

# Statement of Intent for ECO4 and Great British Insulation Scheme

Worcestershire County Council ECO4 and Great British Insulation Scheme Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

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This statement sets out Worcestershire County Council's flexible eligibility criteria for the Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) and Great British Insulation schemes which run until 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 Great British Insulation Scheme will focus on supporting households who are eligible for the flexible approach to the scheme, including those who are eligible for "ECO4 Flex" and "Green Homes Grant".

The Council is publishing this Statement of Intent (Sol), on the 13/05/2024 to confirm that each of the households declared will adhere to at least one of the four available routes outlined below. The tick boxes can be used to indicate to households whether they are eligible for each of the routes.

[Please use the tick boxes to indicate which routes are being used by the LA/DA]

**SELECTED** Route 1: Owner-occupied and private rented sector households with a gross annual income less than £31,000. This cap applies irrespective of the property size, composition, or region.

**SELECTED** Route 2: Owner-occupied and private rented sector 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)1, or homes in Welsh provision LSOA 1-3 on the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019<sup>2</sup>, or homes in Scotland in "data zone" 1-3 on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2020<sup>3\*</sup>

Proxy 2) A person living at the premises is entitled to a Council Tax reduction on the grounds of low-income.

Proxy 3} A person living at the premises is considered to be vulnerable to the cold under the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Guidance NG6: Recommendation 2, for a reason other than their low-income<sup>4\*</sup>

Proxy 4) One of the following conditions apply: 1) The household is a single person aged 65 or over, 2) The household is a single person aged 60 or over, 3) The household is a single person aged 55 or over, 4) The household is a single person aged 50 or over, 5) The household is a single person aged 45 or over, 6) The household is a single person aged 40 or over, 7) The household is a single person aged 35 or over, 8) The household is a single person aged 30 or over, 9) The household is a single person aged 25 or over, 10) The household is a single person aged 20 or over, 11) The household is a single person aged 18 or over, 12) The household is a single person aged 16 or over, 13) The household is a single person aged 14 or over, 14) The household is a single person aged 12 or over, 15) The household is a single person aged 10 or over, 16) The household is a single person aged 8 or over, 17) The household is a single person aged 6 or over, 18) The household is a single person aged 4 or over, 19) The household is a single person aged 2 or over, 20) The household is a single person aged 0 or over.

Proxy 6) A household referred to the LA for support by their energy supplier or Citizens Advice or Citizens Advice Scotland, because they have been identified as struggling to pay their electricity and/or gas bills.

Proxy 7) [Please note, proxy 7 is for supplier owned debt data and is listed here for information only]. Households identified through energy supplier debt data. This route enables obligated suppliers to use their own debt data to identify either non pre-payment meter households (non-PPM), or pre-payment meter households (PPM)\*.

Non-PPM customers: These are customers who have been in debt for more than 13 weeks ending with the day on which the declaration is made, and are in a debt repayment plan with their energy supplier or repaying their fuel debt through 3<sup>rd</sup> party • deductions.

PPM customers: Suppliers may also identify PPM households who: have either self-disconnected or received supplier Discretionary/Friendly credit within the last 13 weeks ending with the day on which the declaration is made; or are in a debt repayment plan with their energy supplier; or repaying their fuel debt through 3<sup>rd</sup> party deductions.\*

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

\* Proxy 7 cannot be used in combination with proxy 5 or proxy 6.

**SELECTED** Route 3: Owner-occupied and private rented sector households that have been identified by either a person registered in the General Practitioner Register, a Scottish Health Board, a Welsh Health Board, an NHS Foundation Trust, or an NHS Trust as vulnerable, with an occupant whose health conditions may be adversely affected by living in a cold home. These health conditions must be cardiovascular, respiratory, immunosuppressed, or limited mobility related.

**NOT SELECTED** Route 4 [applicable to EC04 Flex only]: Owner-occupied and private rented sector households that are referred under Route 4: Bespoke Targeting. Suppliers and LAs can submit an application to the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero where they have identified new methods to identify low-income and vulnerable households. Applications need to demonstrate a number of factors, including that the proposed methodology is more effective at identify households in fuel poverty than the criterion offered under Routes 1 and 2.



CEO or dedicated responsible person mandatory signature.

The Worcestershire County Council will administer the ECO4 Flex scheme according to the Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2022 (ECO4 Order).

The Council will administer Great British Insulation Scheme Flex according to the Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2023 (ECO4A Order).

The CEO/ dedicated responsible person of the Council will *oversee* the process of identifying eligible households under ECO Flex and Great British Insulation Scheme Flex. The Council will notify Ofgem of households that declarations have been issued for via the declaration notification template.

All personal data collected or processed by Worcestershire County Council for the purposes of ECO4 Flex or Great British Insulation Scheme Flex will be processed and stored in accordance with: the Council's obligations under UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018, the Council's data protection policy, the Information Commissioner's Office Data Sharing Code and other guidance,