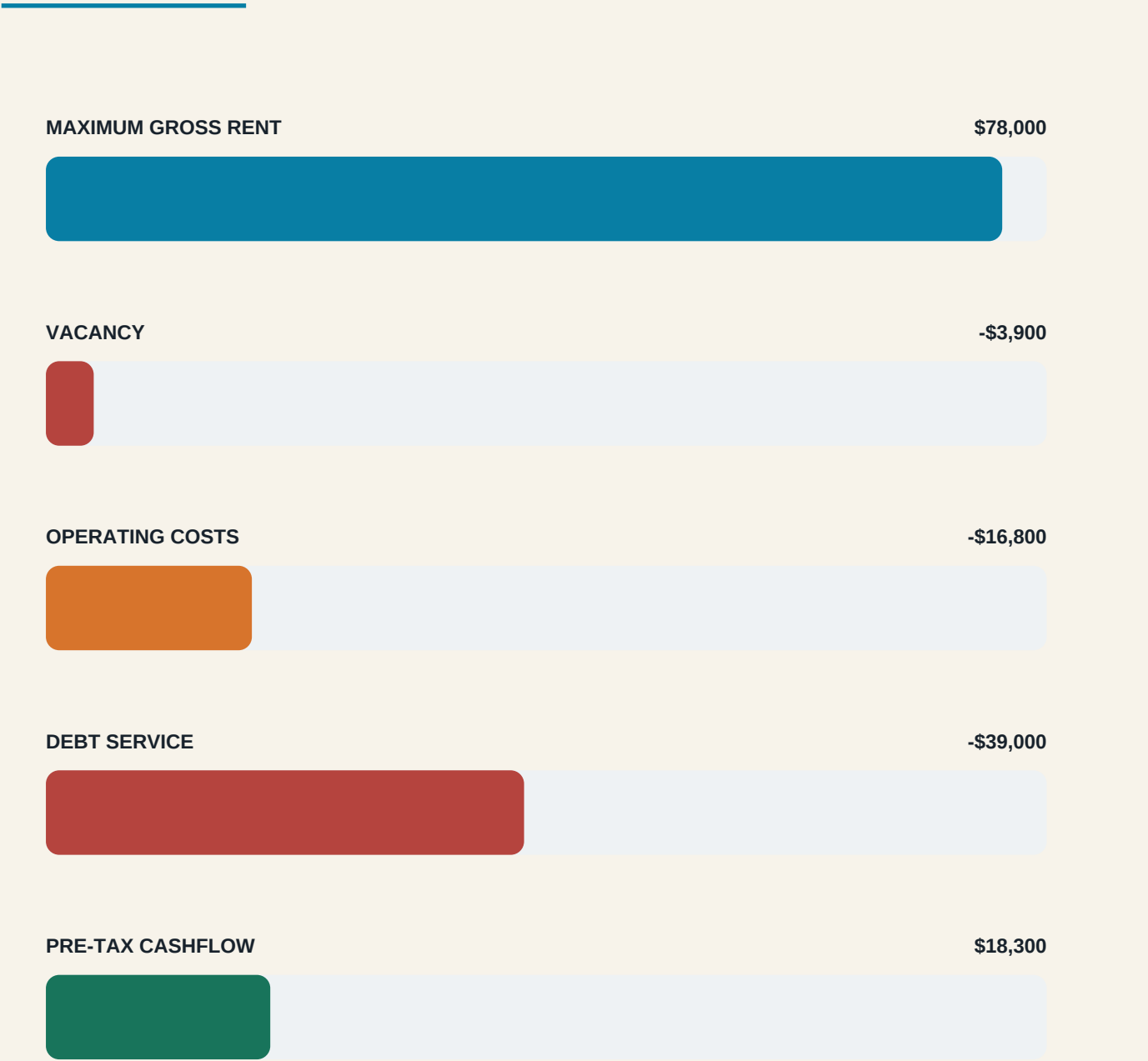
COMPLIANCE

The property and operation must satisfy site-specific rules.

THE PREMIUM MUST BE EARNED

An ensuite, privacy, space and strong management may support a premium. Verify it with comparable rooms.

Gross rent is the headline. Net cashflow is the result.



Do not compare deals using gross yield alone.

Populate every operating-cost line, test vacancy and use the actual proposed finance structure before judging the result.

A worked deal is a stack of assumptions.

PURCHASE + COSTS

\$650,000

CASH INVESTED

\$180,000

MAXIMUM GROSS RENT

\$78,000 pa

VACANCY ALLOWANCE

5%

OPERATING COSTS

\$16,800 pa

DEBT SERVICE

\$39,000 pa

PRE-TAX CASHFLOW

\$18,300 pa

CASH-ON-CASH

10.2%

WHAT THIS DOES NOT PROVE

It does not prove demand, approval, valuation, finance, build cost or resale. It shows how clearly labelled assumptions become a testable model.

A deal should survive more than the base case.

	Rent -5%	Base rent	Rent +5%
Vacancy 3%	\$11,200	\$14,900	\$18,600
Vacancy 6%	\$9,100	\$12,700	\$16,400
Vacancy 10%	\$6,200	\$9,700	\$13,200

Ask four questions

- Where does cashflow turn negative?
- Which assumption moves the result most?
- What evidence supports the base case?
- Can you carry the downside case?

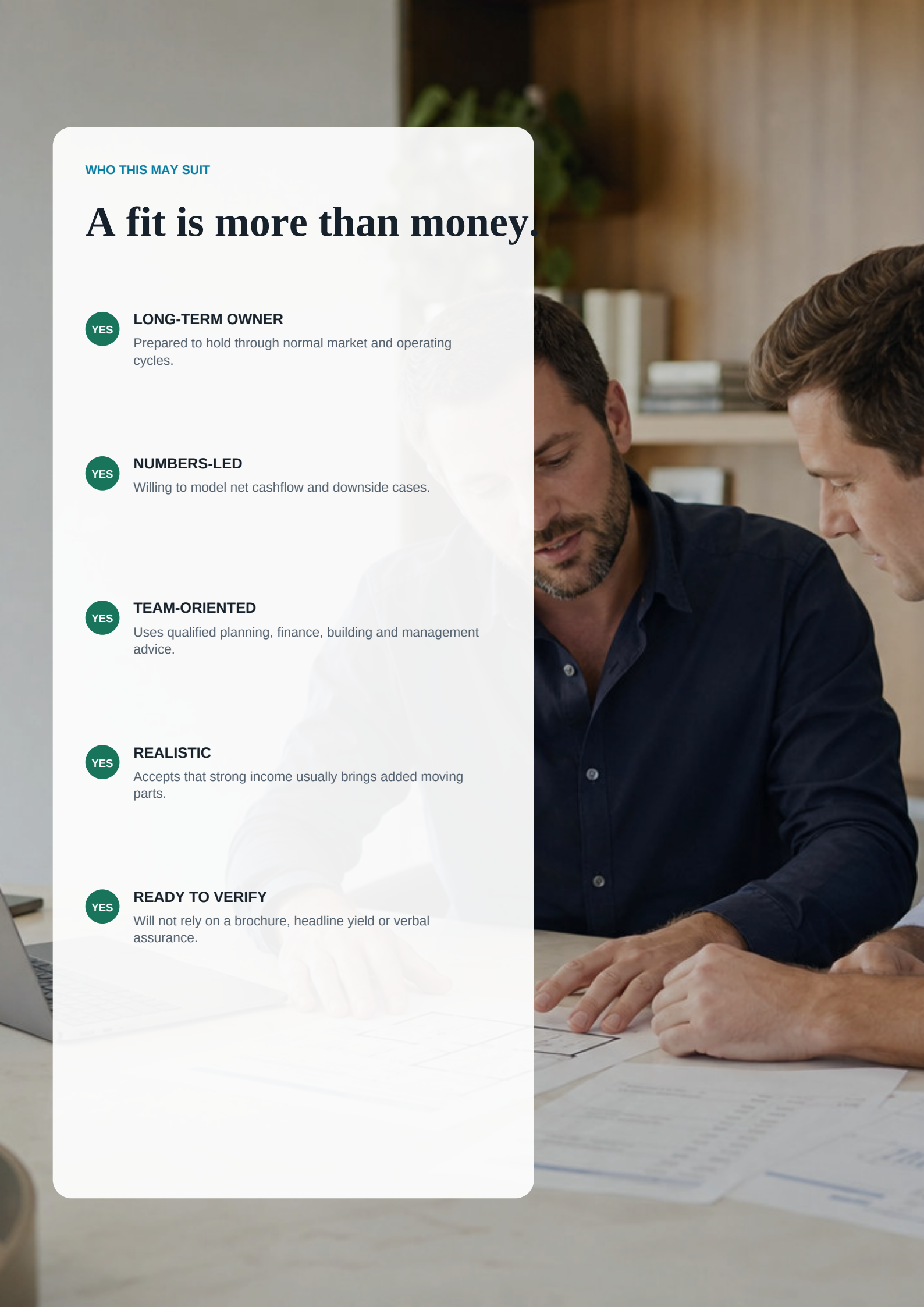
Illustrative pre-tax cashflow values only. This matrix is a decision tool, not a forecast.

Compare the operating model, not just the rent.

DECISION FACTOR	STANDARD RENTAL	HIGHER-INCOME
Income events	One tenancy	Several room tenancies
Vacancy impact	Whole rent may stop	One room may stop
Bills	Often tenant-paid	Often operator-paid
Management	Familiar	More active
Compliance	Standard checks	Use-specific checks
Exit pool	Usually broad	Must be tested

The better strategy is the one you can verify and operate.

Higher gross income does not automatically compensate for added cost, complexity, finance constraints or a narrower exit market.

A background image showing two men in a professional setting. One man, with a beard and wearing a dark blue shirt, is looking down at a laptop. The other man, with short brown hair and wearing a light-colored shirt, is leaning over him, looking at the same laptop. They appear to be in a meeting or collaborative work environment. The image is slightly blurred and serves as a backdrop for the text overlay.

WHO THIS MAY SUIT

A fit is more than money.

YES

LONG-TERM OWNER

Prepared to hold through normal market and operating cycles.

YES

NUMBERS-LED

Willing to model net cashflow and downside cases.

YES

TEAM-ORIENTED

Uses qualified planning, finance, building and management advice.

YES

REALISTIC

Accepts that strong income usually brings added moving parts.

YES

READY TO VERIFY

Will not rely on a brochure, headline yield or verbal assurance.

Sometimes the right answer is: not yet.

NO FINANCE BUFFER

If one repair, vacancy period or rate change would force a sale.

BEST-CASE DEPENDENCE

If the deal only works at maximum rent and full occupancy.

NO TIME FOR DUE DILIGENCE

If approval, build, lending and demand checks feel optional.

PASSIVE EXPECTATION

If you want standard-rental effort with a more complex operating model.

SHORT EXIT CLOCK

If you may need to sell quickly into an untested buyer pool.

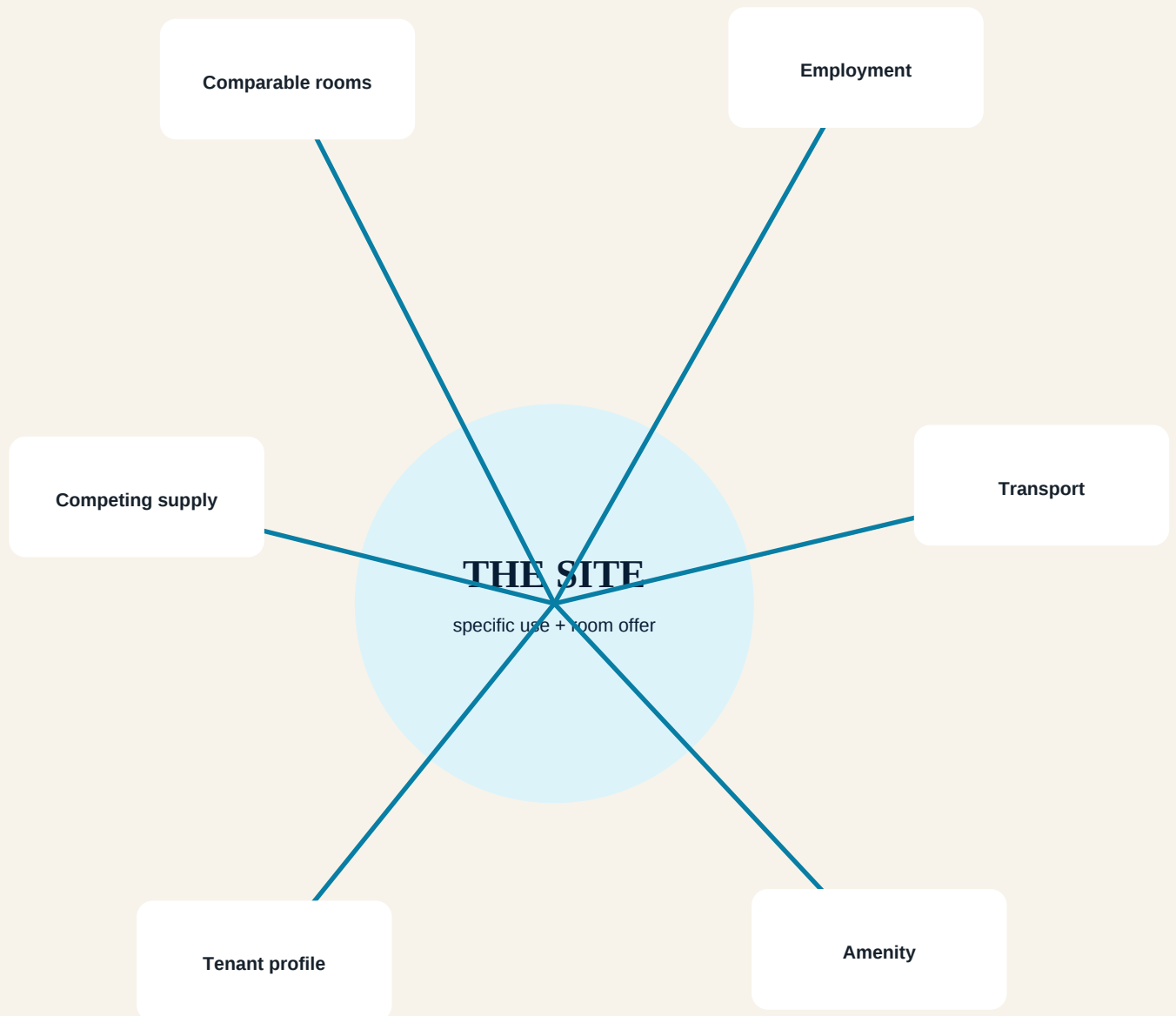
PRESSURE TO ACT

If urgency is replacing evidence.

A pause can be a successful decision.

Improve the finance position, evidence or team first. A suitable opportunity should still make sense after proper checking.

Demand must be local, current and comparable.



EVIDENCE TO COLLECT

Current comparable listings and lettings, vacancy experience, enquiry quality, local operators, proposed room features and realistic tenant alternatives.

The approval pathway belongs to the property.

1

PROPOSED USE

Define rooms, occupants, shared spaces and operation.

2

PLANNING

Check zoning, overlays, definitions and consent pathway.

3

BUILDING

Confirm classification, fire, access and construction requirements.

4

OPERATION

Confirm registration, standards and ongoing obligations.

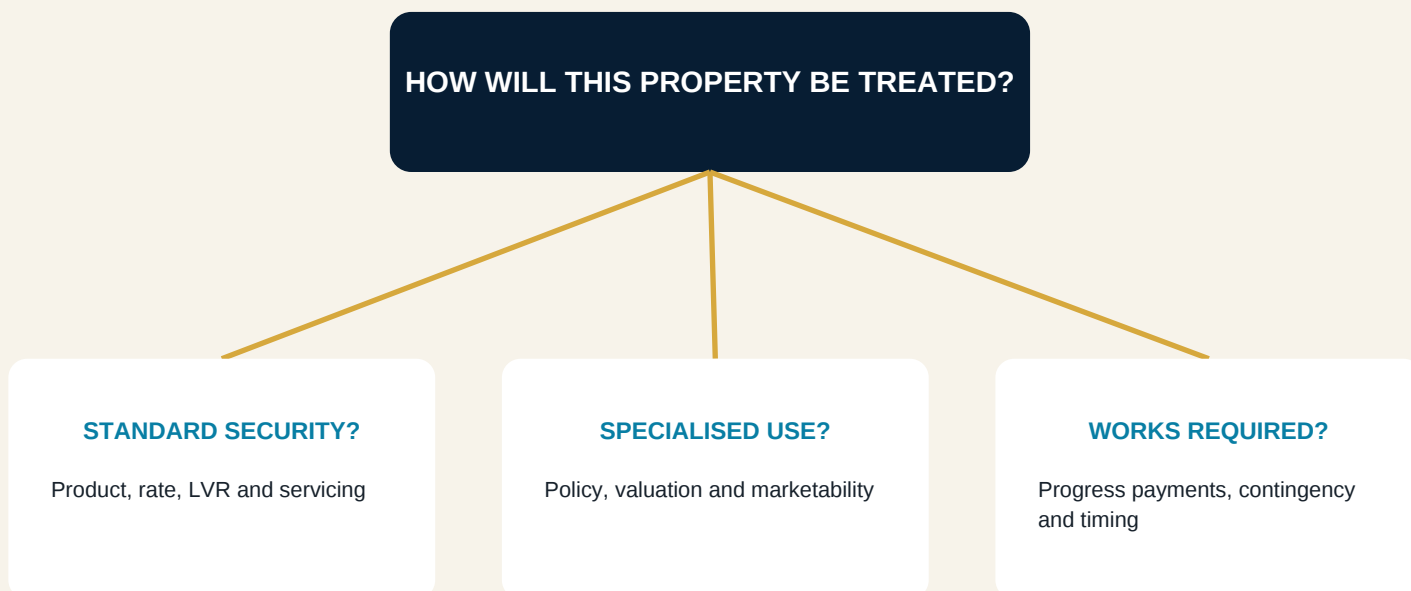
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WRITTEN ADVICE

Keep the site-specific evidence before committing capital.

NEVER ASSUME A RULE FROM ANOTHER STATE, COUNCIL OR PROPERTY APPLIES TO THIS SITE.

Ask the lender and valuer before you rely on the model.



Get these answers in writing

- 1 Will rent be accepted at the modelled level?
- 2 How will the valuer select comparables?
- 3 Does the proposed use change the lending product?
- 4 What happens if valuation is lower than price?
- 5 Can the owner service the downside case?

Budget the uncertainty, not just the quote.



Three ways a plausible deal changes

COST

Scope gaps, variations and latent conditions.

TIME

Approvals, trades and supply delays extend holding cost.

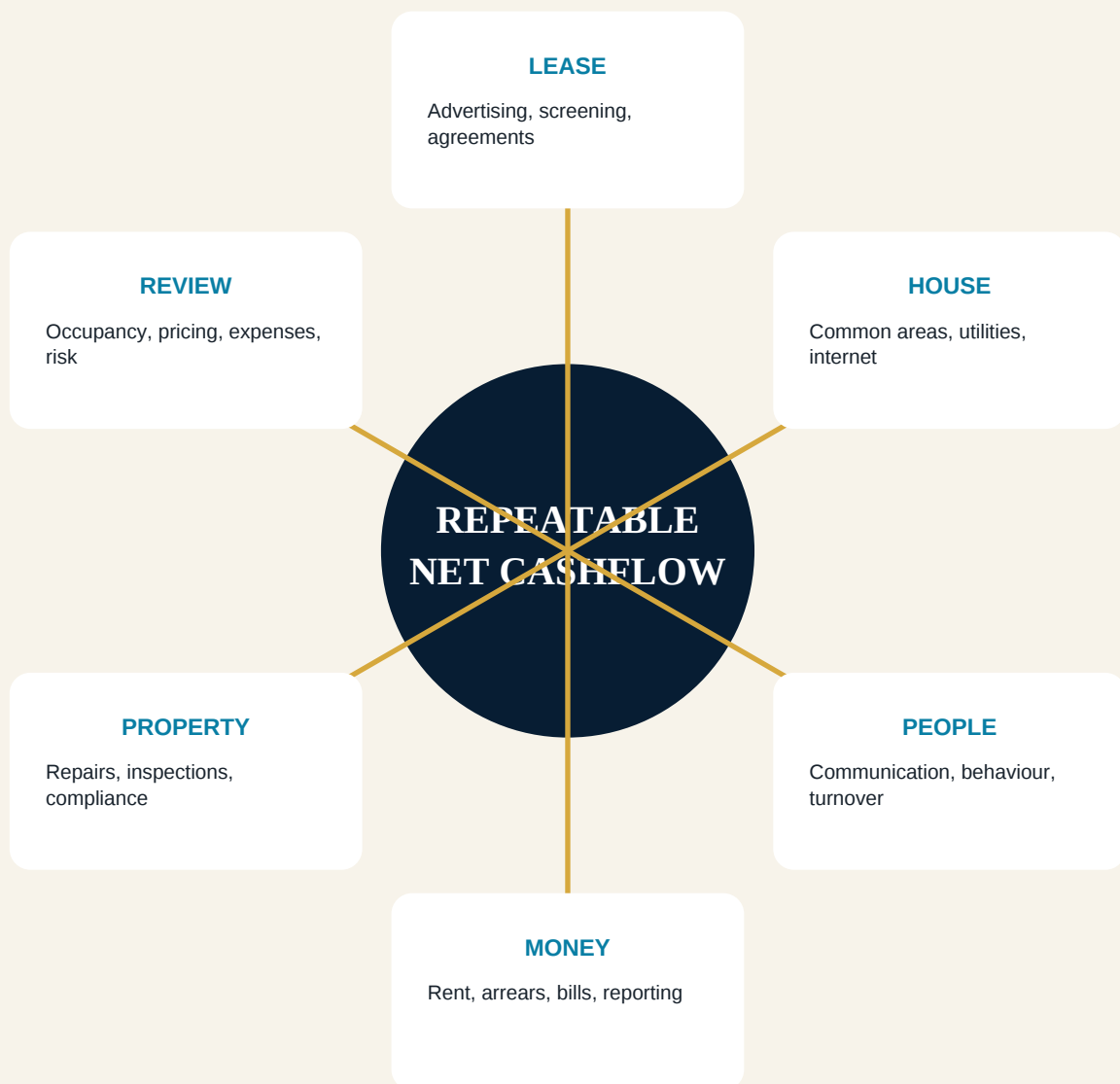
RENT

Completion may meet a different leasing market.

THE MODEL SHOULD SHOW

Base scope, exclusions, professional fees, authority charges, contingency, interest during works, delayed-rent allowance and a clear stop-loss decision.

Higher income is an operating business inside a property.



IF THE OPERATING SYSTEM IS VAGUE, THE CASHFLOW ASSUMPTION IS VAGUE.

Plan the exit before the entry.

KEEP

Does income remain durable after costs and maintenance?

REFINANCE

Will the valuation and lender treatment support it?

SELL AS OPERATED

Is there a proven buyer pool for the use and income?

RETURN TO STANDARD USE

What would it cost, and is it practical and lawful?

A HIGHER YIELD DOES NOT REMOVE EXIT RISK.

Test sale comparables, likely buyers, conversion alternatives and transaction costs before the purchase decision.

Dangerous deals usually advertise certainty.



Yield quoted without a complete expense schedule



Full occupancy treated as the base case



Approval described as automatic or obvious



Finance assumed from another property or borrower



Build quote missing scope, fees or contingency



One exit price with no comparable evidence



Pressure to secure the deal before checks finish



A promoter answering outside their expertise

A RED FLAG IS NOT ALWAYS A REJECTION.

It is a demand for evidence before proceeding.

A strong opportunity can answer hard questions.



DEMAND

Current comparable rooms and enquiry evidence



APPROVAL

Written site-specific pathway



FINANCE

Lender and servicing position checked



VALUATION

Treatment and comparables understood



BUILD

Scope, exclusions and contingency visible



OPERATIONS

Manager, costs and responsibilities defined



DOWNSIDE

Vacancy, rate and cost stress tests passed



EXIT

Multiple realistic paths supported by evidence

Unchecked does not mean bad. It means not yet ready.

Evidence first. Property second.

1

UNDERSTAND Clarify the goal, timeframe and acceptable trade-offs.

2

PREPARE Check finance, cash buffer and ownership advice.

3

SCREEN Compare strategies and reject obvious mismatches.

4

MODEL Run property-specific income, costs and downside cases.

5

VERIFY Planning, building, finance, valuation and demand.

6

DECIDE Proceed, renegotiate, pause or walk away.

7

OPERATE Track occupancy, expenses, compliance and exit options.

WHAT CONRAD HELPS YOU DECIDE

Whether the strategy and opportunity deserve the next stage of investigation - not whether a headline yield sounds exciting.

The sensible objections deserve direct answers.

MYTH

HIGHER YIELD IS BETTER

No. Compare net cashflow, complexity, downside and exit.

MYTH

MORE ROOMS END VACANCY

No. They spread vacancy events but create turnover and operating work.

MYTH

ENSUITE MEANS PREMIUM RENT

No. Verify the full room offer against genuine comparables.

MYTH

THE BANK VALUES THE INCOME

Not automatically. Confirm how this lender and valuer will treat the property.

MYTH

APPROVAL IS THE BUILDER'S JOB

No. The owner's capital is exposed if the pathway is wrong.

MYTH

THE JOB IS TO SELL THE DEAL

The process must first test whether the opportunity fits the investor.

Good advice makes the decision clearer, not more urgent.

Questions investors should ask before they act.

How much deposit do I need?

It depends on the borrower, property, use and lender. Check the specific scenario with a broker.

What rent should I use?

Start with current comparable rooms or dwellings, then test lower-rent and vacancy cases.

Who pays utilities?

Model the proposed lease structure. Higher-income models often leave more bills with the owner.

Is management difficult?

It can be more active than a standard rental. Test the manager's systems, fees and local experience.

What about tax?

Use a qualified adviser for your structure and circumstances. This guide does not provide tax advice.

Can I sell it like a normal house?

Possibly, but do not assume it. Test the likely buyer pool and any cost to return to standard use.

Do I need to live nearby?

Not necessarily. Distance increases reliance on a proven local team and reliable reporting.

What happens on the first call?

Clarify goals, resources and fit. It is a decision conversation, not a promise of a property or return.

Your next step depends on your readiness.

☐

Goal and timeframe are clear

☐

Borrowing position has been discussed

☐

Cash buffer survives the downside case

☐

Preferred strategy complexity is understood

☐

Property-specific evidence can be gathered

☐

Professional advisers are available

☐

You can walk away if the evidence fails

0-2

PREPARE

Strengthen finance, knowledge or buffer first.

3-5

INVESTIGATE

Use the Playbook and property-specific model.

6-7

CONVERSATION

Discuss strategy and deal fit with Conrad.

READINESS IS NOT A SCORE ABOUT YOUR WORTH.

It is a prompt to identify the next useful decision before considering a property.

YOUR NEXT PROPERTY SHOULD DO MORE THAN LOOK GOOD ON PAPER

FIND OUT WHAT IT COULD REALLY DO FOR YOUR INCOME AND YOUR PORTFOLIO.

Run the real numbers. Expose the weak assumptions. Decide whether the opportunity deserves your next move.



START YOUR DEAL-FIT REVIEW

Scan to take the next step, or reply to the Playbook email with DEAL FIT and the decision you want help making.

TURN THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY INTO A DECISION YOU CAN DEFEND.

General education only. Not financial, legal, tax, planning, building or investment advice. No return, rent, approval, valuation or finance outcome is guaranteed. Obtain advice for the specific property and your circumstances.