



Derby City Council

## Local Authority Flexible Eligibility

### Statement of Intent

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**Weblink:** [www.derby.gov.uk/housing/improvements-and-repairs/](http://www.derby.gov.uk/housing/improvements-and-repairs/)

#### 1) Introduction

Derby City Council recognises the issues surrounding fuel poverty and seeks to address these by every available means. One approach by Government to reduce fuel poverty is to subsidise the cost of installing insulation or more efficient heating systems in homes. The way this operates is for the larger energy companies (those with more than 200,000 customers, or 150,000 from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020) to add money to household energy bills to pay for environmental and other social programmes designed to save energy, reduce emissions and encourage take-up of renewable energy. One such programme is the **Energy Company Obligation, or ECO**.

ECO is worth £640million per year and energy suppliers can volunteer to deliver up to 25% of their obligation through the **Local Authority Flexible Eligibility** scheme, or **LA-Flex** for short. This is an opportunity for Derby City Council to work alongside obligated energy suppliers for the benefit of homeowners in Derby.

LA-flex allows the Council to nominate households who wouldn't otherwise qualify for financial assistance towards having more efficient heating and/or insulation installed in their home, in the form of a Declaration. Please note, however, that inclusion in a Declaration issued by the local authority to a supplier does not guarantee installation of measures, as the final decision does not rest with the Council and will depend on:

- The survey carried out by suppliers, agents/contractors
- Installation costs calculated
- The energy savings that can be achieved for a property
- Whether suppliers have achieved their targets or require further measures to meet their ECO targets.

#### 2) Fuel Poverty

The percentage of fuel-poor households in Derby is 13.2%. This is above the national average of 11.1%, above the East Midlands average of 11.7% and higher

than over 85% of local authority areas in the East Midlands. (*BEIS Sub-Regional Fuel Poverty Statistics 2016 updated June 2018; table 2*).

### 3) Who qualifies?

If you are an owner-occupier, the council has a simple assessment test, based on the questions in Appendix 1. If your total household net income (**after** deducting rent or mortgage) is below a level depending on the household size *and* your home is expensive to heat *or* your household includes someone who is vulnerable to living in a cold home, you qualify for assistance.

#### STEP 1

Is the available household income, after paying the rent or mortgage, lower than the income level listed in Part 1 of the eligibility score? If 'yes', go to:

#### STEP 2

Is the total of the scored questions equal or higher than the Threshold Score? If 'yes', the household qualifies for assistance as a **Fuel Poor Household**. If 'no', go to:

#### STEP 3

Does any household member have any of the characteristics listed in Appendix 1, part 3. The council has discretion to qualify the household for assistance as **Vulnerable to the Health Effects of Living in a Cold Home (LIVC)**.

Alternatively if the income threshold test is met, and the property has a current EPC rating of D, E, F or G, the household qualifies for assistance.

### 4) In-Fills

Some homeowners can receive help in paying for solid wall insulation even if they don't qualify as an **FP** or **LIVC** household. These properties are called **In-Fills**.

An **In-Fill** property is one;

- immediately adjacent to (for example, a semi-detached pair of properties), or
- in the same building as (for example, a block of flats), or
- in the same terrace as

a qualifying property. The total number of in-fill properties must not exceed the number of qualifying properties in that same building or terrace.

## 5) Private-sector landlords

There is a restriction on private rented properties, to reflect the separate landlord requirements to meet the minimum energy efficiency standards in the private rented sector. Only solid wall insulation and renewable measures will be eligible for EPC Band F and G properties.

## 6) Acting on behalf of another local authority

Derby City Council does not currently issue declarations on behalf of other local authorities.

## 7) City Energy Saving Programme (CESP)

The Council also manages the installation of insulation measures to private sector properties on behalf of homeowners in Derby, as a stand-alone programme. The LA-flex scheme is also available for this, and whilst the Council actively promotes the programme in those areas of the city where fuel poverty is highest, any homeowner in Derby can access the programme at any time. Our service includes applying for funding, liaising with our approved installer, managing the installation process and arranging qualifying loans. For more information contact us:

**Email:** [healthyhousing@derby.gov.uk](mailto:healthyhousing@derby.gov.uk)  
**Post address:** City Energy Saving Programme  
 Derby City Council  
 The Council House  
 Corporation Street  
 Derby  
 DE1 2FS  
**Phone:** 01332 640163  
**Minicom:** 01332 640666

As part of the CESP scheme, the Council has discretion to offer a capped interest-free loan, repayable over up to four years, to help spread the cost of improving the energy efficiency of your home. Insulated homes help keep occupiers warm and comfortable, keep energy bills low and protect against energy price rises well into the future.

## 8) Governance

Local Authority Declarations may be authorised by any one of the following or their nominated representative:

- Private Sector Housing Renewals Manager
- Housing Strategy & Initiatives Manager
- Head of Strategic Housing

On behalf of Derby City Council, Council House, Corporation Street, Derby DE1 2FS

### **9) Evidence, monitoring and reporting**

The local authority is required, under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995, to produce a biennial report on energy conservation measures. The council also supports BEIS' request for annual reports from all local authorities detailing progress with flexible eligibility declarations issued during the previous 12-month period.

### **10) Statement of Intent Authorisation**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. M. Durrant', is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**C M Durrant, Strategic Director for Communities and Place**

## APPENDIX 1

### Flexible Eligibility Assessment Criteria

A household may be assessed under flexible eligibility as either 'Low Income + High Cost' ( LIHC) or 'Low Income + Vulnerable [to] Cold' ( LIVC) where:

#### 1 Low income: 'LI'

Is the 2019/20 household income\* less than:

| Household composition |                 | Annual Income |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Adults                | Children <18yrs |               |
| 1                     | 0               | £9,300        |
| 1                     | 1               | £12,200       |
| 1                     | 2               | £15,000       |
| 1                     | 3               | £18,000       |
| 1                     | 4+              | £21,000       |
| 2                     | 0               | £15,200       |
| 2                     | 1               | £18,200       |
| 2                     | 2               | £21,100       |
| 2                     | 3               | £24,100       |
| 2                     | 4+              | £26,800       |

\*defined as the household disposable income after paying for rent or mortgage and comprises income from all sources such as net earnings (after tax), income from savings and investments, pensions, all benefits (including housing benefit) and net council tax payments.

#### 2 High cost: 'HC'

Does the property have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) energy rating of D, E, F or G? If yes it is 'High Cost'. Or, if there is no EPC available, the property is 'High Cost' if it scores at least the threshold score to the following questions:

|  |                          |    |
|--|--------------------------|----|
| Does at least one member of the household spend most of the day at home? | Yes                      | 1  |
|  | No                       | 0  |
| How many bedrooms are there in the home?                                 | 1                        | 0  |
|  | 2                        | 6  |
|  | 3                        | 12 |
|  | 4                        | 21 |
|  | 5+                       | 27 |
| What type of house is it?  | Purpose-built flat       | 0  |
|  | Converted flat           | 4  |
|  | Non-residential building | 4  |

|   |                     |           |
|---|---------------------|-----------|
|   | Mid-terrace         | 4         |
|   | End –terrace        | 10        |
|   | Semi-detached house | 10        |
|   | Detached house      | 20        |
| Year of construction                              | Post 2002           | 0         |
|   | 1991-2002           | 3         |
|   | 1981-1990           | 4         |
|   | 1975-1980           | 7         |
|   | 1965-1974           | 12        |
|   | 1945-1964           | 13        |
|   | 1919-1944           | 18        |
|   | 1850-1918           | 24        |
|   | Pre1850             | 27        |
| What is the main heating fuel?                    | Gas                 | 0         |
|   | Electricity         | 20        |
|   | Other               | 5         |
| Central heating installed?                        | Yes and working     | 0         |
|   | Other               | 11        |
| How are energy payments made?                     | Direct debit        | 0         |
|   | Pre-payment         | 6         |
|   | Standard credit     | 7         |
| <b>Threshold score for 'High Cost' definition</b> |                     | <b>40</b> |

### 3 Vulnerable to the health effects of living in a cold home: 'VC'

**At the time of the application, does anyone in the household have one or more of the following health conditions, or does anyone fall within the age ranges listed?**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Health conditions | Cardiovascular (including stroke)  |
|                   | Allergies (dust/mould/childhood asthma)                                  |
|                   | Diabetes   |
|                   | COPD/Other respiratory condition   |
|                   | Mental health (including dementia/Alzheimer's)                           |
|                   | Disability   |
|                   | Pregnancy  |
|                   | Terminal illness   |
|                   | Suppressed immune system   |
|                   | Addiction  |
|                   | Mobility issues (including falls, arthritis, recent hospital attendance) |
| Age               | Under 5 or over 74   |

## APPENDIX 2

### ECO3 Local Authority Flexible Eligibility Declaration for all projects except “in-fill”

This declaration must be used to demonstrate eligibility of premises under the ECO3 local authority flexible eligibility provision of Affordable Warmth. This declaration can be used for all Affordable Warmth measure types **except** for projects including solid wall insulation (SWI) “in-fill”. More than one premise can be listed on this form.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Name of local authority making the declaration                              | Derby City Council  |
| Name of local authority you are acting on behalf of (if different to above) | Not applicable  |
| Declaration URN   | E06000015   |
| Statement of intent version number and publication date                     | Version Number [N], Published [DD/MM/20YY]  |
| Statement of Intent internet link   | <a href="http://www.derby.gov.uk/housing/improvements-and-repairs/">www.derby.gov.uk/housing/improvements-and-repairs/</a>  |
| Name of installer   |   |
| Valid until   | +18 months or until 31 March 2022, whichever is earlier.  |
| Address of premises   | <p><b>The premises are occupied by (one of the following):</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A household living in fuel poverty (FP)</li> <li>2. A household living on a Low income and vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home (LIVC)</li> </ol> <p>(Please insert “Fuel Poor” or “low income and vulnerable” into the box below)</p> |
|   |   |
|   |   |
| <b>Local authority declaration</b>  |   |
| <b>I declare that:</b>  |   |
| <b>X</b>  | the Statement of Intent (Sol) for this local authority was published on or before the date this declaration was made and is currently available to view at the above location.  |
| <b>X</b>  | the local authority has been consulted on the installation of a measure (“heating qualifying action”) at the premises listed above prior to the installation of the measure.  |
| <b>X</b>  | <p>in the opinion of the local authority, the premises are occupied by a household living on a low income which cannot be kept warm at a reasonable cost; or</p> <p>in the opinion of the local authority, the premises are occupied by a household living on a low income and vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home.</p>                            |
| Local authority officer name  |   |

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Local authority officer signature | Date: __/__/----                                  |
| Job title                         |   |
| Local authority address           | Council House, Corporation Street, Derby, DE1 2FS |
| Local authority telephone number  | 01332 293111                                      |



## APPENDIX 3

### ECO3 Local Authority Flexible Eligibility Declaration for Solid Wall Insulation projects including “in-fill”

This declaration must be used to demonstrate eligibility of premises under the local authority flexible eligibility provision of Affordable Warmth. **This declaration can only be used for solid wall insulation (SWI) projects including “in-fill”.**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| Name of local authority  | Derby City Council   |   |
| Name of local authority you are acting on behalf of (where applicable)   | Not applicable   |   |
| Declaration URN  | E06000015  |   |
| Statement of intent version number and publication date  | Version Number [N] Published [DD/MM/20YY]  |   |
| Statement of Intent location   | <a href="http://www.derby.gov.uk/housing/improvements-and-repairs/">www.derby.gov.uk/housing/improvements-and-repairs/</a>   |   |
| Name of installer  |  |   |
| Valid until  | +18 months or until 31 March 2022, whichever is earlier.   |   |
| Address of premises  | <b>Relevant eligibility criteria</b>   | <b>Premises type</b>  |
|  | <i>(please see the Notes section on how to fill this section)</i>  | <i>(please see the Notes section on how to fill this section)</i> |
| <b>Project 1</b>   |  |   |
|  |  |   |
|  |  |   |
| Percentage of households listed above that are either living in fuel poverty or are on a low income and vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home ____% |  |   |
| <b>Project 2</b>   |  |   |
|  |  |   |
|  |  |   |
| Percentage of households listed above that are either living in fuel poverty or are on a low income and vulnerable to the effect of living in a cold home ____%  |  |   |
| <i>(You can include more projects if needed)</i>   |  |   |
| <b>Local authority declaration</b>   |  |   |
| <b>I declare that:</b>   |  |   |
| <b>X</b>   | The Statement of Intent (Sol) for this local authority was published before the date this declaration was made and is currently available to view at the above location. |   |
| <b>X</b>   | The local authority has been consulted on the installation of the solid wall insulation at the premises listed above prior to the installation of a measure.             |   |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all of the premises included in the project lists [insert project number(s)] above are situated in the same building, in immediately adjacent buildings or in the same terrace; and</li> <li>in the opinion of the local authority, at least 50% of the premises are occupied by a household living on a low income <i>and</i> either in a home which cannot be kept warm at a reasonable cost, or vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home</li> </ul> |
| Local authority officer name   |   |
| Local authority officer signature  | Date: __/__/____  |
| Job title  |   |
| Local authority address  | Council House, Corporation Street, DE1 2FS  |
| Local authority telephone number   | 01332 293111  |
| <p><b>Notes</b></p> <p>For each premise, one of the following must be selected for relevant eligibility criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Fuel poor" (if the premise is occupied by a household living in fuel poverty)</li> <li>2. "Low income and vulnerable" (if the premise is occupied by a household living on a low income and are vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home)</li> <li>3. "SWI Infill 50%" (if the premise is not occupied by a household in fuel poverty or low income and vulnerable).</li> </ol> |   |