# Sustainability in the built environment

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#### Sustainable Development

"Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

The Brundtland Report - 1987

The United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED)

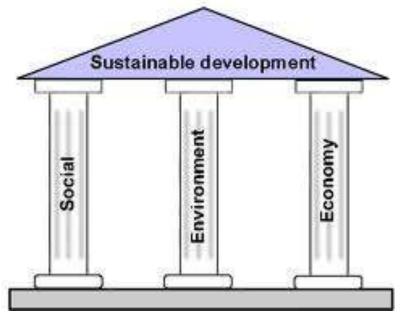


#### 2005 World Summit

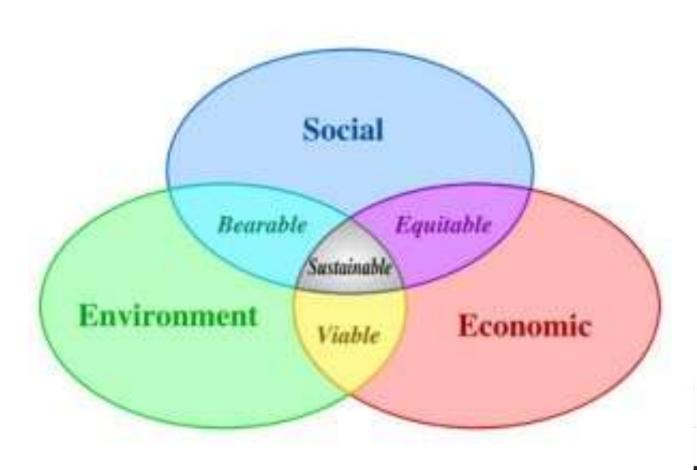
Noted that sustainable development requires the reconciliation of environmental, social and economic demands - the "three pillars" of sustainability.



Three legged stool concept



## **Triple Bottom Line**



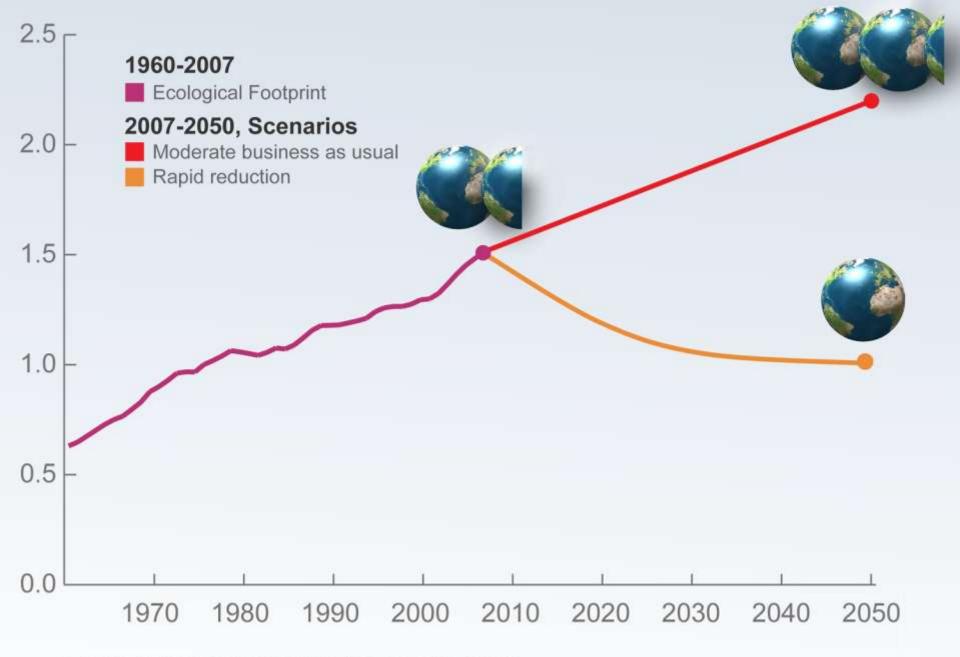


#### Quantifiable limits

"Sustainability is improving the quality of human life while living within the carrying capacity of supporting eco-systems"

Source: IUCN/UNEP/WWF - Caring for the Earth: A strategy for Sustainable Living (1991)

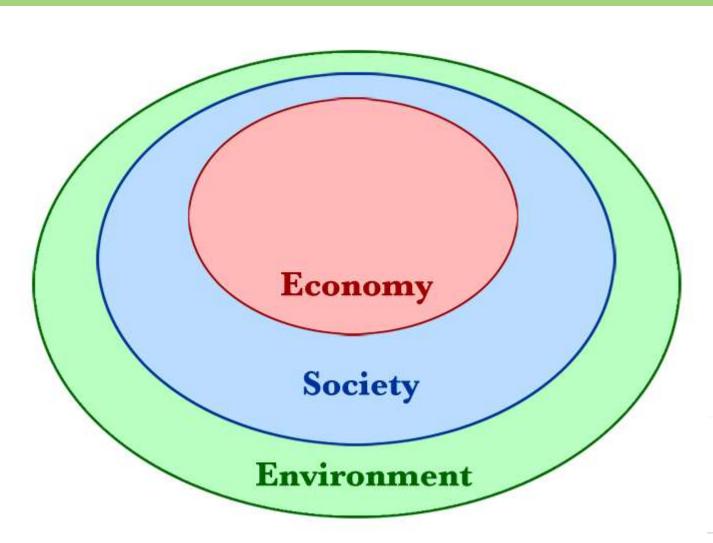




y-axis: number of planet earths, x-axis: years

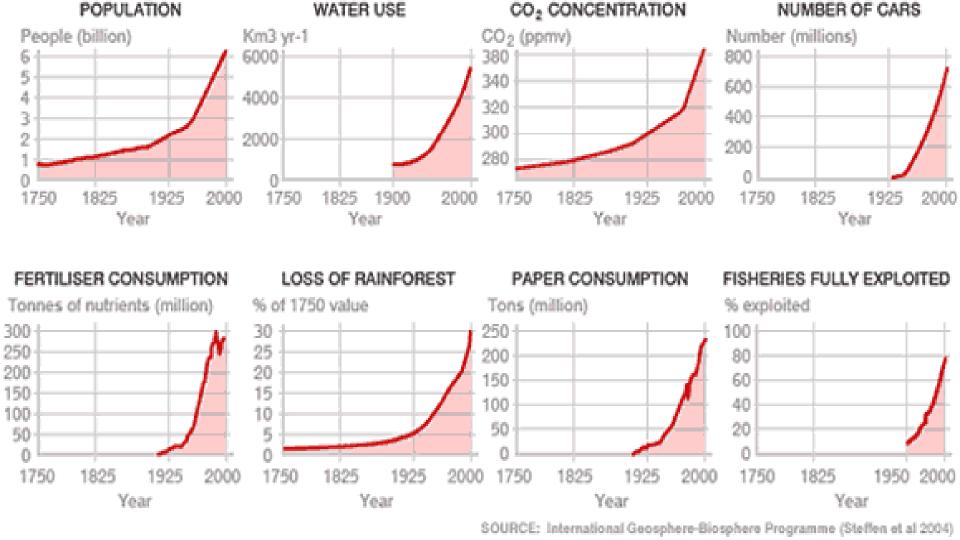
Source: Global Footprint Network

# Existing within the capacity of the environment

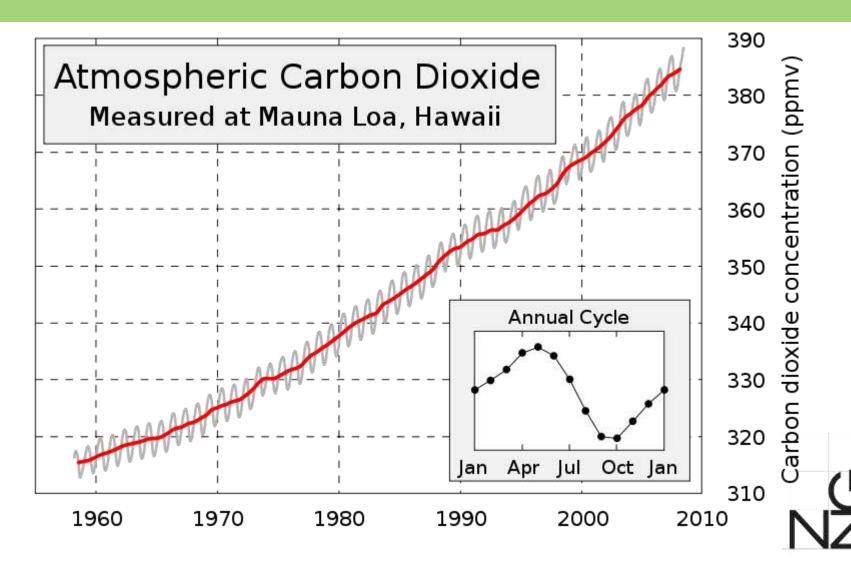




#### Living within natural limits?



### Increasing CO<sup>2</sup>



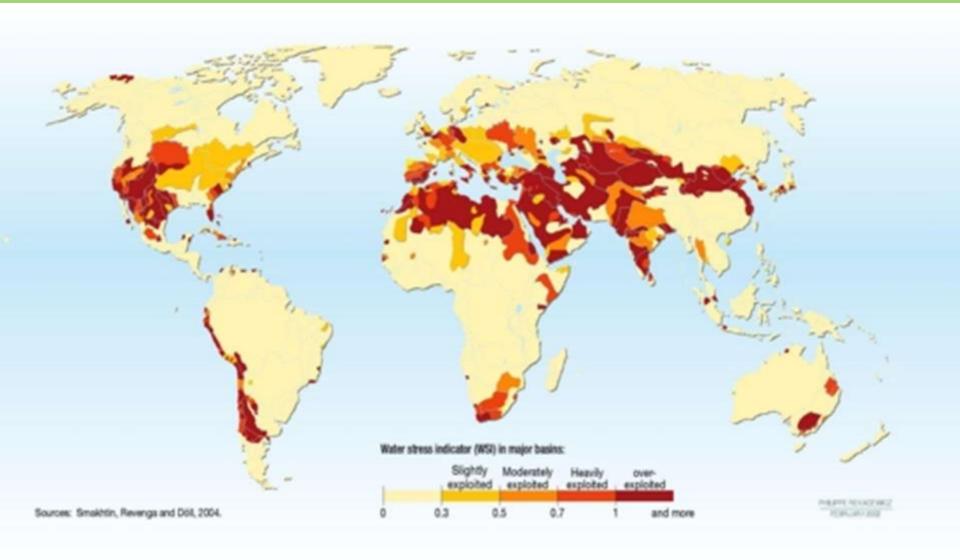
#### **Biodiversity loss**

"Biodiversity loss is moving ecological systems ever closer to a tipping point beyond which they will no longer be able to fulfil their vital functions."

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, International Day for Biological Diversity 22 May 2010.

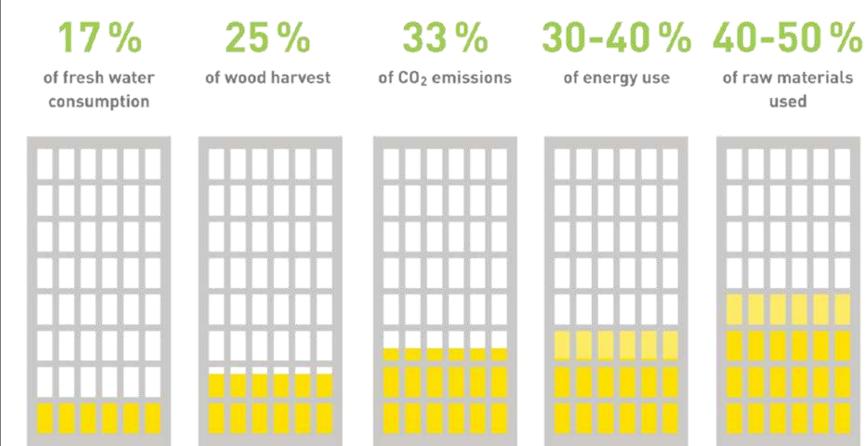


## Water scarcity



#### **WORLDWIDE, BUILDINGS ACCOUNT FOR:**





Source: Annex 31 project "Energy-Related Environmental Impact of Buildings" (www.annex31.org).

#### CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS BY SECTOR:

0

Buildings are an important part of the solution to climate change.

BUILDINGS

**TRANSPORTATION** 

**INDUSTRY** 

### Increasing urbanisation

#### 1955



### Increasing urbanisation

#### 2015



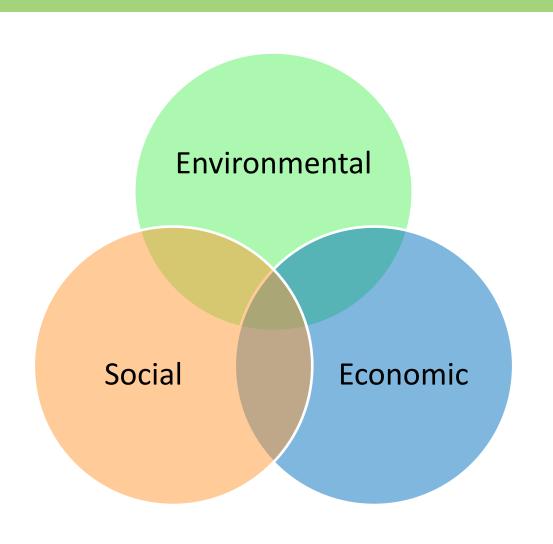
#### **Auckland** context

- Population set to reach 2.1 million by 2040.
- An estimated increase of 600,000 people.
- 330,000 additional dwellings required...

Source: Auckland Plan Discussion Document



#### Primary drivers for green building





#### Social

- Healthier places to live and work
- Minimising internal pollution
- Improving comfort and satisfaction
- A positive impact on the local community



#### **Economic drivers**

- Reduced operations costs
- Improved flexibility
- Reduced infrastructure demands
- Marketing opportunity
- Higher rental returns / reduced vacancy rates
- Future proofed assets

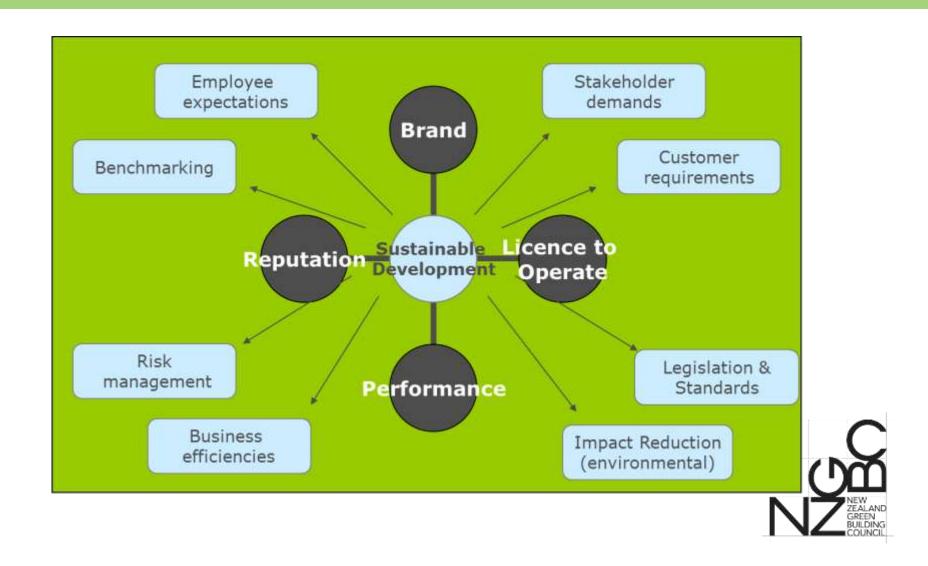


#### **Tenant drivers**

- Reduced total occupancy costs
- Improved staff satisfaction and productivity
- Reduction in churn costs
- Increased absenteeism
- Increased staff attraction and retention
- Future proofing
- Demonstration of CSR



#### Market drivers

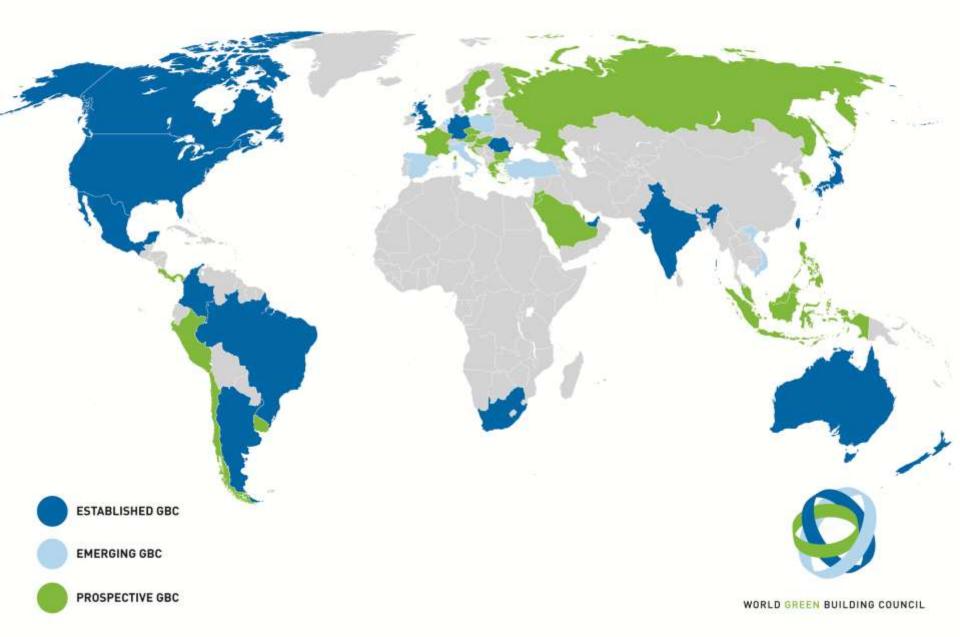


#### New Zealand Green Building Council

**Vision:** That New Zealanders work and live in healthy, efficient, productive and environmentally sustainable buildings, today and into the future.

**Mission:** To accelerate the development and adoption of market based green building practices.

#### **GREEN BUILDING COUNCILS WORLDWIDE: 2010**



#### Industry capacity

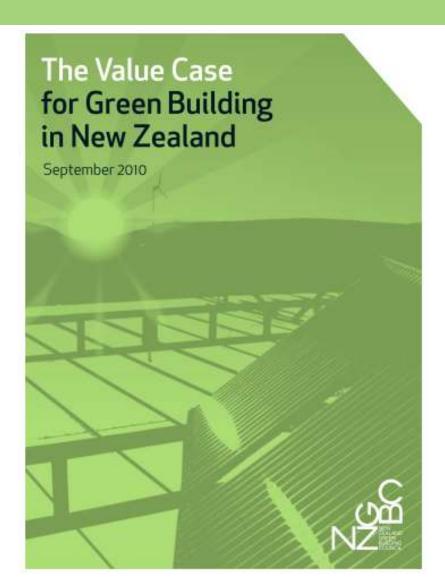
- Over 2,000 industry professionals trained
- 496 Green Star Accredited Professionals







#### Knowledge



# Climate Change and the Built Environment



#### Green Star

Green Star is a comprehensive, national, voluntary environmental rating scheme that evaluates the environmental attributes and performance of New Zealand's buildings using a suit of rating tool kits developed to be applicable to each building type and function





A Green Star NZ Certification represents commitment and leadership to green building practices and environmental performance



#### **Green Star**

# greenstar

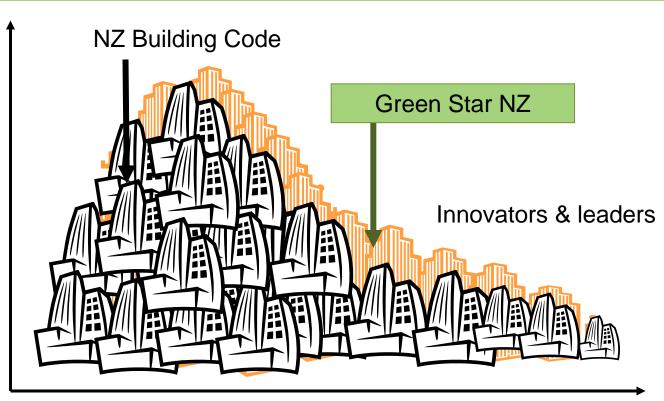
- 1. Innovation
- 2. Indoor Environment Quality
- 3. Energy
- 4. Transport
- 5. Water
- 6. Materials
- 7. Land Use and Ecology
- 8. Emissions
- + Innovation



# Green Star ratings

| Rating | Score | Represents                       | Office Design |
|--------|-------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| *      | 10    | Minimum Practice                 | Not Rated     |
| **     | 20    | Average Practice                 | Not Rated     |
| ***    | 30    | Good Practice                    | Not Rated     |
| ***    | 45    | <b>New Zealand Best Practice</b> | Rated         |
| ****   | 60    | New Zealand Excellence           | Rated         |
| *****  | 75    | World Leadership                 | Rated         |

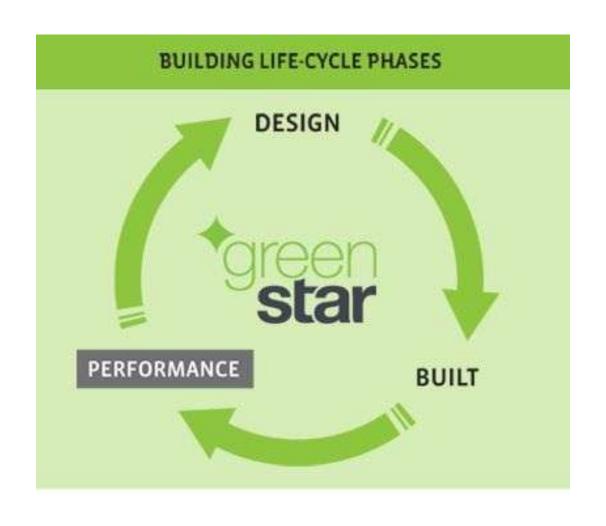




Best practice – green buildings



### Rating each life-cycle phase





#### Homestar



- 1. Energy, Health and Comfort
- 2. Water
- 3. Waste
- 4. Home Management
- 5. Materials
- 6. Site
- + Innovation
- + Resource Adjustment Factor





#### **Assessment types**

Online Self Assessment

Homecoach™ Assessment

**Independent Certified Assessment** 

1" 2" 3" 4" 5" 6" 7" 8" 9" 10"

#### Home performance report

Self assessed

#### Your Homestar rating



#### Analysis

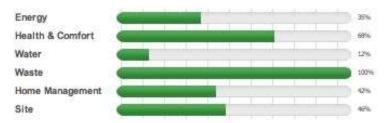
Congratulations, on completing the Homestar™ rating.

The assessed house has not achieved a minimum performance level in the core issue of good maisture management (specifically extractors to bathroom and/or kitchen areas) and overall warmth and comfort (specifically the ability for the house to achieve healthy winter-time temperatures without using excessive energy). As a result, only a star rating of 4 has been achieved, even though the home obtaining a higher star rating. To gain a higher star rating address this core issue first, and then reassess the house once the changes have been made.

A small part of the rating tool rewards non-permanent fixtures of the home such as fridges, freezers, dishwashers, compost facilities etc. If these are removed (for instance when the house changes occupancy) this could affect the star rating of the house.



Your house has been identified as a type of 1980's house which often shows a great variability of housing styles and use of materials. Some insulation should exist in all houses built from 1978 onwards. However, it may be poorly installed, inadequate or in need of replacement. Aluminium windows in these houses are easier to retrofit with double glazing than wooden frames, although performance of the aluminium frames as well as flashings may require consideration of full window replacement. A relatively easy retrofit option for these houses is to improve space heating with heat pumps or solid fuel heating.



#### Recommendation information

Use the recommendations in this report to prepare a plan for your whole house. This will guide you through the process of making your home cosy, warm, healthy, cheaper to run and with a higher rating. Some recommendations involve simple actions you can take at little or no cost. Others involve investments that will pay for themselves through lower running costs or other benefits like making your home more comfortable.

The recommendations are provided in order of priority for improving your overall health and comfort in the home, but you can re-prioritise based on the potential to improve your star rating, the operational cost savings, or whether the recommendation will be kinder on the environment—simply click on the headings to change the order.

#### Recommendations

downlights are, to see whether it is best to

| Recommendation  | Material Costs    | Installation Costs  Unsorted | Points Potential  Unsorted | + Unsorted | Cost Savings | Environment |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| Install double or secondary glazing to your main windows.  HEALTH & COMFORT » WINDOWS Double glazing or secondary glazing helps to prevent heat loss from the house. If you are installing new windows, choose window frames that are good insulators (wood, PVC or thermally broken aluminium). Low-emissivity (low-E) glass also helps to reduce heat loss through windows. | \$ \$ \$ \$ \$    | SSSS                         |                            |            |              | ***         |
| Install thick drapes and/or curtains over the rest of the house HEALTH & COMFORT » WINDOWS Use thick drapes or curtains with pelmets and close them at dusk to reduce the loss of heat through the windows in the home,   | SS                | SS                           | **                         | ***        | ***          | ***         |
| Install more ceiling insulation.  HEALTH & COMFORT * CEILING Ceiling insulation should be the number one priority in any household. Ideally, you should have at least 150 mm to 200 mm thick, continuous insulation in the ceiling or roofspace.  | \$   \$   \$   \$ | SSS                          | ***                        | ****       | ***          | ***         |
| Consider replacing downlights.  HEALTH & COMFORT > CEILING Downlights reduce the effectiveness of your insulation by creating a gap in your ceiling and insulation. If you have a high concentration of downlights, upgrading to higher levels of insulation may not result in more comfortable indoor temperatures at all. Get your electrician to check what type your      | \$ \$             | SS                           | ***                        | ***        | ***          | ***         |