



## Large heating savings identified for *The George*

The George, a luxury boutique hotel with two award winning restaurants is located in the heart of Christchurch overlooking the picturesque Hagley Park and river Avon.

The George is one of several tourism businesses to be audited in recent months as part of TEEP 2009.



The 53 room hotel is a member of TIA and also Small Luxury Hotels of the World. The George has been recognised as 'New Zealand's Leading Boutique Hotel' 2006, 2007, 2008 in the World Travel Awards, 'The Best New Zealand Hotel' in the Conde Nast 2007 Gold list.

### Energy Use

The George uses a combination of electricity, LPG and diesel for its energy needs. For 2008 the total energy bill for the hotel was \$211,300, with electricity accounting for 45% of energy use.

The audit revealed that The George's energy consumption per night (118kWh) and by m<sup>2</sup> (424kWh) is high compared to other South Island hotels, partly due to the large amount of conference area in relation to the number of rooms. The implementation of the short term initiatives identified in the energy audit would bring the George into line with the average for the seven hotels used in the example.

The diesel heated domestic hot water is the single largest area of energy use, accounting for 24% of the hotel's total energy consumption, while heating, ventilation and air-conditioning accounted for 21% of the total 1.6million kWh.

A total of \$50,100 in cost savings were identified with payback in less than 4 years.

#### Payback less than 1 year:

- Review conference heat pump programming, install new bulbs and lamps, total savings \$9,900 at a cost of \$3,000.

### **Payback between 1 & 4 years**

- Upgrading heating, install heat pumps and occupancy sensors, total savings \$40,200 at a cost of \$124,000.

Installing domestic hot water heat pumps was the greatest capital expenditure proposed (\$100,000), but will also enable annual cost savings of nearly \$33,000 with payback in 3.1 years.

General Manager Bruce Garrett believed the program has been worthwhile, "while we were aware of some of the areas for improvement, it was good to get advice on how to address them and what the costs associated with initiatives would be and the payback period for the investment."



"We can now use this report as a basis for developing an action plan and timelines for the projects we wish to pursue," said Mr Garrett.

The Tourism Energy Efficiency Programme (TEEP) was originally developed as a regional pilot in 2008. After a successful first year it has now been extended into a national programme for 2009.