



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## ENERGY TRUST EXTENDS HOME INSULATION PROGRAMME

The Eastern Bay Energy Trust has approved \$600,000 for its retrofit insulation programme for 2006-07, and at the same time extended the criteria to include more Eastern Bay residents.

Over the past six years, the Trust has provided funding to insulate over 4000 homes.

The Partnership Programme, co-funded by the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) provides free retrofit insulation for community service card holders living in pre-1977 homes. This includes the installation of ceiling, underfloor and draught excluders.

The 50/50 Programme has up until now, provided 50% funding for people without community service cards. At the meeting last week, Trustees approved extra funding to increase the Trust's contribution to 75%, and to reduce the householder's contribution to 25%. This will include all existing homes with inadequate or no insulation.

Trust Chairman Mrs Toni Owen announced the extra funding and said "Research information gained from a survey of householders who have taken part in the retrofit programme indicates that the project has achieved a significant level of improvement in local housing conditions and energy use. However, it has also shown that there are still a number of homes that remain seriously under insulated, causing wasteful energy use and unnecessary health problems. The Trustees remain committed to making sure that all of the region's homes are brought up to current insulation standards".

People living in houses which may have inadequate insulation should contact the Trust's energy efficiency subsidiary, Energy Options.

### ***For further information contact***

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