

Case study- Vincent Kennedy

Background

Christmas came early for Vincent Kennedy and his wife when he had a number of free energy saving measures installed in his home in Dumfries last December.

Vincent, 67, was looking forward to spending more time with his wife after recently retiring. But one thing was standing in the way of the couple's quality time together - they were finding it increasingly difficult to heat their home to a comfortable temperature.

With winter looming and the typical Scottish elements only making the issue worse, Vincent was desperate to find a solution.

One day the answer came knocking at his door.

The process

The Kennedys were visited by a Home Energy Scotland advice centre representative who advised the couple of the Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland and the potential benefits open to almost anyone across the country.

As a first step the HES advice centre organised a free home energy check to assess where efficiency improvements could be made in the couple's home.

"The Home Energy Scotland advisor arrived just two days after our initial conversation with the advice centre. He was very pleasant and the whole thing was no hassle at all - it was a nice and simple process," says Vincent.



"The Home Energy Scotland advisor arrived just two days after our initial conversation with the advice centre. He was very pleasant and the whole thing was no hassle at all – it was a nice and simple process"

Vincent Kennedy

For free and impartial advice on how to reduce your fuel bills, call **Home Energy Scotland** on **0808 808 2282** or visit **www.homeenergyscotland.org**



Recommendations

“Our recommendations were solid wall insulation and a new combi boiler to replace the old one, both of which we were able to get for free through the scheme which was fantastic! There were no hidden costs involved.”

As a former plasterer, Vincent was prepared for some upheaval when all the work was being carried out but he says the disruption was minimal and the end results were better than he expected.

“I was surprised at how smoothly it all went, and it didn’t take too long at all. When you touched the outside walls before, you’d feel the cold and damp. Now when you touch them, it is virtually the same as the internal walls.”

The other advice Vincent was given was to replace the light bulbs in his house with more energy efficient ones, which he has done – this will help to reduce his energy bills even further.

As Vincent pays his bills via an annual Direct Debit payment, he has yet to see the financial benefits of the Home Energy Efficiency Programme but fully expects his energy consumption to be significantly lower by winter.

He believes that with the help of the scheme the couple are now able to heat their home for longer without having to keep the heating on for as long as before. And while Vincent says the steps taken have certainly increased the value of his home, he and his wife have no plans to leave their cosy home any time soon.



“I was surprised at how smoothly it all went, and it didn’t take too long at all. When you touched the outside walls before, you’d feel the cold and damp. Now when you touch them, it is virtually the same as the internal walls.”

Vincent Kennedy

For free and impartial advice on how to reduce your fuel bills, call **Home Energy Scotland** on **0808 808 2282** or visit www.homeenergyscotland.org