

Statement of Intent for ECO4

Hampshire County Council ECO4 Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

Local Authority name: Hampshire County Council

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Publication on web site:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/adultsocialcare/coldspots>

This statement sets out Hampshire County 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 (Sol), on the 17/07/2023 to confirm that each of the households declared will adhere to at least one of the 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:

Proxy 1) Homes in England in Lower-layer Super Output Area 1-3 (LSOA)*

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) The Council will also identify eligible households through its affordable warmth service, Hitting the Cold Spots. The focus of the service is to support residents living in, or at risk of, fuel poverty, particularly those whose health is most affected by a cold home under NICE Guidance NG6. The project is supported by

statutory, voluntary and health sector partners across the administrative area to reach the most vulnerable in the community.

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 electricity and gas bills.

Note proxies 1 and 5 cannot be used together.

*The English Indices of Deprivation 2019 (publishing.service.gov.uk)

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, an NHS Foundation Trust, or an NHS Trust as 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.

Declaration and evidence check confirmation:

All potentially eligible households should apply through Hampshire County Council's Hitting the Cold Spots scheme 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: Marj Crockett

Job Title: Commissioning Officer

Telephone: 03707 795768

Email: marj.crockett@hants.gov.uk

CEO or dedicated responsible person mandatory signature

Hampshire County Council will administer the scheme according to BEIS' 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 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: Simon Bryant

Job Title: Director of Public Health

Date of signature: 17/7/2023

For any general enquires relating to this Statement of Intent, please contact marj.crockett@hants.gov.uk

The charity, the Environment Centre (tEC), delivers the Hitting the Cold Spots on behalf of Hampshire County Council. Full details are available [online](#).

The Hitting the Cold Spots team can be reached by:

- Freephone – 0800 804 8601 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm)
- Email – staywarm@environmentcentre.com

[NHS Referral Letter July 2023 - HTCS](#)