

Statement of Intent for ECO4 and Great British Insulation Scheme

Green Living Leicestershire ECO4 and Great British Insulation Scheme Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent



Joint Statement of Intent on behalf of:

Leicestershire County Council
Blaby District Council
Charnwood Borough Council
Harborough District Council
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
Melton Borough Council
North West Leicestershire District Council
Oadby & Wigston Borough Council

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<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/eco>

Full website address: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/community-schemes-and-funding/energy-company-obligation-home-energy-efficiency>

This statement sets out Green Living Leicestershire partnership'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 support the ECO4 scheme in the delivery of predominantly single measures targeted at a wider range of households.

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" and "Great British Insulation Scheme Flex".

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The Council is publishing this Statement of Intent (SoI), on the 21/06/2024 to confirm that each of the households declared will adhere to at least one of the available routes outlined below:

☑ **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.

☑ **Route 2:** Owner-occupied and private rented sector households that meet a combination of two of the following proxies:

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| 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 ² , or homes in Scotland in “data zone” 1-3 on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2020 ^{3*} |
| 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 ^{4*} |
| Proxy 4) A child living at the premises is eligible for free school meals, due to low-income ⁵ |
| Proxy 5) A person living at the premises is supported by a scheme established by the LA/DA that is named and described within their Statement of Intent and established to support people living on a low-income and considered vulnerable to the cold under NICE Guideline NG6. [NOT APPLICABLE – Proxy 5 is not being utilised at this time] |
| 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. |

¹ Published at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>. The deciles are published in “File 7: all ranks, deciles and scores for the indices of deprivation, and population denominators”.

² Published at <https://stats.wales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Community-Safety-and-Social-Inclusion/Welsh-Index-of-Multiple-Deprivation/WIMD-2019>

³ 2020v2. Published at <http://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-index-of-multiple-deprivation-2020v2-ranks>

⁴ <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng6/chapter/1-Recommendations#recommendation-2-ensure-there-is-a-singlepointofcontact-health-and-housing-referral-service-for>

⁵ Under section 512ZB(4) of the Education Act 1996 or section 53 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980

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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)*.

- a. 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 3rd party deductions.
- b. 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 3rd party deductions.*

* Note proxies 1 and 3 cannot be used together.

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

☒ **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.

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.

Scheme eligibility

All potentially eligible households should apply through **Leicestershire County Council** or one of the participating ECO / Great British Insulation Scheme installers who are registered with the Council to undertake eligibility, to see if they can either benefit from the scheme or be assessed for eligibility under any other relevant programme. The Council does not work in partnership with installers participating in the ECO4 Flexible eligibility scheme and does not

endorse installers, commission work and is not responsible for works which are agreed between resident household and installer.

A Leicestershire County Council officer (not a 3rd party working on behalf of an LA) will be responsible for checking, and verifying evidence, and issuing declarations.

This is a joint SoI whereby Leicestershire authorities agree to consistent criteria and to periodically review by consensus within the Green Living Leicestershire partnership which assumes governance responsibility. Households shall be directed to apply via the identified delivery mechanism. The Leicestershire County Council Warm Homes service shall be the primary processor of applications, acting on behalf of District/Borough authorities signatory to this SoI. Details of the delivery mechanism shall be made available here:

www.leicestershire.gov.uk/eco

Leicestershire County Council:

Declarations will be issued by members of the Warm Homes team on behalf of:

Name: Alex Clark

Job Title: Warm Homes Manager

Telephone: 0116 3052524

Email: warmhomesecoflex@leics.gov.uk (For any general enquiries)

Where delivering local projects utilising Flexible Eligibility, declarations may be issued by the District/Borough local authority directly. Declarations issued at a local level shall only be for the issuing authority area, Districts will not be acting on behalf of one another. The named person issuing declarations for that authority below will be responsible for checking and verifying declarations and associated evidence submitted on behalf of the local authority:

Blaby District Council:

Name: Caroline Harbour

Job Title: Environmental Health, Net Zero, Housing & Community Services

Telephone: 0116 2727543

Email: Caroline.Harbour@Blaby.gov.uk

Name: Nick Fear

Job Title: Green Officer

Telephone: 0116 2727605

Email: Nick.Fear@Blaby.gov.uk

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Charnwood Borough Council:

Named officer to be determined in the future as and when required. At present referrals shall be directed to the County Council mechanism.

Harborough District Council:**Members of the Environment team on behalf of**

Name: Elaine Bird

Job Title: Regulatory Services Manager

Telephone: 01858 828282

Email: e.bird@harborough.gov.uk

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council:

Name: Geoff Davenport

Job Title: Energy Conservation Officer

Telephone: 01455 255988

Email: Geoff.davenport@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk

Melton Borough Council:

Name: Christopher Harrison

Job Title: Climate Change Officer

Telephone: 01664 502401

Email: charrison@melton.gov.uk

North West Leicestershire District Council:

Name: Minna Scott

Job Title: Public Protection Team Leader

Telephone: 01530 454575

Email: minna.scott@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

Oadby & Wigston Borough Council:

Name: Christopher Harrison

Job Title: Climate Change Officer

Telephone: 0116 257 2892

Email: Christopher.harrison@oadby-wigston.gov.uk

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CEO or dedicated responsible person mandatory signature.

Leicestershire authorities will administer the ECO4 Flex scheme according to the Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2022 (ECO4 Order).

The Local Authorities 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 **Leicestershire County Council** and participating District and Borough authorities 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, and Department for Energy Security and Net Zero guidance.

Counterparts

This agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when executed shall constitute a duplicate original, but all the counterparts shall together constitute the one agreement.

| Authority | Name | Job Title | Date of signature | Signature |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--|----------------------------|---|
| Leicestershire County Council | Mike Sandys | Director of Public Health | 19/03/2024 |  |
| Blaby District Council | Caroline Harbour | Environmental Health, Net Zero, Housing & Community Services | 3 rd April 2024 |  |

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|--|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Charnwood Borough Council | Rob Mitchell | Chief Executive | 29/04/24 |  |
| Melton Borough Council | Pranali Parikh | Director of Growth and Regeneration | 07/06/24 |  |
| North West Leicestershire District Council | Andy Barton | Strategic Director | 02.04.2024 |  |
| Harborough District Council | Liz Elliott | Deputy Chief Executive | 24.4.24 |  |
| Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council | Sharon Stacey | Director Community Services | 24.04.2024 |  |
| Oadby & Wigston Borough Council | David Gill | Head of Law and Democracy | 16 April 2024 |  |