Diagnosing hot water fluctuation issues at a shower.

In order to, establish if there is a boiler fault or if the issue is an external influence.

Run the basin tap in the same room as the shower at a flow rate of around 10 to 12 L per minute. Monitor the temperature output on the boiler display. If it is stable *(there will be some minor fluctuation as the boiler modulates)* then the boiler is operating as it should.

Now run the shower with the shower valve set as the customer uses the shower if you now see wide fluctuation in the boiler screen display, or the boiler is shutting off and re igniting the issue may be….

1/ The user is potentially drawing too low a volume of hot water and the boiler cannot modulate low enough to maintain output without overheating. **A potential fix is to reduce the DHW output setting at the boiler thus increasing the required DHW flow to rectify the issue.**

2/ The shower head (rose) is flow restrictive and or partially blocked and preventing adequate flow. (note; some include a gauze filter in the head input) There are also some heads such as Methvern satin jet which are designed to be water saving, these heads can restrict flow significantly. **Clean or replace the shower rose with a suitable higher flow head.**

3/ The shower mixer itself is creating a situation where, cold water pressure is sufficient to hold back the hot water flow (Note, that though supplied directly from the cold mains the input path through most boilers includes a strainer and or a flow restrictor These by nature can lower the pressure slightly). **Restricting the cold flow to the mixer via a flow restrictor or valve can provide a solution here.**

4/ (More likely where a boiler is retro fitted). The HW pipework between the boiler and shower is of a larger diameter to that of the 15mm boiler through path in some instances this can cause a blending effect in the delivery line, despite the boiler output display appearing stable. **Running a hot tap for a time prior to entering the shower may rectify and or prove this.**

If the issue appears to be with the boiler refer to the fact sheet **DHW from a Combination Boiler**