



## Statement of Intent for ECO4

South Cambridgeshire District Council ECO4 Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

Local Authority name: South Cambridgeshire District Council

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This statement sets out South Cambridgeshire District 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'.

We welcome the introduction of the ECO4 Flex eligibility routes, as they help us to our plans to improve the homes of those in fuel poverty or vulnerable to the cold. We are publishing this Statement of Intent (Sol) on 13 February 2023 to confirm that each of the households declared will adhere to at least one of the four available routes 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, 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), see [The English Indices of Deprivation 2019 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk)
- **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, (NG6) but excluding 'low income', for example:
  - people with cardiovascular conditions
  - people with respiratory conditions (in particular, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and childhood asthma)
  - people with mental health conditions
  - people with disabilities
  - older people (65 and older)
  - households with young children (from new-born to school age)
  - pregnant women
- **Proxy 4)** A householder receiving free school meals due to low-income.
- **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.

- **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. Template letters for this purpose are available at <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications/final-eco4-guidance-local-authority-administration>, (scroll down to subsidiary documents).

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

**Route 3:** SAP bands D-G owner-occupied and private sector rented households that have been identified by 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 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. Template letters for this purpose are available at <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications/final-eco4-guidance-local-authority-administration>, (scroll down to subsidiary documents).

**Route 4:** SAP band D-G owner-occupied and private sector rented 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.

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

All potentially eligible households in South Cambridgeshire should apply through the Cambridgeshire local authorities' Action on Energy scheme, or through any installer registered with South Cambridgeshire District Council's ECO Flex scheme.

Installers wishing to register with South Cambridgeshire District Council's ECO Flex scheme should contact [homeenergy@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:homeenergy@scambs.gov.uk) for details of registration requirements.

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

Name: Orla Gibbons

Job Title: Project Officer, Climate and Environment


Telephone: 01954 713490

Email: [orla.gibbons@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:orla.gibbons@scambs.gov.uk)

### **Dedicated responsible person mandatory signature**

South Cambridgeshire District Council will administer the scheme according to the Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2022 (ECO4 Order) and will identify eligible household's via Ofgem's application process. The dedicated responsible person 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 ESNZ guidance.

Signature: 

Name: Bode Esan

Job Title: Head of Climate, Environment and Waste

Date of signature: 7 February 2023

For any general enquiries relating to this Sol, please contact Orla Gibbons, as above.