

## Prior Information Notice

### PS22172 Energy Company Obligation 4 (ECO4) Evaluation – RAF008/2223

#### 1. BEIS

Leading economy-wide transformation by backing enterprise and long-term growth, generating cheaper, cleaner, homegrown energy and unleashing the UK as a science superpower through innovation.

The Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) is responsible for:

- business
- industrial strategy
- science, research and innovation
- energy and clean growth
- climate change

From 2021 to 2022, our priorities will be to:

- fight coronavirus by helping businesses to bounce back from the impacts of COVID-19, supporting a safe return to the workplace and accelerating the development and manufacture of a vaccine
- tackle climate change: reduce UK greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050
- unleash innovation and accelerate science and technology throughout the country to increase productivity and UK global influence
- back long-term growth: boost enterprise by making the UK the best place in the world to start and grow a business

Read our [Outcome Delivery Plan](#) to find out how we are performing against our priorities.

BEIS is a ministerial department, supported by 42 agencies and public bodies.

BEIS replaced the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) in July 2016. We employ around 5,000 staff who work in our offices in London, Aberdeen and around the UK.

For further information please visit: <http://www.beis.gov.uk>

#### 2. Description

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) wishes to commission an evaluation of the Energy Company Obligation 4 (ECO4).

ECO was launched in January 2013 and requires obligated energy suppliers to deliver energy efficiency and heating measures to homes in Great Britain. These measures aim to provide energy savings to help households keep their homes warmer and more comfortable to live in, reduce their energy bills and reduce their carbon emissions. ECO is one of several policies crucial for meeting the Government's statutory fuel poverty and Net Zero targets.

The delivery of ECO has occurred across a number of distinct phases. ECO4 is the next phase of the scheme and will run from April 2022 (subject to affirmative regulations) until March 2026, at an estimated cost of ~£1bn per year.

The overall aim of this evaluation is to evaluate the delivery of ECO4 and assess how successful the scheme has been in working towards its policy objectives. To achieve this, the project will need to provide evidence on the implementation of ECO4, stakeholder experiences and perceptions, and the impacts of ECO4.

To meet these aims, BEIS requires a process and theory-based impact evaluation. The scope of the evaluation is ECO4 only and fieldwork will be required to be conducted with both ECO4 beneficiary households and non-household stakeholders involved in the delivery of the scheme (e.g., installers, retrofit co-ordinators, managing agents and Local Authorities).

The process evaluation aims to understand how successfully ECO4 has been implemented, whether it is reaching its target groups and how it has been experienced by beneficiary households and non-household delivery stakeholders.

The theory-based impact evaluation aims to explore and provide evidence of the impacts of ECO4, including a rigorous analysis of the contribution of ECO4 to its intended and unintended outcomes and impacts. We suggest that a contribution analysis approach is the most suitable and proportionate method for this, although we will accept alternative suggestions in bids if these are felt to be more appropriate.

We do not foresee a substantial difference in the data collection methods required for the process and theory-based impact evaluation elements, and whilst findings from each component of the evaluation should be presented separately in deliverables, in practice we expect there to be overlap, with the impact evaluation building logically on the process evaluation.

ECO4 will run from 2022-2026 and the evaluation will run alongside this, split into two waves. Interim process and impact findings will be required in mid-2024 (after wave 1) ahead of a policy review period in which evidence will be required to inform thinking on the next phase of ECO, and the final report will be required in mid-2026 (after wave 2).

At the supplier engagement event, we will outline the proposed evaluation approach and methodology, and seek thoughts from attendees on the Invitation to Tender requirement and procurement process. There will also be an opportunity to answer any potential questions that suppliers may have.

### **3. Aims of the supplier day**

BEIS would like to invite potential bidders to a supplier day at the 1 Victoria Street, London Conference Centre on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 10:30 – 12:00. We understand that for some of you attending in person might not be feasible therefore the event will be hybrid and can be attended through a Teams link. If possible, we recommend in person attendance to make the most of the feedback and networking opportunity.

An agenda for the session has been provided below:

10:00 – 10:10	Introduction
10:10 – 10:30	Overview of the Energy Company Obligation 4 (ECO4)
10:30 – 11:00	Overview of the Energy Company Obligation 4 (ECO4) proposed evaluation plan
11:00 – 11:15	Procurement overview (UKSBS)
11:15 – 11:45	Question & Answer
11:45 – 12:00	Close and next steps

This will provide an opportunity for potential providers to find out more about the aims of the procurement and the process. Providers wishing to attend need to RSVP by Friday, 10th June 2022 at 10:00 stating their name, company, email and whether they will attending in person or virtually.

Attendance is restricted to 3 individuals per supplier. We would request that attendance is restricted to key members of your organisation that would have a keen interest in this project and be able to add value to the discussions that will take place.

The route to market for this tender will be via CCS RM6126 Research & Insights DPS ([www.crowncommercial.gov.uk/agreements/RM6126](http://www.crowncommercial.gov.uk/agreements/RM6126)) and to bid for this work the lead contractor will need to be registered on the CCS RM6126 Research & Insights DPS prior to the requirement being launched.

The requirement is expected to be launched week commencing Monday, 27th June 2022, therefore, we advise contractors who are interested in bidding for this work to register on to the CCS RM6126 Research & Insights DPS as soon as possible to ensure registration is completed before the tender is launched. Noting that CCS have confirmed that this can take circa 14 days from registration.

If you believe this will of interest to you and your organisation, please register your interest by providing the following information to [professionalservices@uksbs.co.uk](mailto:professionalservices@uksbs.co.uk) marking the email FTO Alexandra Richards and reference our unique reference number PS22172.

- Attendee(s) Name
- Attendee(s) Email Address
- Organisation Name
- Confirm whether you are already a member of the Research & Insights DPS
- Confirm whether it is your intention to attend in person at the Conference Centre or Virtually

By registering and attending you will be engaging in non-competitive dialogue which will enable BEIS to develop and assess the market's appetite, concerns and views on formulation of its requirements. BEIS may consider the information and responses received as part of the preliminary market consultant to help inform the specification and further decision making in relation to the planning and conduct of the proposed procurement, ensuring all valid options are considered.

Any information supplied as part of preliminary market consultation shall not place any supplier at an advantage in a potential procurement process.

#### **4. Route to Market**

For the avoidance of doubt, this notice is not a Call for Competition. BEIS will be utilising the CCS RM6126 Research & Insights DPS for the purposes of this competition, if you wish to be invited to this tender opportunity you will need to ensure you are registered against the DPS.

#### **New Supplier on Research & Insights DPS**

If you are a new supplier looking to register against Research & Insights DPS please follow the below instructions.

1. Follow this link <https://supplierregistration.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/dps#research> and select 'Access as a Supplier' against Research & Insights
2. Complete the selection questionnaire in full

3. Submit application, once submitted the CCS DPS team will review your application and either request further information or approve your application.

If you have any issues with regards to locating your details and/or with the process and require assistance, the platform providers, NQC, will be best placed to assist you and can be contacted via the following details:

- Phone: 0161 413 7982 (General service desk)
- Email: [Support@nqc.com](mailto:Support@nqc.com)