



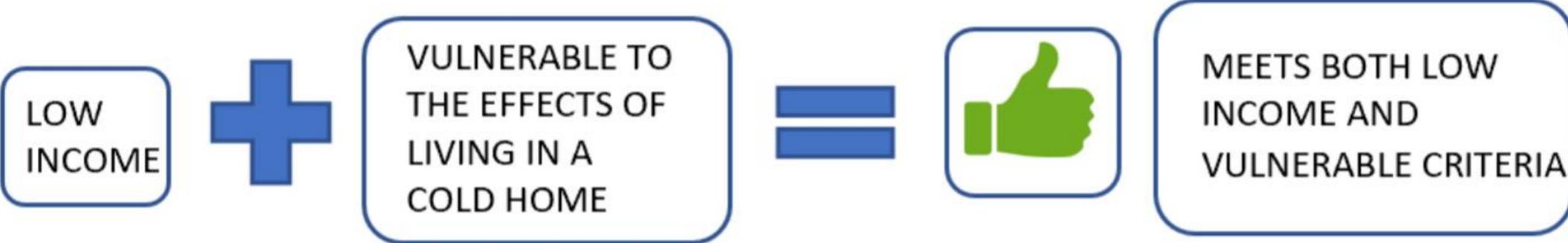
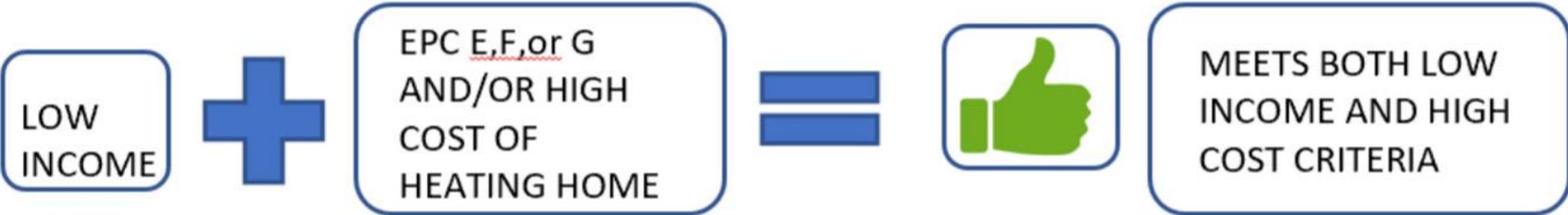
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# BEIS LA FLEX GUIDANCE

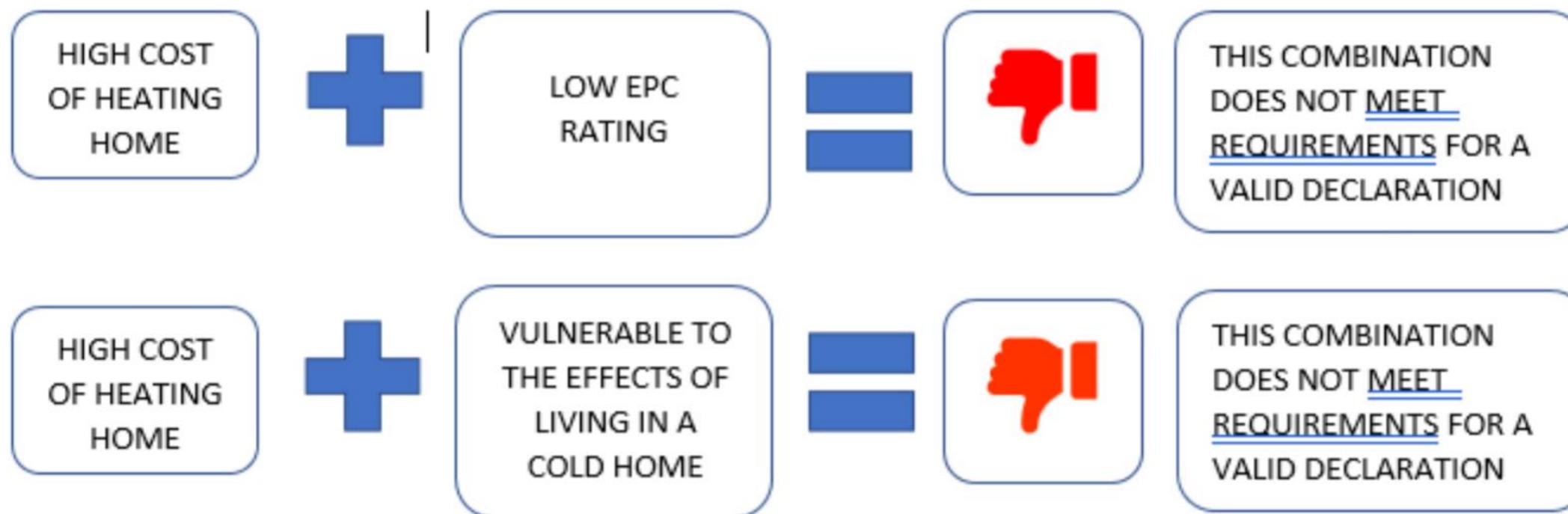
## KEY POINTS

- ▶ LA Flex declarations will be only valid for 18 months, or until 31st March 2022, or until the SOI is withdrawn
- ▶ Strong recommendation to combine low income with either high costs or vulnerable to the cold
- ▶ No specific date given to update SOIs

# RECOMMENDED CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY



## UNSATISFACTORY CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY



### BEIS STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT LAS CONSIDER THIS GUIDANCE WHEN UPDATING OR PUBLISHING SOIS

- ▶ A) Separate indicators must be used to establish a Low Income (LI) household. For example, using income thresholds, or other methods of determining income.
- ▶ B) In addition to this a separate indicator must be used to determine a High Cost (HC) household.
- ▶ A and B must be combined in order to meet FP criteria. If these are not combined, it does not meet requirements under Article 17 of the ECO Order

## ECO ORDER ARTICLE 17 STATES

- ▶ that local authority has, on or after publication on its website of a statement of intent made in respect of the local authority—
- ▶ (i) made a statement in writing that, in the opinion of the local authority, the premises are occupied by a household living on a low income in a home which cannot be kept warm at a reasonable cost; or
- ▶ (ii) made a statement in writing that, in the opinion of the local authority, the premises are occupied by a household living on a low income and vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home.

## VERSION CONTROL

To avoid version control issues, any previous or withdrawn Sols should remain publicly available but clearly marked “superseded”/“withdrawn” and include the date in which the document was withdrawn. The LA should also advise on their website the date the Sol was withdrawn.

## RECOMMENDED AHC INCOME CRITERIA

Household composition	2019
<b>1 Adult</b>	£ 9,300
and 1 child	£ 12,200
and 2 child	£ 15,000
and 3 child	£ 18,000
and 4+ child	£ 21,000
<b>2 Adults</b>	£ 15,200
and 1 child	£ 18,200
and 2 child	£ 21,100
and 3 child	£ 24,100
and 4+ child	£ 26,800

In practice participating LAs will be able to exercise their discretion on where to set thresholds they consider appropriate, and how to define income. This must be set out in the Sol

## EXISTING CHILD BENEFIT INCOME THRESHOLDS

<i>Type of claimant</i>	<i>Number of children or qualifying young persons</i>			
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4 or more</i>
Single claimant	£18,500	£23,000	£27,500	£32,000
Member of a couple	£25,500	£30,000	£34,500	£39,000

## SUGGESTED EPC CHANGES - LIHC

It is recommended that the high cost criteria is extended to include EPC D and below rated homes.

	Previous recommended	High cost limited to EPC F and G	High cost extended to EPC D or worse
Number of eligible households	1,062,192	539,299	1,130,786
Fuel poverty rate	51%	57%	51%
Number of eligible fuel poor households	546,239	306,245	571,158

## ARGUMENT AGAINST USING IMD AS SOLE PROXY

	IMD bottom 10% + high cost/vulnerable to cold	IMD bottom 20% + high cost/vulnerable to cold
Number of eligible households	409,671	1,070,479
Fuel poverty rate	11%	7%
Number of eligible fuel poor households	43,594	72,113