



## ECO Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

30/10/19

Version 2

Publication on website:

[www.basingstoke.gov.uk/climatechange](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/climatechange)

### **Introduction**

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) has committed to assisting residents living in fuel poverty to access funding for energy efficiency improvements in their properties, as set out in pledge two of the Climate Change Strategy 2014-2020.

BDBC intend to use Flexible Eligibility to offer support to households vulnerable to cold weather who cannot afford the cost of making the necessary improvements to keep warm. An estimated 6.5% of households in the borough are living in fuel poverty which represents approximately 4,849 properties and Flexible Eligibility will allow BDBC to offer support to these residents who are at risk due to living in inadequately heated properties.

This Statement of Intent sets out eligibility criteria which the council will use in recommending households for ECO measures. Although the following are BDBC's intention, the final decision of what ECO measures are delivered will depend on

- i) survey carried out by suppliers' agents/contractors and installation costs calculated
- ii) the energy savings that can be achieved for a property
- iii) whether suppliers have achieved their targets or require further measures to meet their ECO targets.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sub-regional-fuel-poverty-data-2019>

## Criteria for assessing eligibility

### Identifying low income residents

Households will be classed as being in fuel poverty if they meet the criteria for a Low Income High Cost Household

<b>Household composition</b>	<b>Annual household income</b>	<b>Monthly household income equivalent</b>
<b>1 adult (18 years +)</b>	£16,500	£1,375
and 1 child	£21,750	£1,813
and 2 children	£27,000	£2,250
and 3 children	£32,250	£2,688
and 4 or more children	£37,500	£3,125
<b>2 adults</b>	£24,750	£2,063
and 1 child	£30,000	£2,500
and 2 children	£35,250	£2,938
and 3 children	£40,500	£3,375
and 4 or more children	£45,750	£3,813
OR		
Is in receipt of any means tested benefit		
Is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Attendance Allowance		

PLUS

live in a property with an EPC banding of D, E, F or G

OR

The property is hard to heat: solid walls, off the mains gas network, no central heating, park home or built before 1964

## **To assess for low income and vulnerability to cold**

The household needs to comply with the income criteria above AND

- Has a pre-existing long term chronic condition such as heart disease, stroke or transient ischaemic attack (TIA), asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, a terminal illness, suppressed immune system (eg. from cancer treatment or HIV)
- Aged 65 and over or is aged 55+ and in receipt of a disability related benefit or registered disabled.
- Is pregnant
- Responsible for a child under 15 living at the property

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

BDBC is making this declaration independently and is not acting on behalf of another local authority and as such this statement of intent is for the sole use of BDBC. The proposed criteria is only relevant to borough residents.

## **Governance**

This Statement of Intent has been signed by BDBC's Executive Director of Borough Services.

BDBC's supplier will identify households who are eligible for funding and will submit evidence for the Climate Change Team to verify.

## **Referrals**

BDBC expects referrals to come in a number of ways, including, but not limited to:

- Via local installers own marketing processes
- Self referrals from residents
- Frontline council offices
- From established links with CAB, Age UK and Hampshire's Hitting the Cold Spots
- Health and Social Care professionals

Promotion will be carried out via a variety of means such as the council's magazine, website, Facebook and Twitter. Via the delivery partner and the Housing Improvement Team.

## **Evidence, monitoring and reporting**

All evidence, monitoring and reporting will be undertaken through contract management procedures which will be put in place with installers to include data protection conditions and the use of controls to prevent fraud.

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RE', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rebecca Emmett, Executive Director of Borough Services

Date: 12/03/2020