

Statement of Intent for ECO4

London Borough of Newham ECO4 Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

Local Authority name: London Borough of Newham

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This statement sets out **London Borough of Newham'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".

According to the indices of multiple deprivation, the London borough of Newham is the 12th most deprived local authority nationally. In 2020, 16% of Newham household's were classed as living in fuel poverty and the excess winter deaths in Newham are 32% higher than the national average.

In the Council's 'Climate Emergency Action Plan' reference, 9.5 (<https://www.newham.gov.uk/public-health-safety/newham-climate-now/1>) outlines the council's aims to "Develop an integrated and corporate approach to energy efficiency and fuel and water poverty" London Borough of Newham is committed to tackling fuel poverty and providing affordable warmth for low-income households.

More recently, these aims to improve energy efficiency and protect residents from fuel poverty have become one of the key actions of the Newham Cost of Living Crisis Response (<https://www.newham.gov.uk/downloads/file/5052/colsummit-v6-rf>)

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 the 6th October 2022 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 owner-occupied households and private rented sector E-G households with an income of less than £31,000. This cap applies irrespective of the property size, composition, or 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:

<p>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 2019², or the Index of Multiple Deprivation for 2020, published by the Scottish Government³</p>
<p>Proxy 2) Householders receiving a Council Tax reduction (based on low income only).</p>
<p>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, and excludes the proxy 'low income'.</p>
<p>Proxy 4) A householder receiving free school meals due to low-income.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>Proxy 6) A household referred to the LA for support by their energy supplier or Citizen's Advice or Citizen's Advice Scotland because they have been identified as struggling to pay their electricity and gas bills.</p>

*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 either a person registered in the General Practitioner Register, a Scottish Health Board, a Wealth Health Board, an NHS Foundation Trust, or an NHS Trust as 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.

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 ESNZ where they have identified a low-income and vulnerable household, who are not already eligible under the existing routes.

¹ [The English Indices of Deprivation 2019 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

² [Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation \(full Index update with ranks\): 2019 | GOV.WALES](#)

³ [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2020 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot)

Declaration and evidence check confirmation

All potentially eligible households should apply through the London Borough of Newham or one of their approved ECO installers to ensure that they can either benefit from the scheme or be assessed for eligibility under any other relevant programme.

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

Name: Meghan Kingsley-Walsh

Job Title: Senior Energy & Sustainability Officer

Telephone: 02033736732

Email: EPC@newham.gov.uk

CEO or dedicated responsible person mandatory signature

The London Borough of Newham will administer the scheme according to Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2022 (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 ECO 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 ESNZ guidance.

Signature:



Name: Darren Levy

Job Title: Director of Housing

Date of signature: 5/10/2022

Signature:



Name: Helen Masterson

Job Title: Head of Private Sector Housing Standards

Date of signature: 5/10/2022

For any general enquires relating to this Statement of Intent, please contact EPC@newham.gov.uk.