

# HOME ENERGY SAVINGS SCHEME

## Self Assessment Checklist

### General

The standards of insulation and level of energy efficiency required by our Building Regulations are being continuously improved over time. The intention is that any new home will perform at a very high level of energy efficiency. Where homeowners are improving energy efficiency of existing homes, it is important the works are carried out in line with current Building Regulations.

The levels of performance required by the Home Energy Savings scheme are in line with the current Building Regulations. If your home has been built in the last five years, it is likely that your performance with regard to energy efficiency will be relatively close to that required by the scheme. However, if your home was built many years ago and has had little improvement work completed with regard to energy efficiency, then it is likely that there is a large gap between the performance of your home and the performance level being targeted by the scheme.

You can do a quick check on your homes energy performance by answering the simple questions below. These questions will act as a rough guide in evaluating what home energy improvements you could make under the Home Energy Savings scheme.

### Roof Insulation

If you answer **YES** to all or the majority of these questions it would be beneficial for you to consider upgrading your insulation:

#### Ceiling-level insulation

- Yes**
- Do you find the house loses heat quickly once the heating is turned off?
  - If the insulation in your attic is made from wool (fibreglass, sheeps wool, rock wool etc), is it less then 300mm thick?
  - Are the joists visible?
  - Is the insulation layer patchy, i.e.does thickness vary across the attic?
  - Is 50% or more of the attic floored, i.e. sheets of wooden flooring applied to the joists with wool insulation restricted to the depth of the joists below the flooring?



Joists Visible

#### Rafter-level insulation

- Yes**
- Do you find the house loses heat quickly once the heating is turned off?
  - If the insulation in your attic is made from wool (fibreglass, sheepswool, rock wool etc), is it less then 200mm thick?
  - Is the insulation made from another material and less than 150mm thick?

### Wall Insulation

If you answer **YES** to all or the majority of these questions it would be beneficial for you to consider upgrading your insulation:

#### Cavity walls

- Yes**
- Do you find the house loses heat quickly once the heating is turned off?
  - Is the house five years old or more?
  - If you already upgraded your insulation, was the upgrade carried out more than 5 years ago?



Cavity Wall



A cavity-block wall

#### 9-inch cavity-block / Solid walls

- Yes**
- Do you find the house loses heat quickly once the heating is turned off?
  - Is the house five years old or more?
  - If you already upgraded your insulation, was the upgrade carried out more than 5 years ago?

### Heating Controls

If you answer **NO** to all or the majority of the below questions, it would be beneficial for you to install some heating controls:

- No**
- Can you heat your domestic water without switching on your radiators or an electric immersion heater?
  - Can you turn on your heating without heating your domestic water?
  - Can you easily adjust the heat output from radiators in the rooms you use most often?
  - Have you temperature control on your boiler?
  - Have you time control on your boiler that you can set for a whole week?
  - Have you a separate temperature control for you hot water cylinder?
  - Have you a separate time control on your hot water cylinder?



## High Efficiency Boiler

If you answer **YES** to all or the majority of these questions it would be beneficial for you to investigate installing a new high efficiency boiler:



**Old Boiler in Need of Replacement**

- Yes**
- Was my current boiler installed over 10 years ago?
  - Am I spending increasing amounts of money replacing parts on my current boiler?
  - Has my heating bill been increasing in recent years?
  - Is my current boiler too big for my needs? (Are there less people in my house now, do I need less heat and hot water?)
  - Does my boiler service engineer recommend that I change my boiler soon?
  - Does my boiler make more noise when operating than it used to?
  - Does my boiler emit more smoke when operating than it used to?

Further information on the Home Energy Savings scheme can be obtained as follows:

- Download the Homeowner Information Guides on [www.sei.ie/hes](http://www.sei.ie/hes)
- Request more information by ringing 1850 927 000
- Contact the scheme directly at [hes@sei.ie](mailto:hes@sei.ie)