

Statement of Intent for ECO4

City of Wolverhampton Council ECO4 Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

Local Authority name: City of Wolverhampton Council

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This statement sets out City of Wolverhampton Council's flexible eligibility criteria for the Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) scheme from July 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.

ECO4 will also support the Council's key priorities in both its Housing Strategy¹ and Council Plan²:

- Better homes for all
- Ensure Safe and Healthy Homes for All
- Good homes in well-connected neighbourhoods

¹ [City of Wolverhampton Council | Housing Strategy 2019 - 2024](#)

² [City of Wolverhampton Council | Our City: Our Plan](#)

The Council is publishing this Statement of Intent (Sol), on the 03/01/2023 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-occupier 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 and is from all sources of income.

Route 2: SAP bands E-G for owner-occupier 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) ^{3 4}
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').
Proxy 4	A householder receiving free school meals due to low-income.
Proxy 5	This proxy is not in use
Proxy 6	A household referred to the LA for support by their energy supplier or Citizen's Advice because they have been identified as struggling to pay their utility bills.

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

Route 3: SAP bands D-G owner-occupier households and private rented sector E-G households that 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 conditionals may be cardiovascular, respiratory, immunosuppressed, or limited mobility related.

This is because the Council has identified a positive correlation between households who suffer long-term health conditions and living off a low-income, with living in poorly insulated homes.

Route 4: SAP band D-G owner-occupier 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.

³ [The English Indices of Deprivation 2019 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

⁴ **LSOA lookup:** [ONS Postcode Directory look-up - Office for National Statistics \(onsdigital.github.io\)](https://onsdigital.github.io)

Declaration and evidence check confirmation

All potentially eligible households should apply through an approved ECO installer 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: David Payton

Job Title: Lead Officer – Climate Change (Housing)

Telephone: 01902 551155

Email: energyefficiency@wolverhampton.gov.uk

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

The Council's Director of City Housing and Environment will oversee the process of identifying eligible households under ECO4 Flex.

The eligibility information will be stored securely and processed in accordance with the Council's data protection privacy policy⁵, Information Commissioner's Office Data Sharing Code⁶, and Ofgem/BEIS guidance.

Signature: 

Name: John Roseblade

Job Title: Director of City Housing and Environment

Date of signature: 21 December 2022

For any general enquires, email: energyefficiency@wolverhampton.gov.uk.

⁵ [Privacy Notice | City of Wolverhampton Council](#)

⁶ [ICO - Data Sharing Code of Practice](#)