EECA's Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Energy

13 February 2026

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

TE TARI TIAKI PŪNGAO

1. Accelerating Renewable Energy

1.1 Update on our activity to accelerate solar uptake

We are progressing a range of activity to drive uptake and accelerate solar market development, summarised below.

Residential solar public engagement programme

The impact and reach of our online residential Solar Hub continue to exceed our ambitions with over 65,000 visits since its launch in early January. Our tools allow consumers to see the potential energy savings, cost savings and payback period of solar for their specific situation, to improve consumer confidence in solar and drive uptake.

To promote this work, we are currently running a campaign on digital channels and billboards across the country and plan to connect in with the EA's new plan-switching product [redacted]

[redacted]

Endorsement of solar industry accreditation programmes

We continue to work closely with key stakeholders (SEANZ, Master Electricians, Electricity Authority) to finalise criteria for EECA endorsement of solar industry-approved accreditation schemes. This week, we met with the Australian Clean Energy Council to ensure alignment and take insights from its similar scheme operating in the more advanced Australian market.

We will finalise and publish the industry accreditation endorsement on our website over the coming months. Intending to build confidence for households and lenders to invest, addressing low trust among consumers due to the overwhelming and inconsistent information around solar which is preventing uptake.

To receive endorsement, programme providers will need to meet clear, robust criteria covering installer competency and business standards. They will also be required to provide evidence and be subject to ongoing independent third-party audits.

Scaled Distributed Flexibility Pilot demonstrating the potential for residential solar

The first of six scaled distributed flexibility (DF) pilots located in Karaka Harbourside (with Counties Energy) is due to launch on 9 March, in partnership with EDBs and other industry stakeholders. Aiming to demonstrate distributed flexibility as a solution to unlock consumer savings.

The programme targets parts of EDB networks that are supply constrained and require upgrading in the next three to five years. The pilots will retrofit smart connectivity to existing devices and install a range of smart devices and systems across around 500 homes. Expecting to demonstrate a minimum of 1 megawatt reduction of peak demand, to defer investment in distribution network assets.

There are opportunities for you to be involved in planned promotional activity for the March launch of the Karaka-based pilot, including a possible ribbon-cutting. The remaining five pilots are in final design stage and will be progressively rolled out from May onwards. We will continue to update you on progress, and further communications opportunities.

Key Points:	• 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted] • Our residential Solar Hub continues to **exceed our ambitions with over 65,000 visits since its launch in early January.** We are connecting in with the EA's to support the launch of their new plan comparison and switching product with a focus on the benefits of Time of Use plans and behaviours and solar specific plans. • EECA's solar accreditation work is progressing well, and we are taking learnings and ensuring alignment with the schemes operating in the more advanced Australian market. • Our first scaled distributed flexibility pilot with EDBs is due to launch on 9 March in Karaka Harbourside (partnering with the Counties Energy EDB). There are opportunities for you to be involved in planned promotional activity. The remaining five pilots are in final design stage and will be progressively rolled out from May onwards.
Next Steps:	• 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted] • We will continue to update you on the progress of our solar activity, including progress and communications opportunities for our solar accreditation programme and scaled distributed flexibility pilots with EDBs.

1.2 Distributed Flexibility study

In late January we published our new research, delivered by Jacobs, showing that up to 25% of New Zealand's peak electricity demand could be shifted to off-peak periods, potentially avoiding up to $3 billion in future generation and network infrastructure investment.

Reporting was positive, with strong emphasis on the scale of potential savings, the practicality of demand-shifting, and the opportunity to make better use of existing electricity infrastructure. Approximately 65 items appeared across major print, online, radio and television outlets.

The Science Media Centre was engaged in advance of the report's release, and several energy specialists reviewed the findings and provided independent commentary. We also shared the report with key energy system stakeholders in advance of release – and this engagement continues.

Next steps for our demand flexibility programme include:

- Launching six scaled DF pilots, beginning with Counties Energy in March.
- The NZ Herald covered EECA's V2G trial early in the month; further activity is planned jointly with Rewiring Aotearoa including a formal launch.
- The successful recipients of Solar on Farms funding are being announced with a Ministerial visit to a grower in Pukekohe on 13 February, following contracts being finalised from late November.
- Results coming through from EECA's Flex Talk programme are now landing and will soon be ready to be fulsomely shared across energy communities. The programme tested smart EV chargers and connected home devices across nearly 150 homes and produced notable energy bill reductions for the participating households through shifting and optimising load.
- Efficient Demand Flex Loan recipients will soon be announced. These zero-interest loans will cover a portion of the total project costs to encourage commercial and industrial energy users deploy energy efficient, flexibility-enabling technologies behind the meter, such as battery storage, thermal storage, and interruptible load management.
- The E3 10-year strategy will be published in February; we are working with MBIE and our counterparts in the E3 programme in Australia on promotion to sector media.

Key Points:	• EECA's new DF research had great public response with strong media update (Approx 65 items appeared across major print, online, radio and television outlets)
Next Steps:	• The demand flexibility programme is well underway, with much further planned media engagement. Including promotion of the E3 10 year

	strategy in February and a joint formal launch of our V2G trial with Rewiring Aotearoa. • Recipients of both Efficient Demand Flex loans and Solar on Farms have been selected and are soon to be publicly announced. We will keep your office informed as this work progresses.

2. Energy Security and Affordability

2.1 9(2)(ba)(ii) [redacted]

[redacted]

General update around woody biomass programme

Under the Government Wood Energy Strategy and Action Plan, which you announced in October, EECA have progressed market initiatives to further enhance the volume of wood energy supply and its reliability and affordability. Specifically, two recent RFPs received strong market appetite:

- Organisations seeking finance to develop final investment cases for Wood Energy supply manufacturing facilities. We are currently progressing to contracting for four large projects, aiming to be investment-ready by the end of the year.
- Projects to implement Woody Biomass aggregation facilities. We received 13 project submissions and are currently evaluating these.

Key Points:	• 9(2)(ba)(ii) [redacted] • EECA have two Wood Energy RFP's currently in the market, both of which are progressing to the contract stage.
Next Steps:	• We will keep you updated as these RFPs and other actions from the wood energy strategy and action plan progress.

2.2 Consumer Winter Saving 2026

Winter 2026 is expected to be another challenging period for households facing high energy costs. In response, we are delivering a public engagement campaign over the peak winter billing months, building on the success of the 2025 programme which delivered an estimated return of $4.60 in energy savings for every $1 invested.

Our Winter 2026 campaign targets a core, heavily impacted by high energy costs audience of 2.5 million middle to lower-middle income New Zealanders. Focusing on practical, free and easy actions households can take to reduce their bills, often by more than $500 per year, while also promoting supporting initiatives such as the Warmer Kiwi Homes programme and the EA's upcoming electricity plan comparison tool 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted].

The campaign will utilise a mass media approach supported by on-the-ground delivery through more than 800 community partners, including budgeting services, marae and libraries, with resources available in multiple languages. We are also partnering with The Warehouse to distribute energy-saving information on more than 110,000 heaters sold nationwide, supported by in-store and online messaging. 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]

Our website will host detailed advice and tools, building on strong engagement in 2025 when more than 115,000 New Zealanders accessed winter energy content; the 2026 target is over 150,000 users. A robust evaluation framework will be applied in 2026, with a target return on investment of more than $4 for every $1 spent.

Key Points:	• We are preparing our Winter 2026 campaign to support energy affordability over the peak winter billing months, building on the success of our Winter 2025 programme which generated an estimated return of $4.60 in energy savings for every $1 invested. • We have also secured strategic partnerships to extend reach and impact, including opportunities with over 800 community partners, The Warehouse and 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted].
Next Steps:	• We will keep you updated as we finalise the plan for our Winter 2026 campaign.

3. Other Updates

3.1 Exploring the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to support energy system priorities

We are exploring the potential for AI to support NZ's energy efficiency, affordability, resilience and distributed flexibility goals. On 11 February, we released a request for information from suppliers of solutions incorporating AI.

We are seeking current information on advanced AI solutions that support commercial and industrial electricity consumers (including consumers that may have on-site electricity generation, such as solar PV, and/or energy storage) to improve their energy efficiency and energy productivity.

Our focus is on learning about solutions that can deliver increased energy productivity, increased energy affordability and enhanced reliability of supply.

This information will ensure EECA remains well positioned to continue to:

- Deliver up to date information on AI products, services and tools for energy efficiency to New Zealand businesses
- Continue designing market intervention programmes to accelerate uptake of innovation solutions.

We will update you on insights gained through the RFI and planned next steps once it closes on 30 April 2026.

Key Points:	• We are actively considering the potential of AI to support energy efficiency, affordability, resilience and distributed flexibility, and recently released an RFI from suppliers of solutions incorporating AI to improve their energy efficiency and energy productivity.
Next Steps:	• We will update you on insights gained through the RFI and planned next steps once it closes on 30 April 2026.

3.2 Ongoing engagement with NZTA on exemptions issue, and potential impact on LEHVF.

The Vehicle Dimension and Mass (VDAM) Rule sets requirements to enable vehicles, in particular heavy truck and trailer combinations, to be operated safely on New Zealand's roads.

Battery Electric Heavy Vehicles (BEHV) over 50t exceed the limits in the VDAM rule and so require an exemption.

This process is managed by NZTA, in conjunction with local Road Controlling Authorities. NZTA has signalled they will no longer be considering exemptions outside of the VDAM rules, while MoT undertakes a wider review, due to be completed in 2027.

9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]

[redacted] EECA is also engaging with the industry to better understand implications for the take up of BEHV's. We will keep your office updated on this matter as it progresses.

Key Points:	• The Vehicle Dimension and Mass (VDAM) Rule is administered and enforced by NZTA, who have indicated they will no longer be considering exemptions outside current regulations. • 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]
Next Steps:	• 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted] • EECA is also engaging with industry to better understand what conditions would ease access to overcoming barriers inhibiting the take up of BEHV's.

3.3 Upcoming EECA Statement of Performance Expectations 2026/27

The Statement of Performance Expectations (SPE) is a mechanism for publicly setting out EECA's delivery commitments for the coming financial year including our programmes, performance measures, and forecast financial statements.

We are beginning to develop our SPE for 2026/27. As required, we will provide you with a draft for feedback by 30 April 2

The SPE will reflect our 2026/27 work programme and budget focused squarely on delivering your affordability and security priorities. We had an initial discussion with you on our indicative work programme and budget at the 12 February 2026 EECA officials' meeting.

As signalled, a significant programme for 2026/27 will be the Technology and Fuel Enabler (TAFE) which targets barriers to significant national opportunities to increase the use of efficient and renewable technologies and fuels that reduce costs, improve business productivity, and support New Zealand's energy security and resilience. We intend to brief you further on planned activity in March 2026.

Key Points:	• We are developing our draft SPE which will be provided to you for feedback at the end of April 2026. • As signalled at the officials' meeting on 12 February 2026, the work programme and budget in the SPE will feature significant activity in the Technology and Fuel Enabler (TAFE) programme.
Next Steps:	• We intend to you further on planned TAFE activity in March/April 2026.

3.4 Minister’s attendance at EECA Board meeting on 24 February

You will meet with the EECA Board on 24 February for an open discussion on strategic priorities across the Energy Portfolio. The Board will also welcome a discussion on EECA’s role in delivering on these priorities, and how EECA can deliver greatest value for the Government in 2026 and future years.

4. Ministerial Servicing Updates

4.1 Current and upcoming advice to the Minister

Title	Purpose	Action and timing
Report-back on Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund (LEHVF) industry engagement and recommended programme changes	To brief on proposed options to accelerate programme uptake	Sent

4.2 Communications and events calendar

Date	Type	Activity/Event	Opportunities for engagement
Tentatively scheduled for March 14 or 21 8.30-10 am	9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
TBC	9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

		9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]	[redacted]
TBC	Announcement opportunity	Efficient Demand Flexibility initiative	Potential announcement/ discussion opportunity

4.3 Official Information Act requests

Requestor	Request	Date received	Date due
9(2)(a) [redacted] (Business desk)	GIDI project information.	19 January 2026	16 February 2026 (likely to be refined/extended or refused)
9(2)(a) [redacted] (Tax Payers Union)	Warmer Kiwi Homes support for eligible residents within the Summerset retirement villages in Havelock North and Whanganui	23 January 2026	20 February 2026
9(2)(a) [redacted]	Further to previous requests, information around use of waste oil.	26 January 2026	24 February 2026

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
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1. Accelerating Renewable Energy

1.1 Solar update

Residential solar public engagement programme

Our online residential Solar Hub continues to exceed targets. We have now received over 115,000 visits since its launch in early January - a significant increase from the 65,000 visits we reported to you last fortnight.

In late March we will launch the next phase of the campaign including broadcast, media and potentially print. We will provide campaign collateral to your office for your visibility.

We are also shaping research and engagement with the solar industry to support them to increase uptake. In late March we will report back to you on findings and next steps.

Solar on Farms post announcement activity

Following your announcement of demonstration farms last week, we have seen great media engagement and strong web engagement on our new solar on farms website content. With over 1,100 visits to the website tools and an increase in the number of calls and web enquiries. Building on this we are shortly launching the first of a series of Solar on Farms video case studies on our channels.

We also attended the NZ Dairy Expo in Matamata last week. This provided an opportunity to connect with solar suppliers and Dairy NZ to begin planning open days among our demonstration farms which will allow others interested in solar to see the technology and hear the benefits directly from their sector.

Key Points:	• Our online residential Solar Hub continues to exceed our targets with the reach and engage homeowners at scale. We have now received over 115,000 visits since its launch in early January. • We have seen strong engagement with our new website information and tools.
Next Steps:	• In late March, we will report back to you with research findings.

1.2 Leveraging Government Energy Demand

We are supporting the MBIE All-of-Government work to leverage government energy demand. We are feeding into the rapid feasibility study exploring a centralised procurement framework for solar installs across the government estate.

We are also supporting the coordination of agencies involved in the consideration of longer-term Power Purchase Agreements, leveraging EECA's relationships and experience supporting energy projects across the public sector.

Key Points:	• We are supporting the MBIE All-of-Government work to leverage government energy demand, supporting both the solar feasibility study and consideration of a PPA among largest energy users.
Next Steps:	• n/a

1.3 V2G update

EECA's vehicle-to-grid (V2G) trial has reached an important milestone, with the first two-way charger now installed in Queenstown. The Queenstown trial will begin with a small number of chargers to test how the technology performs in real world conditions and how people use it. The trial will expand during 2026, with the aim of building practical evidence to support future decisions on wider rollout.

EECA has also released a Request for Information to test interest in expanding vehicle-to-everything (V2X) trials to Auckland. This is an early market engagement step to understand who may be interested in taking part and what capability exists across the sector. Responses to the RFI are due through GETS by 16 March 2026 and will help shape the design and scope of the Auckland trial.

Key Points:	• The first V2G charger has been installed in Queenstown. • A Request for Information has been released to explore expanding trials to Auckland.
Next Steps:	• EECA will gather early data from the Queenstown installation. • EECA will assess RFI responses and advise on options for an Auckland trial.

1.4 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]	▪ [redacted] ▪ [redacted]
[redacted]	▪ [redacted] ▪ [redacted]

1.5 Woody bioenergy update

EECA initiatives to drive bioenergy market development are progressing well. These initiatives were core elements of the Government's Wood Energy Strategy.

We received strong market appetite to establish large-scale solid wood energy manufacturing facilities, with 14 project applications. 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted] e will shortly contact your office with information about the announcement.

Our RFP seeking projects to deliver regional wood biomass aggregation facilities closed on 30 January 2026. Once again market appetite was strong with 13 project applications. Internal evaluation is underway with contracting of successful applicants expected in the next few months. We will share any communications opportunities with your office.

This work builds on EECA's Regional Energy Transition Accelerator (RETA) which has provided an evidence base for both the potential demand for biomass by industrials and the potential supply of unutilised wood biomass across each region of New Zealand. There are two reports still two be published off the back of this programme, RETA Wellington and RETA New Zealand which you will receive an update on shortly.

Key Points:	• EECA has recently run two RFPs as part of the Wood Energy Strategy, both of which are now closed. • Market appetite was strong.
Next Steps:	• 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted] • RETA Wellington will soon be published.

2. Energy Security and Affordability

2.1 EECA engagement with Te Kāuta

On 5 February 2026, we understand there were positive engagements between Iwi Chairs and the Ministers signatory to the Te Hiku Social and Wellbeing Accord (Social Accord) at Waitangi. 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]

9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]

9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]

Key Points:	• 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]
Next Steps:	• 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted] [redacted]

2.2 Support for Energy Education in Communities (SEEC) programme update

This financial year, SEEC will deliver support to ~2,500 households, but the service remains in high demand.

Next week EECA will launch an RFP to expand the amount of contracted SEEC service providers as soon as possible. The RFP is particularly focused on regions currently not covered by SEEC, such as Northland. We will provide you with an update and possible promotional opportunities, once applications have been assessed.

At the last EECA officials meeting, you requested real-life case study examples of SEEC delivery on the ground. These are attached as **Appendix 1**.

Key Points:	• EECA is looking to increase the amount of service providers contracted under the SEEC programme to ensure support is available across more of the country.
Next Steps:	• EECA will launch an RFP next week, inviting new service providers to apply for the sixth round of SEEC programme funding.

2.3 Flexibility market engagement

On 23 February, the Electricity Authority, Commerce Commission, and EECA sent a letter to all Electricity Distribution Businesses (EDBs) setting out three practical actions they can take support efficient use of non-traditional solutions (NTS) such as flexibility services:

1) Planning and investment: treating NTS on an equal footing with traditional upgrades.
2) Pricing and consumer signals: Provide clear price signals to enable flexibility.
3) Market access and procurement: establish transparent, competitive processes for flexibility services.

EECA has also engaged the market at a household level with our recent Green Paper - *Unlocking the potential of demand flexibility – a residential product perspective*. A total of 25 submissions were received from a broad range of stakeholders, including manufacturers, electricity distribution businesses, industry associations and government agencies.

Feedback generally supported the identified use cases for demand flexibility, prioritisation of key residential end-use products, and the value of a coordinated approach across agencies.

We are now applying these findings to voluntary minimum specifications for demand flexible products, with further work planned over 2026. We will update you as this work progresses.

Key Points:	• EECA, the EA and Commerce Commission have sent a letter to all EDBs. • EECA received 25 submissions on the Green Paper *Unlocking the potential of demand flexibility – a residential product perspective.*

	• Feedback was supportive of the proposed approach
Next Steps:	• We are inviting EDB's feedback on the letter by 24 March 2026. Feedback will help inform our future thinking, priorities, and respective work programmes. • We will publish a summary of DF Green paper submissions shortly • We will keep you updated as this work progresses.

3. Ministerial Servicing Updates

3.1 Current and upcoming advice to the Minister

Title	Purpose	Action and timing
Briefing on EECA Standards and Regulations	To provide an overview of EECA's regulations and standards work and its effect on consumers/households.	Upcoming (5 May 2026)

3.2 Communications and events calendar

Date	Type	Activity/Event	Opportunities for engagement
Tentatively scheduled for March 14 or 21 8.30-10 am	Launch of 'smart homes' community pilots programme	Full smart homes scaled pilots programme launch at Karaka Heights, Auckland (Counties Energy). This will include: - Community "champions" who have already had smart kit, solar and batteries installed under the programme - Reps from Counties Energy, Fisher & Paykel and EECA	Potential announcement/ community walkabout opportunity

TBC	Announcement opportunity	9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]	[redacted]
TBC	Announcement opportunity	Efficient Demand Flexibility initiative	Potential announcement/ discussion opportunity
V2G and V2X	Announcement	We are currently looking at options for sharing news about the design of our first trial in Queenstown. An RFI is also out to expand the trial (see item 1.3).	Potential announcement/ discussion opportunity

3.3 Official Information Act requests

Requestor	Request	Date received	Date due
9(2)(a) [redacted]	Further to previous requests, information around use of waste oil. Specifically all grant applications involving waste oil.	9 February 2026	6 March 2026
9(2)(a) [redacted]	ETA and Biomass aggregation hubs RFP information	16 February 2026	13 March 2026
9(2)(a) [redacted]	Further to previous requests, information around use of waste oil. Specifically, if anyone has applied for funding around decarbonising the Waste oil industry.	18 February 2026	18 March 2026

9(2)(a) [redacted]	Enquiring about household consumer representative groups consultation.	20 February 2026	20 March 2026
9(2)(a) [redacted]	Warmer Kiwi homes Papakura eligibility	21 February 2026	23 March 2026

Appendix 1: SEEC case examples

SEEC Case 1:

An elderly couple reached out to our SEEC service provider directly after hearing about their free SEEC home assessments from a family member. The husband is challenged with dementia, and his wife was determined to make their home safer and more comfortable.

The home's exterior cladding was in a poor deteriorated state. It also had no insulation, heating, or functional amenities, leaving their home cold, damp, and unsafe.

[redacted] 9(2)(a)

A combination of years of neglect and exposure had also left the exterior cladding in very poor condition with:

- Unsafe electrical wiring with exposed cables
- Large mould patches on the ceiling from a previous roof leak
- No hot water or functioning bathroom fixtures
- Missing window latches, doors, and no double-lined curtains
- No gutters or downpipes, accelerating cladding deterioration
- Damaged bathroom floor and subfloor leaks
- Broken windows and decaying external joinery
- Dense trees shading the home, preventing sunshine from warming the home

To transform the home into a warmer, drier, safer, and healthier living environment, the service provider has effectively drawn together support and funding from various participating programmes and partners, including Warmer Kiwi Homes, to provide the family with:

- Free wall and ceiling insulation
- Re-lined walls and ceiling using donated materials
- A donated hot water cylinder and toilet, installed by a volunteering plumber
- New bathroom flooring and shower lining
- A donated infrared heater

- New window framing
- Funding support for electrical repairs

The service provider has lifted the homeowner's knowledge and confidence to maintain their home. They are very appreciative of the help provided and noticed a significant difference from the insulation and are using the donated heater in the way they were taught. The couple continue to work with their SEEC service provider and are now looking to fit thermal curtains and have a heat pump installed through Warmer Kiwi Homes.

SEEC Case 2:

A young low-income family of five in Tauranga were referred to our SEEC service provider via Plunket, for a deteriorated home they had been living in for over 5 years. They were on a low income, and living in a home, with poor cladding, roofing and drafty single glazed windows. When the family first spoke with our service provider, they were very concerned their home was unhealthy and cold and had not been maintained. While they were eager to make changes, they didn't know where to start or how they would be able to afford it.

[redacted] 9(2)(a)

The service provider conducted a home visit and identified what was needed to improve the thermal envelope to enable the house to maintain a healthy temperature on a cold, winters night. The service provider has continued to work with the family to provide a hand up – not a hand-out – to improve their living environment with:

- Repaired external joinery
- Window repairs
- Draught-proofing, thermal curtains, and improved ventilation
- Installed 8 LED bulbs
- Replaced sliding door in the lounge
- Completed education on curtains, condensation, oil heater and heat pump use, draughts, extracting moisture from bathroom, and dryer use.

The service provider also coordinated support from Warmer Kiwi Homes, Healthy Homes Initiative, third party philanthropic funding and donated materials and installations by volunteering tradesmen, to provide the family with:

- Ceiling and underfloor insulation (WKH)
- A heat pump (WKH)
- A kitchen extraction fan
- Repaired holes in floor (WKH)
- Installed downpipes
- Exterior cladding prepped and painted
- Bedroom wall repairs and additional wall insulation
- Free Healthy Homes community workshops

Follow up home visits have shown the family are using the heat pump at the recommended settings, run their portable heaters appropriately, and have successfully managed moisture in the home by using the extractor fan and ventilating the bathroom after showers. The family now report that their home now feels much warmer and drier, with no mould.

Their power bills have reduced significantly and their children are doing much better overall. The family feels more confident engaging with government and community services, and speak highly of the support received and are sharing their new knowledge and experience with their wider family and community.