

Energy Company Obligation Help to Heat Merton Statement of Intent on Flexible Eligibility



Local authority: Merton Council

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URL: <https://www2.merton.gov.uk/environment/sustainability-climate/energy.htm>

1) Introduction

Merton Council welcomes the introduction of Flexible Eligibility (FE) and intends to utilise it for the purposes of reducing fuel poverty in the borough.

The Council intends to work with Lewisham Council to deliver the Help to Heat obligation. The final decision on whether any individual household will benefit from energy saving improvements rests with obligated energy suppliers or their contractors. Inclusion in a Declaration of Eligibility issued by the Council to a supplier will not guarantee installation of measures. The final decision will depend on:

- i) identification of measures eligible under Help to Heat
- ii) the supplier's assessment of the cost-effectiveness of installing measures in relation to achieving its obligation, and
- iii) whether the supplier has achieved their targets or requires further measures to meet their Energy Company Obligation targets.

Merton Council expects any obligated energy supplier, or contractor working on their behalf, comply with the Data Protection Act, to fully follow Ofgem requirements for the Energy Company Obligation Help to Heat, and to act in accordance with industry best practice in relation to consumer care and quality standards of any works that may take place.

2) How Merton Council intends to identify eligible households

Merton Council will delegate responsibility to identify households that may benefit from flexible eligibility to Lewisham Council. This will be the only route by which residents are identified and will follow Lewisham Council's methodology for assessment as set out in their Statement of Intent.

3) Governance

Responsible officer:

The Lewisham Council officer below will be responsible for signing Declarations.

Job title: Asset Management Planning Manager

Telephone: 020 8314 6605

Email: martin.o'brien@lewisham.gov.uk

4) Referrals and delivery

Merton Council is delegating responsibility for referrals to Lewisham Council and any individual or organisation seeking to use the flexible eligibility arrangements should in the first instance contact the responsible officer identified above. They will then be assessed in line with the referral process and delivery mechanism set out in their Statement of Intent.

5) Evidence, monitoring and reporting

- a. Anonymised data on the characteristics of households reached through flexible eligibility will be reviewed and reported to Merton Council
- b. A copy of all declarations issued by Lewisham Council will be retained
- c. A record of evidence collected through the partnership with South East London Community Energy for meeting the criteria set out above in section 2abc will be retained
- d. A record of ECO funded measures installed through the partnership with South East London Community Energy will be retained
- e. Lewisham Council will provide a report to BEIS that reflects the reporting requirements suggested in the BEIS guidance on Flexible Eligibility and, as part of this, will report on works delivered within Merton

6) Signature



Chris Lee

Director of Environment & Regeneration

Merton Council