

Energy Company Obligation

Local Authority Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent

Local authority: London Borough of Haringey

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Version: 1.1

1) Introduction

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

Addressing fuel poverty is a priority for our local authority and is included in our Corporate Strategy. The Council already offers an advice and referral programme for residents living in private tenure through Shine London¹ that we will continue to use to reach and assist residents in need.

This Statement of Intent is intended to support Haringey Council's partnership with the London Borough of Islington (SHINE London), who will sign declarations on our behalf.

The final decision on whether any individual household can benefit from energy saving improvements through this scheme rests with obligated energy suppliers or their contractors. Inclusion in a Declaration issued by us to a supplier will not guarantee installation of measures. The final decision will depend on i) the survey carried out by suppliers' 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 Energy Company Obligation targets.

2) How we intend to identify eligible households

Fuel Poor households and those living on a low income and vulnerable to the effects of cold can qualify for Flexible Eligibility. Subject to the availability of resources within the Council, and the use of legal data, the Council will target households as follows: -

¹ SHINE takes a holistic 'one stop shop' approach to seasonal health, with one referral leading to an assessment for almost 30 difference interventions.

a. Fuel poor household (low income and high energy costs)

Such households will typically meet both the low income household and high energy cost characteristics listed below:-

Low income household :-

A household with a net annual income lower than the mean net annual income for Haringey (equivalised, after housing costs). This is currently £26,200 per annum.²

High Energy Cost household (one or more of the following):

- i. A household living in a home with an Energy Performance certificate lower than band D
- ii. A household living in a home with a prepayment meter
- iii. A household where the main heating fuel is not gas
- iv. A household where at least one member of the household spends most of the day at home.

b. Identifying low income households vulnerable to cold

The SHINE London referral network includes health and social care professionals providing an effective and established method of identifying vulnerable households. These households will typically meet the low income characteristics set out above and include at least one occupant who :-

- is aged over 60, and particularly if over 75
- is a child aged under 5
- is pregnant

We will also have particular regard for occupants with the following conditions reflecting the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) 2015 guideline on “Excess winter deaths and illness and the health risks associated with cold homes”:-

- respiratory conditions (in particular, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma (especially childhood asthma)
- cardiovascular conditions (e.g. ischaemic heart disease, cerebrovascular disease)
- mental health conditions (e.g. schizophrenia, bipolar disorder)
- substance addiction
- Dementia
- neurobiological and related conditions (e.g. fibromyalgia, ME)
- diagnosed with or recovering from cancer
- limited mobility,

² Latest ONS data for Haringey (2014) mean household income £26,200.-

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/incomeandwealth/articles/smallareamodelbasedincomeestimatesenglandandwales/financialyearending2014>

- Haemoglobinopathies (sickle cell disease, thalassaemia)
- severe learning disabilities
- suppressed immune systems (e.g. from cancer treatment, lupus, MS, diabetes, HIV)

c) Solid wall insulation “in-fill” projects

To encourage multi-property solid wall insulation projects, Haringey Council will provide declarations for non-fuel poor private homes (in-fill) where :-

- households are:-
 - in the same terrace as;
 - in an immediately adjacent building to;
 - or are in the same building

as a household that meets the Fuel poverty or low income vulnerable to cold criteria set out above.

- the project includes the minimum number of fuel poor/low income vulnerable to cold households, as set out in the ECO2 Amendment Order 2017³. This can be summarised as follows:-
 - 66% of blocks of flats, terraces, adjacent properties are fuel poor/low income and vulnerable to cold
 - or: 50% of semi-detached houses or bungalows and two premises’ buildings are fuel poor or low income and vulnerable to cold.

3) Haringey Governance

a) Responsible officer

As permitted in the BEIS guidance on flexible eligibility we are delegating functions of identifying eligible households in London Borough of Haringey to London Borough of Islington who will issue declarations on our behalf.

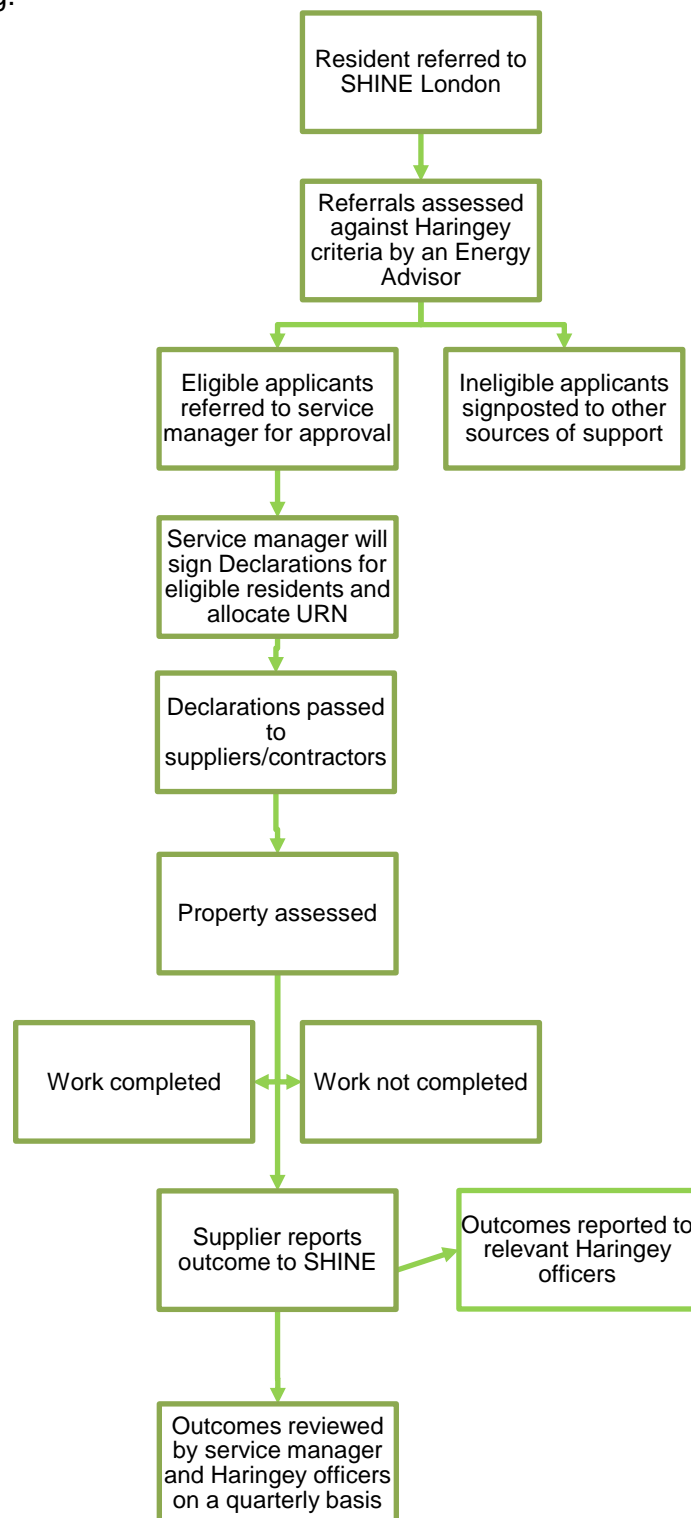
The organisation below will be responsible for signing Declarations on behalf of the Haringey Council.

Job title: Energy Advice Officer
 Telephone number: 020 7527 2121
 Email address: energy.advice@islington.gov.uk

³ Article 16A(4) & 16A(5) of the ECO2 Amendment Order 2017.
http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2017/490/pdfs/ukxi_20170490_en.pdf

b) Decision Making Organogram

The two-stage approval process for Declarations, case review process and Haringey officer review will act to deter, prevent and detect fraud ensuring that only vulnerable households benefit from the funding.



4 Referrals

a) Network

The Seasonal Health Interventions Network London (SHINE London) was established in January 2017 and had assisted over 1,000 vulnerable households across London by May 2017. SHINE takes a holistic 'one stop shop' approach to seasonal health, with one referral leading to an assessment for almost 30 different interventions, including energy efficiency improvements, benefit checks, falls assessments, fire safety checks, medicines use reviews, enablement and befriending services, telecare etc. Residents are either referred by third parties such as local health, social care, housing services and voluntary sector organisations or can directly contact SHINE themselves.

Any individual seeking to access the flexible eligibility arrangements will need to be referred through SHINE London :-

Telephone: 0300 555 0195

Email: contact@shine-london.org.uk

Online: www.shine-london.org.uk

b) Information flows with suppliers/contractors

Declarations will be passed to suppliers/contractors through secure data transfer. In turn they will be expected to provide information on the outcomes of these.

5) Evidence, monitoring and reporting

Shine LONDON will collect all data on behalf of Haringey Council. This information will be used to evaluate the boroughs approach to flexible eligibility, to determine if the criteria requires amendment and to inform future policy and schemes. It will form the basis of an annual report required by the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to determine the success of Local Authority Flexibility Criteria on a national basis.

Data collected by SHINE London will be anonymised, and reported quarterly to Haringey Council. It will include details of households assessed, how many were deemed eligible and ineligible, and how many received heating and insulation improvements.

Additionally, all households who have measures installed will be contacted by SHINE London after three months to review their experience of the process.

6) Signature



Dan Hawthorn
Director of Housing and Growth