Everyone in the Wellington Region Lives in warm, dry, safe housing by 20

Phil Squire:

Chief Executive - Sustainability Trust

**Chair – Community Energy Network** 

Member – Wgton Regional Healthy Housing Response Group (HHRG)

HHRG:

- Formed in 2017 following stakeholders meeting in Wellington city
- Collaboration and joint programmes to achieve vision (minimise silos)
- Steering Group Councils, govt, health/social agencies, research, community, iwi
- Working Group self-nominated "heavy lifters"
  - Hutt City, Otago U, Sust Trust, Regional Public Health, CCDHB, Greater Wellington
- Current workstreams:
  - Research study on housing situation and needs in region (in progress)
  - Development of strategy and annual plan (by June 2019)
  - Initial project development and delivery (from July 2019)





# Housing quality in New Zealand

- Low quality housing results in poor health outcomes and higher energy costs
- BRANZ House Condition Survey:
  - 46% of bedrooms unheated
  - Mould visible in half of houses surveyed
  - 53% of homes underinsulated in ceiling or underfloor
  - Half of bathrooms and kitchens with no extractor fans
  - Rentals generally in poorer condition than owner-occupied
- Health Outcomes
  - 1600 excess winter deaths from respiratory and circulatory 8000 admissions
  - Children admitted to hospital for diseases associated with healthy housing twice as likely to be readmitted
  - Housing sensitive hospitalisation rates strongly correlated with homes in higher deprivation index areas
  - MOTU study showed up to 6:1 Benefit:Cost for Warm Up NZ insulation/heating programme



# Housing Policy and Regulations

- Residential Tenancies Act
  - All rentals must be insulated by 30 June 2019 (some exceptions)
- Healthy Homes Guarantee Act
  - Insulation, heating, ventilation, draughts, moisture/drainage
  - 1 July 2019 30 June 2024
- Electricity Price Review
  - Cost of and access to electricity services
- Rental WoF
  - Wellington city minimum standards for rentals
  - Voluntary Pass/Fail
  - Partially overtaken by HHGA





# Current Healthy Homes Programmes

- Well Homes
  - MoH funded programme targeting children at risk of rheumatic fever and housing-related health conditions.
  - 800 assessments/year: Porirua/Wellington/Hutt Valley
  - Regional Public Health, Otago U, Tu Kotahi Maori Asthma Trust, Sust Trust
- Warmer Kiwi Homes
  - \$142M for insulation/heating 2018-2021
  - 50,000 low-income homes CSC/Dep 9-10 eligibility
  - 67% 100% for insulation; 67%/max \$2000 for heating (TBC by EECA)
  - Approx 800/year in Wellington region Electra support for Kapiti
- Home Energy Savers
  - HES 500/year detailed home assessments and Action Plans (Wgtn city)
- HomeFit
  - National healthy housing standard from NZ Green Building Council
  - Pass/Fail advises on upgrades needed to comply









#### Healthy Housing in Kapi

- **Regional Healthy Housing Group project** 
  - Initial project Target high-needs area (Otaki?)
  - Consult with Council, local organisations, iwi
  - HHGA compliance for rentals (regulatory)
  - HomeFit compliance for owner-occupied (encouragement/financial support?)
  - Warmer Kiwi Homes subsidy support for insulation/heating (incl. Electra)
  - Greater Wellington targeted rate (\$3600/home for insulation)
  - Additional financial support needed for other measures
  - EECA stats for uninsulated homes in Otaki in Dep 9/10:
    - Rentals 570
    - Owner-occupied 900

#### Home Energy Savers – Kapiti

- Bespoke advice on insulation, heating, ventilation, energy use etc. Plus Action Plan
- Same assessment protocol as Wgtn City (currently 500/year \$70K funding)
- Free to homeowner



