



Statement of Intent for ECO4 Flex

Huntingdonshire District Council ECO4 Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

Local Authority name: Huntingdonshire District Council

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This statement sets out Huntingdonshire District Council's flexible eligibility criteria for the Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) scheme from April 2022 – March 2026.

The ECO4 scheme will focus on supporting low income and vulnerable households. The scheme will improve the least energy efficient homes helping to meet the Government's fuel poverty and net zero commitments.

The flexible approach for Local Authorities (LAs) to identifying fuel poor and vulnerable households who may benefit from heating and energy saving measures is referred to as 'ECO4 Flex'.

The Council welcomes the introduction of the ECO4 Flex eligibility routes as it helps the Council achieve its plans to improve the homes of those in fuel poverty or vulnerable to the cold. The Council is publishing this Statement of Intent (Sol) on 4 July 2023 to confirm that each of the households declared will adhere to at least one of the four available routes below:

Route 1: SAP bands D-G owner-occupied households and private rented sector E-G households with an income less than £31,000. This cap applies irrespective of the property size, composition, region.

Route 2: SAP bands E-G for owner occupied households and private rented sector households that meet a combination of two of the following proxies:

- **Proxy 1)** Homes in a Lower Super Output Area Decile 1-3 on the English Index of Multiple Deprivation, see [The English Indices of Deprivation 2019 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)
- **Proxy 2)** Householders receiving a Council Tax rebate (rebates based on low income only, excludes single person rebates).
- **Proxy 3)** Householders vulnerable to living in a cold home as identified in the [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence \(NICE\) Guidance](#). Only one from the list can be used, excludes the proxy 'low income'.
- **Proxy 4)** A householder receiving free school meals due to low-income.
- **Proxy 5)** A householder supported by a LA run scheme, that has been named and described by the LA as supporting low income and vulnerable households for the purposes of NICE Guideline.
- **Proxy 6)** A household referred to the LA for support by their energy supplier or Citizens Advice, because they have been identified as struggling to pay their electricity and gas bills. Template letters for this purpose are available at [Ofgem's ECO4 Guidance for Local Authority Administration](#) (scroll down to subsidiary documents).

*** Note proxies 1 and 3 cannot be used together**

Route 3: SAP bands D-G owner-occupied households and private rented sector E-G households that have been identified by their doctor or GP as low income and vulnerable, with an occupant whose health conditions may be impacted further by living in a cold home. These health conditions may be cardiovascular, respiratory, immunosuppressed, or limited mobility related.

This is because the Council has identified a positive correlation between households who suffer from long-term health conditions and living off a low-income, with living in poorly insulated homes. Template letters for this purpose are available at [Ofgem's ECO4 Guidance for Local Authority Administration](#) (scroll down to subsidiary documents).

Route 4: SAP band D-G owner-occupied households and private rented sector E-G households that are referred under Route 4: Bespoke Targeting. Suppliers and LAs can submit an application to DESNZ where they have identified a low income and vulnerable household, who are not already eligible under the existing routes.

Declaration and evidence check confirmation

All potentially eligible households in Huntingdonshire District Council should apply through the Cambridgeshire local authorities' Action on Energy scheme, or through any installer registered with Huntingdonshire District Council's ECO Flex scheme.

Installers wishing to register with Huntingdonshire District Council's ECO Flex scheme should contact Amber Beardshall for details.

The officer below will be responsible for checking and verifying declarations and associated evidence submitted on behalf of the local authority:

Name: Amber Beardshall

Job Title: Energy and Sustainability Support Manager

Telephone: [01480 388037](tel:01480388037)

Email: amber.beardshall@huntingdonshire.gov.uk



Dedicated responsible person mandatory signature

Huntingdonshire District Council will administer the scheme according to DESNZ ECO4 Order and will identify eligible household's via Ofgem's application process. The dedicated responsible person will oversee the process of identifying eligible households under ECO4 Flex.

The eligibility information will be stored securely in line with the Council's data protection policy, Information Commissioner's Office Data Sharing Code, and DESNZ guidance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Sloper'.

Signature:

Name: Neil Sloper

Job Title: Assistant Director (Strategic Insights and Delivery)

Date of signature: 4 July 2023

For any general enquiries relating to this Sol, please contact Amber Beardshall at amber.bearshall@huntingdonshire.gov.uk or [01480 388037](tel:01480388037).