

# Statement of Intent for ECO4

## Cardiff Council ECO4 Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

Local Authority name: Cardiff Council

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Publication on web site: <https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/resident/Benefits-and-Grants/energy-efficiency-and-fuel-poverty>

**Cardiff Council has partnered with EON on the delivery of ECO4 Flex. The Council will only sign Declarations for qualifying households that have been referred via our delivery partner and will not work with any third parties outside of this.**

**All installers and managing agents wishing to process ECO Flex Declarations should contact EON: [eoncommunityprojects@eonenergy.com](mailto:eoncommunityprojects@eonenergy.com)**

**All householders that believe they may qualify for ECO4 Flex under the qualifying criteria below should make an application through EON:**

**Website: [EON – ECO4 web page](#)**

**Phone: 0333 202 4422**

**Please note that meeting the Council’s flexible eligibility criteria, and the issuing of a Declaration by Cardiff Council, does not guarantee the installation of measures. The final decision will lie with the Energy Supplier who will deliver installations.**

This statement sets out Cardiff Council’s flexible eligibility criteria for the Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) scheme which runs until 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 is publishing this Statement of Intent (SoI) on the 15/02/24 to confirm that each of the households declared will adhere to at least one of the four available routes outlined below.

**Route 1:** Owner-occupied and private rented sector households with a gross annual income less than £31,000. This cap applies irrespective of the property size, composition, or region.

**Route 2:** Owner-occupied and private rented sector households that meet a combination of two of the following proxies:

<b>Proxy 1)</b> Homes in Welsh provision LSOA 1-3 on the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Proxy 2)</b> A person living at the premises is entitled to a Council Tax reduction on the grounds of low-income.
<b>Proxy 3)</b> A person living at the premises is considered to be vulnerable to the cold under the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Guidance NG6: Recommendation 2, for a reason other than their low-income <sup>2*</sup>
<b>Proxy 4)</b> A child living at the premises is eligible for free school meals, due to low-income <sup>3</sup>
<b>Proxy 5)</b> A person living at the premises is supported by a scheme established by the LA/DA that is named and described within their Statement of Intent and established to support people living on a low-income and considered vulnerable to the cold under NICE Guideline NG6.
<b>Proxy 6)</b> A household referred to the LA for support by their energy supplier or Citizens Advice or Citizens Advice Scotland, because they have been identified as struggling to pay their electricity and/or gas bills.
<b>Proxy 7) [Please note, proxy 7 is for supplier owned debt data and is listed here for information only].</b> Households identified through energy supplier debt data. This route enables obligated suppliers to use their own debt data to identify either non pre-payment meter households (non-PPM), or pre-payment meter households (PPM)*. <p>a. <b>Non-PPM customers:</b> These are customers who have been in debt for more than 13 weeks ending with the day on which the declaration is made, and are in a debt</p>

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<sup>1</sup> Published at <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Community-Safety-and-Social-Inclusion/Welsh-Index-of-Multiple-Deprivation/WIMD-2019>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng6/chapter/1-Recommendations#recommendation-2-ensure-there-is-a-singlepointofcontact-health-and-housing-referral-service-for>

<sup>3</sup> Under section 512ZB(4) of the Education Act 1996 or section 53 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980

repayment plan with their energy supplier or repaying their fuel debt through 3<sup>rd</sup> party deductions.

b. **PPM customers:** Suppliers may also identify PPM households who:

- have either self-disconnected or received supplier Discretionary/Friendly credit within the last 13 weeks ending with the day on which the declaration is made; or
- are in a debt repayment plan with their energy supplier; or
- repaying their fuel debt through 3<sup>rd</sup> party deductions.\*

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

\* Proxy 7 cannot be used in combination with proxy 5 or proxy 6.

**Route 3:** Owner-occupied and private rented sector households that have been identified by either 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 adversely affected by living in a cold home. These health conditions must be cardiovascular, respiratory, immunosuppressed, or limited mobility related.

**Route 4:** Owner-occupied and private rented sector households that are referred under Route 4: Bespoke Targeting. Suppliers and LAs can submit an application to the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero where they have identified new methods to identify low-income and vulnerable households. Applications need to demonstrate a number of factors, including that the proposed methodology is more effective at identifying households in fuel poverty than the criterion offered under Routes 1 and 2. Please note that Cardiff Council currently does not have a method for referral under Route 4, although this may be explored during the lifetime of the project.

## Scheme eligibility

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An LA officer (not a 3<sup>rd</sup> party working on behalf of an LA) will be responsible for checking, and verifying evidence, and issuing declarations. For any general enquiries relating to this SoI please contact:

**Name:** Llyr Randles

**Job Title:** Principal Sustainability Officer (Retrofit)

**Telephone:** 07973 616183

**Email:** [llyr.randles3@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:llyr.randles3@cardiff.gov.uk)

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

Cardiff Council will administer the ECO4 Flex scheme according to the Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2022 (ECO4 Order).

The dedicated responsible person of the Council will oversee the process of identifying eligible households under ECO Flex. The Council will notify Ofgem of households that declarations have been issued for via the declaration notification template.

All personal data collected or processed by Cardiff Council for the purposes of ECO4 Flex will be processed and stored in accordance with: the Council's obligations under UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018, the Council's data protection policy, the Information Commissioner's Office Data Sharing Code and other guidance, and Department for Energy Security and Net Zero guidance.

**Signature:**



**Name:** Andrew Gregory

**Job Title:** Director - Planning, Transport, and Environment

**Date of signature:** 01.02.24