



# Statement of Intent for ECO4

## Lewisham Council ECO4 Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

**Local Authority name: Lewisham Council**

**Publication Date: 31st January 2023**

**Version number: V.2**

**Publication on web site:** [Lewisham Council – Energy Company Obligation ECO](#)

This statement sets out **Lewisham's** 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 (SoI), on the 31/01/2023 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 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, 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:

<b>Proxy 1)</b> Homes in England in Lower-layer Super Output Area 1-3 (LSOA) <sup>1</sup> .
<b>Proxy 2)</b> Householders receiving a Council Tax reduction (rebates based on low income only).
<b>Proxy 3)</b> 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'.
<b>Proxy 4)</b> A householder receiving free school meals due to low-income.
<b>Proxy 5)</b> Not in use.
<b>Proxy 6)</b> 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.

\* 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.

**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 BEIS where they have identified a low income and vulnerable household, who are not already eligible under the exiting routes.

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

### **Declaration and evidence check confirmation**

All potentially eligible households should apply through Lewisham Council 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 below will be responsible for checking and verifying declarations and associated evidence submitted on behalf of the local authority:

**Name:** Andrew Karune

**Job Title:** South London Energy Partnership Manager

**Email:** [andrew.karune@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.karune@lewisham.gov.uk)

### **CEO or dedicated responsible person mandatory signature**

Lewisham Council will administer the scheme according to BEIS' ECO4 Order and will identify eligible households via Ofgem's application process. The CEO or dedicated responsible person 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:** 

**Name:** Jennifer Daothong

**Job Title:** Executive Director for Housing Regeneration and Public Realm

**Date of signature:** 31.01.2023

For any general enquires relating to this SoI, please contact [Andrew.karune@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.karune@lewisham.gov.uk).