



Media release

Friday 5 February 2016

Build Smart and Live Well in Selwyn

If you're thinking of building a new home and want to avoid large power bills or you're in an existing home and need to manage your power bill, a free presentation can give you some great tips on how to do this.

The Community Energy Action Trust and Selwyn District Council are hosting a presentation called 'Build smart and live well in Selwyn' at Lincoln Event Centre on **Wednesday 17 February** from 6-8.30pm.

This free session is designed for people considering building, existing home owners, people in rental properties and landlords. The session will cover a range of topics including:

- Advice and services for people thinking of building a home on how to design an energy efficient home so that heating and cooling costs are low across the lifetime of the home
- Advice and services to help improve insulation and keep your home warm and dry, including available subsidies
- For landlords, information on new government requirements around insulation and the subsidies available for a limited time to help fund this.

Leeston couple Grant and Lynell Bell recently used the Designwell service offered by the Community Energy Action Trust to help design their new home. Assessor Michael Begg made a number of recommendations for the design of their home including fitting additional ceiling and wall insulation, installing energy efficient lighting and a heat pump. Michael also checked the home's solar orientation, hot water system, heating, ventilation, windows and doors.

The couple say they have found their new home warm and comfortable and their energy use has been well within the range they expected.

At the 'Build smart and live well in Selwyn' session people will have the opportunity to talk to staff from the Council's Building Consent team who can offer free advice on consent requirements for anyone thinking of building. To register to attend this free session please visit www.selwyn.govt.nz/energy by 15 February.

Ends

Photo attached: Assessor Michael Begg advising customer Paul Marambos on the design of his Canterbury lifestyle property.

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