



## Statement of Intent for ECO4

### Suffolk Local Authorities' ECO4 Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent (SOI)

**Local Authority names:** Suffolk County Council with Babergh District Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, West Suffolk Council, Ipswich Borough Council, East Suffolk Council

**Publication Date:** 12/04/2023

**Version number:** V.6.42

**Publication on web site:** [ECO Flexible Eligibility Scheme – Green Suffolk](#)

This statement sets out the Suffolk Local Authorities' 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 Councils welcome the introduction of the ECO4 Flex eligibility routes as it helps the Councils achieve its plans to improve the homes of those in fuel poverty or vulnerable to the cold.

The Councils are publishing this Statement of Intent (SoI), on the **12/04/2023** 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 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 rebate (reduction 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> A householder supported by a LA run scheme e.g. Warm Homes Suffolk and Warm Homes Healthy People, that supports low income and vulnerable households for the purposes of NICE Guideline.
<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 either a person registered in the General Practitioner Register, an NHS Foundation Trust, or an NHS Trust 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.

**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 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 should apply through **East Suffolk Council (acting on behalf of all Suffolk Local Authorities)** 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.

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

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

**Paula Crisp**

**Coordinator**

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**Gary Crockett**

**Health & Independence Manager**

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Email: Gary.Crockett@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

**CEO or dedicated responsible person mandatory signature**

Suffolk Local Authorities will administer the scheme according to the Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2022 (ECO4 Order) and will identify eligible households via Ofgem's application process. Suffolk County 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.

Suffolk County Council

Andrew Cook, Executive Director



**Date of signature:** 12/04/2023

West Suffolk Council

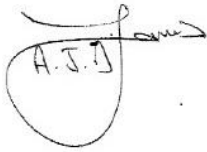
Ian Gallin, Chief Executive Officer



**Date of signature:** 12/04/2023

East Suffolk Council

Andrew Jarvis, Strategic Director



**Date of signature:** 12/04/2023

Babergh District Council and Mid Suffolk District Council




**Fiona Duhamel**

**Job Title:** Director, Economy and Climate Change, Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council

**Date of signature:** 12/04/2023

Ipswich Borough Council



**Ian Blofield**

**Job Title:** Director, Housing & Finance

**Date of signature:** 12/04/2023

For any general enquires relating to this SoI, please contact:

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