

**Kirklees Council**  
**Energy Company Obligation (ECO) Flexible Eligibility**  
**Statement of Intent**

|                        |  |
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**1) Introduction**

Kirklees Council intends to work closely with energy companies, installers and customers to maximise the availability of Flexible Eligibility ECO for fuel poor households.

Under the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) Regulations 2017 - 2018 (ECO2t) local authorities can set their own criteria for eligibility for funding for domestic energy efficiency measures. This funding is aimed at those within a local authority most likely to be in fuel poverty. Energy companies can spend up to a maximum of 10% of their full obligation within these criteria.

The Leeds City Region intends to adopt a city region wide approach to implementing the forthcoming Flexible Eligibility policy initiative within the 2017/18 Energy Company Obligation regulations, through the Better Homes Yorkshire programme. The Kirklees Council Statement of Intent fits within this framework.

Flexible Eligibility ECO fits with the council's overall aim to reduce carbon emissions and address fuel poverty, specifically:

The [Kirklees Economic Strategy](#) sets out the Council's vision for Kirklees to be recognised as the best place to do business in the north of England and one where people prosper and flourish in all of our communities. Priority 4 (Infrastructure) includes the key action to:

- Improve the energy performance of existing homes and provide targeted support to vulnerable households

The [Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy](#) vision is that "No matter where they live, people in Kirklees live their lives confidently, in better health, for longer and experience less inequality". A key policy measure to achieve this is that:

- People have a safe, warm, affordable home in a decent physical environment within a supportive community

### Kirklees Council 'Climate Local' Commitment:

- We recognise that our council has an important role to help our residents and businesses to capture the opportunities and benefits of action on climate change. This includes measures to help save money on energy bills.

In addition Priority 3 of the [Leeds City Region Strategic Economic Plan](#) (Clean Energy and Environmental Resilience) sets out a long term ambition to become a resilient zero carbon energy economy underpinned by high quality infrastructure. Priority 3 particularly emphasises the ambition to:

- Deliver improvements that make homes across the Leeds City Region warmer and reduce fuel poverty;
- Develop partnership and funding models with the health sector to deliver collaborative interventions that reduce extreme cold and damp and improve health.

The Council's approach is based on the following principles:

- Eligibility criteria are to be as streamlined, and simple, as possible
- Focus on attracting ECO funding to support Local Growth Fund or local authority funded schemes
- Early engagement with energy suppliers
- Early engagement with local partners and councillors
- Eligibility via 2 routes: (1) Geographical areas based on deprived communities; and (2) Eligibility for funding due to individual circumstances (based on criteria developed and refined already for existing LCR/Council led energy efficiency programmes).

This approach will hopefully maximise the benefits and funding for residents in Kirklees. However meeting the criteria within the statement of intent does not guarantee that any individual household will benefit from energy saving improvements as the final decision on funding rests with energy suppliers and will depend on:

- The survey carried out and installation costs calculated;
- The energy savings that can be achieved for a property, and;
- Whether suppliers have achieved their ECO targets or require further measures to meet their ECO targets (this will affect the amount of funding available through the scheme).

## 2) How Kirklees Council intends to identify eligible households

Private sector Households are considered eligible for flexible eligibility ECO if they meet either of the following two sets of criteria:

### a) Individual Circumstances (Low Income High Cost test)

Private sector households will be considered at risk of fuel poverty if they are determined to be a low income household, living in a high cost home in relation to energy use. Households need to meet Stage 1 (Low Income) criteria and one of the Stage 2 (High Cost) criteria, based on March 2015 England Fuel Poverty Strategy:

| Stage 1       | Criteria                           |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) Low Income | Gross household income of <£21,000 |

| Stage 2 (High Cost)                                   | Criteria  |
|---|---|
| 2a) High Cost   | Property EPC rating of E, F or G  |
| 2b) High Cost   | Property EPC rating of D; and<br>- x1 <b>Characteristic of Fuel Poverty*</b>  |
| 2c) High Cost and health condition made worse by cold | Property EPC rating of D; and<br>- Health condition made worse by cold:<br>Chronic respiratory, cardio vascular or musculoskeletal illness, or mental health condition. |

| * Characteristics of Fuel Poverty<br>(based upon the March 2015 England 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. |

### b) Deprived Communities (area based)

Private sector households located within Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) with an Index of Multiple Deprivation score of less than 15% (i.e. those that are the most deprived). These LSOAs are listed at Appendix 1, along with a map.

### **3) Governance**

West Yorkshire Combined Authority approved the above approach on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April 2017. The [West Yorkshire Combined Authority](#) consists of councillors from the West Yorkshire Authorities, City of York Council and a representative of the Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership. The Kirklees Council Statement of Intent has been approved by the Strategic Director for Economy and Infrastructure.

Declarations will be valid if signed by officers within the Council's Investment & Regeneration or Housing Services.

### **4) Referrals**

All LCR Flexible Eligibility ECO will be delivered by Better Homes Yorkshire. Referrals to the scheme could take the form of Local Authority or partner (such as fuel poverty, social care and health) referrals into the Better Homes programme, or alternatively, households self-referring via the Better Homes call-centre.

The Better Homes Yorkshire programme was procured at the end of December 2014, and was launched in March 2015, to respond to the challenge of cold homes and fuel poverty. WYCA, and all 10 Leeds City Region Local Authorities, contracted with Keepmoat and Fortem to deliver domestic energy efficiency measures, secure ECO and Green Deal funding (and their successors), up to 2018 with the potential to extend to 2022.

As noted above, meeting the criteria within the statement of intent does not guarantee that any individual household referral will benefit from energy saving improvements as the final decision on funding rests with energy suppliers (i.e. ECO providers), and the amount of relevant ECO available via the Better Homes Partnership. Where funding is available, referrals will be treated on a first-come, first-served basis.

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

Regular meetings Local Authority meetings are held with Better Homes Yorkshire to monitor progress across the Better Homes programme. This will include any delivery resulting from Flexible Eligibility ECO.

The following information will be gathered and retained by the 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 Flexible ECO Affordable Warmth funding, the level of that funding and the energy efficiency measures supported by it.

### **Local Growth Fund**

Declarations which form part of a Local Growth Fund project are subject to monthly and quarterly monitoring to track progress against forecast delivery, and progress to achieving outputs. The project level district monitoring reports are completed by the district Project Manager and sent to the WYCA Tackling Fuel Poverty Programme Manager. A monitoring report for the Programme is completed by the Programme Manager and submitted to the WYCA Growth Deal monitoring team. The Growth Deal monitoring team meet regularly with colleagues at BEIS to discuss progress, risks and issues.

The WYCA Programme Manager also reports regularly to the Better Homes Yorkshire Programme Board which is made up of senior representatives from each district, and is chaired by Bradford Council.

### **6) Signature**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Naz Parkar', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Name: Naz Parkar

Position: Strategic Director Economy and Infrastructure

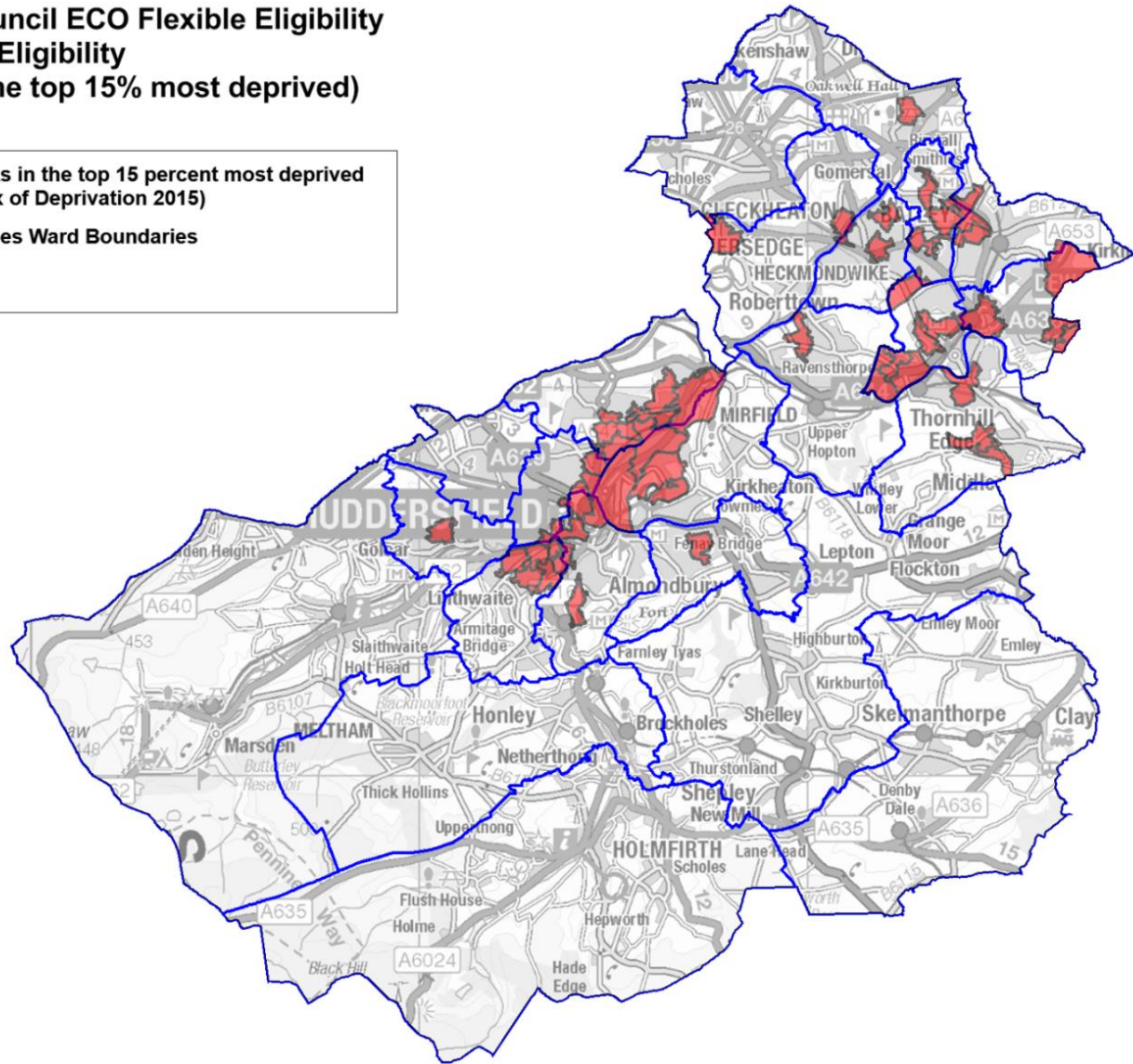
## Appendix 1 - Deprived Communities (area based eligibility)

Private sector households located within Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) with an Index of Multiple Deprivation score of less than 15% (i.e. those that are the most deprived).

| LSOA Code | LSOA Name     | LSOA Description  | Ward<br>(Note: This is where the majority of the LSOA lies – certain LSOAs are within multiple wards) |
|-----------|---------------|---|---|
| E01011004 | Kirklees 040A | Fernside - Aldonley, Morton Green, Fernside Crescent area                                       | Almondbury Ward   |
| E01011015 | Kirklees 010A | Batley - Town Hall, Wellington Street, George Street, Gladwin Street, Hanover Street area       | Batley West Ward  |
| E01011025 | Kirklees 016A | Dewsbury Moor - Moorside Estate, Dewsbury Gate Road area  | Heckmondwike Ward   |
| E01011029 | Kirklees 010B | Batley - Town Centre, Central Estate, Chinewood, Cross Bank Estate area                         | Batley West Ward  |
| E01011030 | Kirklees 006C | Batley - Carlinghow, Fairview Estate, Wilton Estate area  | Batley West Ward  |
| E01011032 | Kirklees 010C | Batley - Cemetery, Healey, Aysgarth Road, Hayburn Road area                                     | Batley West Ward  |
| E01011036 | Kirklees 012C | Batley - Healey / Staincliffe - Healey-By-Pass Estate, Manorfield School, Woodfield Avenue area | Heckmondwike Ward   |
| E01011038 | Kirklees 029A | Fartown Green, Hammond St, Aquamarine Drive area  | Dalton Ward   |
| E01011041 | Kirklees 029B | Fartown / Woodhouse Hill  | Ashbrow Ward  |
| E01011045 | Kirklees 031D | Hillhouse - Alder Street, Bradford Road, Halifax Old Road                                       | Dalton Ward   |
| E01011059 | Kirklees 002F | Birstall - Fieldhead Estate   | Birstall and Birkenshaw Ward  |
| E01011167 | Kirklees 011G | Heckmondwike - High Street, Church Street, Cemetery Road, Park Street, Victoria Street area     | Heckmondwike Ward   |
| E01011079 | Kirklees 047A | Crosland Moor - Blackmoorfoot Road, Park Road West, St Luke's Hospital area                     | Golcar Ward   |
| E01011080 | Kirklees 043A | Crosland Moor / Yews Hill - Blackmoorfoot Road, May Street, Manchester Road area                | Crosland Moor and Netherton Ward  |
| E01011081 | Kirklees 043B | Lockwood / Yews Hill Road   | Newsome Ward  |
| E01011082 | Kirklees 043C | Thornton Lodge  | Newsome Ward  |
| E01011084 | Kirklees 047C | Walpole Estate  | Crosland Moor and Netherton Ward  |
| E01011093 | Kirklees 035A | Rawthorpe - Brown Royd Avenue, Nether Hall Avenue, Rawthorpe Lane area                          | Dalton Ward   |
| E01011094 | Kirklees 035B | Dalton - Longfield avenue, Cow Heys, North Carr, Brock Bank, Ridgeway area                      | Dalton Ward   |
| E01011101 | Kirklees 025A | Deighton / Riddings   | Ashbrow Ward  |
| E01011103 | Kirklees 025B | Bradley / Colne Bridge - Leeds Road, Huntingdon Avenue, Elder Road area                         | Dalton Ward   |
| E01011104 | Kirklees 025C | Deighton  | Ashbrow Ward  |
| E01011106 | Kirklees 029C | Bradley Mills / Leeds Road / Sheepridge   | Dalton Ward   |

| <b>LSOA Code</b> | <b>LSOA Name</b> | <b>LSOA Description</b>   | <b>Ward<br/>(Note: This is where the majority of the LSOA lies – certain LSOAs are within multiple wards)</b> |
|------------------|------------------|---|---|
| E01011107        | Kirklees 029D    | Huddersfield Town Centre / Bradley Mills  | Dalton Ward   |
| E01011121        | Kirklees 018A    | Chickenley (west) - Princess Estate   | Dewsbury East Ward  |
| E01011122        | Kirklees 018B    | Chickenley (east) - Walnut, Hazel and Cedar Estates   | Dewsbury East Ward  |
| E01011126        | Kirklees 014C    | Shaw Cross / Chidswell  | Batley East Ward  |
| E01011130        | Kirklees 017B    | Dewsbury - Town Centre, The Flatts area   | Dewsbury West Ward  |
| E01011133        | Kirklees 023A    | Ravensthorpe - Fir Cottage and Lee Estate   | Mirfield Ward   |
| E01011134        | Kirklees 023B    | Ravensthorpe - North Road, Bradbury Street, Heron Close, Broomer Street area                        | Mirfield Ward   |
| E01011138        | Kirklees 019A    | Dewsbury - Crow Nest Park, Boothroyds, Westtown, Westfield and Middle Manor Estates                 | Dewsbury West Ward  |
| E01011140        | Kirklees 019C    | Dewsbury - Pilgrim Farm / Becketts Estate   | Dewsbury West Ward  |
| E01011143        | Kirklees 023C    | Ravensthorpe - Northstead Estate, Lee Street, Cravendale Road area                                  | Mirfield Ward   |
| E01011144        | Kirklees 023D    | Ravensthorpe - Huddersfield Road, Netherfield Road, Spen Valley Estate area                         | Dewsbury West Ward  |
| E01011148        | Kirklees 041C    | Botham Hall & Trees estate  | Golcar Ward   |
| E01011163        | Kirklees 011C    | Heckmondwike - Fairmoor Way, Dale Lane and White Lee Estates, Hadfield Road. Lawrence Crescent area | Heckmondwike Ward   |
| E01011220        | Kirklees 021C    | Mirfield - London Park, Kitson Hill and Taylor Hall Estates   | Mirfield Ward   |
| E01011227        | Kirklees 048C    | Newsome - Blagden Farm and Croftlands Estates, Newsome Road South area                              | Newsome Ward  |
| E01011230        | Kirklees 043D    | Lockwood / Rashcliffe   | Newsome Ward  |
| E01011235        | Kirklees 039C    | Paddock / Springwood  | Greenhead Ward  |
| E01011236        | Kirklees 034B    | Highfields - Trinity Street, Cambridge Road, Clare Hill, Castlegate area                            | Greenhead Ward  |
| E01011246        | Kirklees 009B    | Liversedge - Firthcliffe Estate, Listing Avenue area  | Liversedge and Gomersal Ward  |
| E01011251        | Kirklees 008D    | Liversedge - Windybank and Hare Park Grange Estates   | Liversedge and Gomersal Ward  |
| E01011253        | Kirklees 028B    | Thornhill Edge Estate   | Dewsbury South Ward   |
| E01011255        | Kirklees 028D    | Thornhill - Overthorpe  | Dewsbury South Ward   |
| E01011259        | Kirklees 024C    | Thornhill Lees / Savile Town - Centenary Estate, Caledonian Road area                               | Dewsbury West Ward  |

**Kirklees Council ECO Flexible Eligibility  
Area-based Eligibility  
(LSOAs in the top 15% most deprived)**



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