**Warm and Dry**

A warm and dry home is a safer home. That’s the message from Housing New Zealand as winter approaches.

In 2015 Housing New Zealand invested $50m into the Warm and Dry programme and now nearly half of their 64,000 homes have received interventions.

Tenancy services inspect properties twice a year and Senior Tenancy Manager Neisha Hura-Tupaea says it’s an opportunity to discuss with tenants the Warm and Dry programme and also the easy and simple things families can do themselves to help stay warm and dry.

“There are a number of easy things we can all do to help keep you and your family warm and dry in winter, like opening your windows when cooking and showering. This can help reduce moisture in your home, which is a good thing because it’s the moisture in the air that makes it harder and more expensive to heat your home.”

Housing New Zealand provides information and fact sheets to help tenants understand ventilation is essential in the wet months. “We also have a handy hints poster and our tenants find it all helpful, they want warm and dry homes and they want to help us create safer homes.”

Neisha says tenancy managers have noticed the youngsters in the home are always keen to learn more about warm and dry.

“It’s great to hear them chipping in with what they do to help keep their home warm and dry and for us it’s great knowing that our programme is having a direct benefit. We get to see the warm and dry benefits everyday.”

Housing New Zealand’s baseline standards for Warm and Dry are now a part of operational service delivery and the agency is managing the remainder of properties through the programme.

Baseline standards include:

1. Triple weave curtains in living areas, dining rooms and bedrooms

2. A fixed form of heating in the living area, where an acceptable heating source is not present

3. An extraction fan in the bathroom and range-hood in the kitchen (for three bedroom properties and larger.)

4. No bare floors – carpet or vinyl installed over bare floors