

## Help is available to stay ahead of energy price rises

Wellington Region based not-for-profit organisation Sustainability Trust says energy efficiency at home is the most achievable way for householders to stay ahead of predicted electricity price rises.

The Ministry of Economic Development's long-term electricity forecast says the price of electricity will remain higher than inflation for the next 18 years.

Sustainability Trust CEO Phil Squire says 'Insulating their house is the most important thing consumers can do to keep power bills down as well - as make sure that their family stays warm and healthy over winter.'

'Prices increases are never good news for consumers, and with Autumn just around the corner, it's important that householders know additional assistance is available for residents of Wellington City, Hutt Valley, Porirua and Kapiti Coast,' Mr Squire says.

'Sustainability Trust staff regularly work with people who can't afford to heat their uninsulated houses. However, significant assistance, on top of the usual government subsidies, is available through our organisation for homeowners, tenants and landlords.

As well as subsidised insulation, Sustainability Trust also operates a free advice line, on 0508 78 78 24 for people wanting to find out more about how to save on energy costs around the home, and other sustainability related issues.