

## Flexible ECO – Local Authority Statement of Intent

Name of Local Authority	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Local authority you are acting on behalf of ( <i>if relevant</i> )	n/a
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### 1. Introduction

Barnsley council is committed to tackling fuel poverty in the Borough and is adopting the Flexible Energy Company Obligation (ECO) Eligibility Policy to allow Affordable Warmth funding for energy efficiency works to be made available to those residents with the highest level of need.

The policy will help to support on-going work under the Council's [Energy Strategy 2015-2025](#), of which a key outcome is the on-going reduction in fuel poverty.

All energy efficiency works qualifying for Flexible ECO Eligibility Affordable Warmth funding will be delivered through our Better Homes Barnsley scheme, or via our approved contractors.

Barnsley council will declare households as eligible for funding based on the criteria outlined in section 2. The final decision on whether any individual household can benefit from energy saving improvements under Affordable Warmth will be made by the obligated suppliers or their agents/contractors. Although we may declare a household to be eligible the final decision will be depend upon i) survey carried out by suppliers agents/contractors and installation costs calculated, ii) the energy savings that can be achieved for a property, and iii) whether suppliers have achieved their targets or require further measures to meet their Affordable Warmth targets.

### 2. How we will identify eligible households

Households are considered eligible for Affordable Warmth funding if they are at risk of living in fuel poverty (FP) or a low-income household with at least one household member vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home (LIVC).

Barnsley council will adopt four different routes to identify households that will be defined as eligible to receive Affordable Warmth funding.

**Route 1 – Community Based**

Households in the areas of the Borough with an Index of Multiple Deprivation score of less than 15% combined with above national and local average levels of fuel poverty will be eligible for Affordable Warmth funding. Households in areas which are in regeneration target areas will also be eligible. Private tenure households in the following areas of the Borough are therefore deemed eligible **if their total net household income is equal to or less than £30,000:**

<b>LSOA Code</b>	<b>Area Name</b>	<b>Flexible ECO eligible?</b>
E01007323	Athersley North	Yes
E01007325	Athersley North East	Yes
E01007324	Athersley North West	Yes
E01007327	Athersley South East	Yes
E01007326	Athersley South West	Yes
E01007462	Bank End East	Yes
E01007461	Bank End West & Worsbrough North	Yes
E01007339	Barnsley Cemetery Road	Yes
E01007338	Barnsley Sheffield Road	Yes
E01007365	Bolton Carrfield	Yes
E01007367	Bolton Ingsfield	Yes
E01007364	Bolton Ringway	Yes
E01007403	Burton Grange	Yes
E01007341	Cudworth Darfield Road	Yes
E01007405	Cundy Cross & Priors	Yes
E01007352	Darfield Central	Yes
E01007348	Darfield North	Yes
E01007394	Elsecar North	Yes
E01007369	Goldthorpe Central	Yes
E01007376	Goldthorpe North	Yes
E01007370	Goldthorpe South	Yes
E01007332	Grimethorpe Central & Michaels Estate	Yes
E01007328	Grimethorpe Red City & Hillside	Yes
E01007333	Grimethorpe White City	Yes
E01007410	Honeywell	Yes
E01007395	Hoyland St Peters & Blacker Hill	Yes
E01007318	Kendray Central	Yes
E01007320	Kendray East & Stairfoot South	Yes
E01007317	Kendray South	Yes
E01007416	Kendray West	Yes
E01007402	Lundwood	Yes
E01007406	Monk Bretton North	Yes
E01007411	New Lodge	Yes
E01007392	Platts Common	Yes
E01007435	Royston Doles	Yes



E01007440	Royston North East	Yes
E01007373	Thurnscoe East	Yes
E01007372	Thurnscoe North	Yes
E01007377	Thurnscoe North East	Yes
E01007378	Thurnscoe North West	Yes
E01007443	Town End	Yes
E01007450	Wombwell Aldham House	Yes
E01007448	Wombwell Barnsley Road	Yes
E01007453	Wombwell Copeland Road	Yes
E01007463	Worsbrough Bridge	Yes
E01007413	Worsbrough Common West	Yes

### **Route 2 – Low Income High Cost Test**

Private tenure households will be deemed eligible for Affordable Warmth funding if they are determined to be a low-income household, living in a high cost home in relation to energy use. They will also be deemed eligible if at least one household member suffers from a health condition made worse by living in a cold home. The eligibility criteria are based on both the Government’s Fuel Poverty Strategy and the NICE guidelines on Excess Winter Deaths.

The table below sets out the qualifying criteria for this route of eligibility:

Households to meet Stage 1 (Low Income) criteria and one of the Stage 2 (High Cost) criteria.

Stage 1 (Low Income)	Criteria
Low Income	Net household income of <£30,000
Stage 2 (High Cost)	Criteria
a) High Cost	Property EPC rating of E, F or G
b) High Cost	Property EPC rating of D; and - x1 characteristics of Fuel Poverty*
c) High Cost and Health Condition made worse by cold	Property EPC rating of D; and - Health condition made worse by cold:  Chronic respiratory, cardio vascular, or musculoskeletal illness, or mental health condition.



*Characteristic of Fuel Poverty (From March 2015 Fuel Poverty Strategy)	Criteria
Mainly families	Child under 16 resident in the household
Vulnerable Elderly	Over age 70
Living in a hard to treat home	Property has solid walls, non standard cavity walls, system built walls, is off the gas network, or has no loft.

### ***Route 3 – Evidenced Requirement for Insulation***

Qualification can also be achieved via evidence produced from a third party, working in conjunction with the Council and using assisted technology, that clearly demonstrates the need for insulation in a property **and** where the total household income does not exceed £30,000.

### ***Route 4 – Officer Referral***

Front line council officers who are providing other support services for residents, including social workers, private sector housing officers, occupational therapists and warm homes advisors, can refer residents for funding where there is a health or well-being vulnerability risk. The household income limit does not apply for this route.

#### **3. Acting on behalf of another local authority**

Barnsley council will not be acting on behalf on another Local Authority to issue declarations of eligibility.

#### **4. Governance**

The Officers responsible for signing and issuing declarations on behalf of Barnsley council are the Group Leader and Project Managers within the Sustainability and Climate Change team. The team can be contacted in writing at Barnsley MBC, Place Directorate, Sustainability and Climate Change Team, Westgate Plaza, Barnsley, S70 9GG.

#### **5. Referrals**

Referrals for Affordable Warmth funding will be accepted from fuel poverty/vulnerability/social care or health organisations and internal departments, partners involved in innovative assisted technology schemes or any partnership with a selected obligated supplier and/or agents/contractors.




All referral information will be handled in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations and retained for the purposes of evidence, monitoring and reporting as outlined in section 6.

**6. Evidence, monitoring and reporting**

The following information will be gathered and retained by Barnsley council and shared with energy suppliers for the purpose of evidence, monitoring the effectiveness of the council policy and reporting on the council policy:

- a) Information relating to household income including copies of wage slips and bank statements;
- b) Information relating to household composition including age of occupants;
- c) Information relating to the occupant’s health where there is evidence of someone having a condition that is made worse by living in a cold home;

An annual report will be published by the council to show how many of the households referred have received Affordable Warmth funding, the level of that funding and the energy efficiency measures supported by it.

<b>Signed:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	Matthew Gladstone
<b>Position:</b>	Executive Director – Place
<b>Date:</b>	26/10/2020