

Nottingham City Council ECO4 Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent.

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This statement sets out Nottingham City Council's flexible eligibility criteria for the Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) scheme from April 2022 until 31st March 2026 or a later date advised by OFGEM/BEIS.

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 (SoI), on the 01/12/2023 to confirm that each of the households declared will adhere to at least one of the four available routes outlined below:

Route 1: SAP bands D-G households with an income less than £31,000. This cap applies irrespective of the property size, composition, or region.

Route 2: SAP bands E-G households that meet a combination of two of the following proxies:

Proxy 1) Homes in England in Lower-layer Super Output Area 1-3 (LSOA)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/833970/File_1_-_IMD2019_Index_of_Multiple_Deprivation.xlsx

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'. (NICE Guidance includes people with cardiovascular conditions, people with respiratory conditions (in particular, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and childhood asthma), people with mental health conditions, people with disabilities, older people (65 and older), young children (under 5), pregnant women, people who move in and out of homelessness, people with addictions, people who have attended hospital due to a fall, recent immigrants and asylum seekers.)

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 Guidance. (NICE Guidance includes people with cardiovascular conditions, people with respiratory conditions (in particular, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and childhood asthma), people with mental health conditions, people with disabilities, older people (65 and older), young children (under 5), pregnant women, people who move in and out of homelessness, people with addictions, people who have attended hospital due to a fall, recent immigrants and asylum seekers.)

* Note proxies 1 and 5 cannot be used together

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.

Route 3: SAP bands D-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, cancer 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.

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

The Nottingham City Council will administer the scheme according to BEIS' ECO4 Order and will identify eligible households via Ofgem's application process. The CEO of the Council 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 BEIS guidance.

Signature:  **Date of signature:** 14/11/23
The signature is a handwritten scribble in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'MB' followed by a flourish. The date is handwritten in black ink as '14/11/23'.

Name: Mel Barrett Job Title: Chief Executive Officer

For any general enquires relating to this SOI, please contact Housing.Network@nottinghamcity.gov.uk