



### Statement of Intent for ECO 4

Gwynedd Council Eco 4 Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

Local Authority Name: Gwynedd Council

Publication Date: 26.09.2022

Version: V1

Publication on the website:

<https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Residents/Housing/Energy-in-the-home/ECO.aspx>

This statement sets out **Gwynedd 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 (SoI), on the **26.09.2022** to confirm that each of the households declared will adhere to at least one of the three available routes outlined below:

**Route 1:** SAP bands D-G households with an income of less than £31,000. This cap applies irrespective of the property size, composition, or region.

**Route 2:** SAP bands E-G households that meet a combination of two of the following proxies:

**Proxy 1)** Homes in Welsh provision LSOA 1-3 on the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019<sup>1</sup>

Bowydd and Rhiw

Cadnant (Gwynedd)

Peblig (Caernarfon)

Marchog 2

Marchog 1

Talysarn

**Proxy 2)** Householders receiving a Council Tax rebate (rebates based on low income only, excludes single person rebates).

**Proxy 3)** Householders are 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)** 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 the 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.

**Proxy 7)** Households identified through 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 PrePayment meter households (PPM)

a) Non-PPM customers: 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 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 3rd party deductions.

\* **Note proxies 1 & 3 and proxies 6 & 7 cannot be used in combination with each other.**

**Route 3:** SAP bands D-G households 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 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.

**Route 4:** BEIS will issue a new guidance for this targeting method. Further guidance on this route will be published by BEIS later in the year.

<sup>1</sup> [Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation \(full Index update with ranks\): 2019 | GOV.WALES](#)

**Declaration and evidence check confirmation**

All potentially eligible households should apply through Gwynedd County Council's authorised ECO 4 installers to ensure that they can either benefit from the scheme or be assessed for eligibility under any other relevant programme (for example, Warm Home Fund).

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

**Name: David Mark Lewis**

**Job Title: Energy and Commercial service Manager**

**Telephone: 01286 679307**

**Email: Davidmarklewis@gwynedd.llyw.cymru**

**CEO or dedicated responsible person mandatory signature**

Gwynedd 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: David Mark Lewis

Job Title: Energy and Commercial Services Manager

Date of signature: 26.09.22

For any general enquires relating to this SOI, please contact:  
Davidmarklewis@gwynedd.llyw.cymru