Start date: 01 April 2026
PEA reference: PCG-Collab-006a

Scouts Energy and CO Programme

Vulnerability and Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA)
Project Eligibility Assessment (PEA)







UK GAS DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS

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Project registration table

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<tr><td>Project title</td><td>Scouts Energy and CO Programme</td></tr>
<tr><td>Strategic area</td><td>Fuel Poverty</td></tr>
<tr><td>Lead partner name</td><td>The Scouts Association</td></tr>
<tr><td>Lead GDN(s)</td><td>SGN</td></tr>
<tr><td>Funding GDN(s)</td><td>Cadent, NGN and WWU</td></tr>
<tr><td>New/Updated
(indicate as appropriate)</td><td>New</td></tr>
<tr><td>Collaborative VCMA Projects
Specific role(s) of GDN(s) participating in a collaborative VCMA Project</td><td>Lead GDN – SGN
Funding GDNs – Cadent, NGN and WWU</td></tr>
<tr><td>Date of PEA submission</td><td>April 2026</td></tr>
<tr><td>Project start and end date</td><td>01/04/26 – 31/03/28</td></tr>
<tr><td>Project location</td><td>England, Scotland and Wales</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Project contact</td></tr>
<tr><td>Name</td><td>Dan Edwards</td></tr>
<tr><td>Contact details</td><td>Positive.impact@sgn.co.uk</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Project partners and third parties involved</td></tr>
<tr><td>Organisation name</td><td>Role</td></tr>
<tr><td>The Scouts Association</td><td>Lead delivery partner</td></tr>
<tr><td>Gas Safe Charity</td><td>Co-designer of CO safety resources</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Costs and funding</td></tr>
<tr><td>Total cost (£k)</td><td>£240,000
<table>
<tr><th>GDN</th><th>Percentage</th><th>Funding</th></tr>
<tr><td>Cadent</td><td>49.6030%</td><td>£119,047.00</td></tr>
<tr><td>NGN</td><td>11.5965%</td><td>£27,832.00</td></tr>
<tr><td>SGN</td><td>27.1459%</td><td>£65,150.00</td></tr>
<tr><td>WWU</td><td>11.6546%</td><td>£27,971.00</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Total VCMA funding required (£k)</td><td>£120,000
<table>
<tr><th>GDN</th><th>Percentage</th><th>Funding</th></tr>
<tr><td>Cadent</td><td>49.6030%</td><td>£59,523.50</td></tr>
<tr><td>NGN</td><td>11.5965%</td><td>£13,916.00</td></tr>
<tr><td>SGN</td><td>27.1459%</td><td>£32,575.00</td></tr>
<tr><td>WWU</td><td>11.6546%</td><td>£13,985.50</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
</table>

Total BAU vulnerability and CO safety activity baseline allowance funding by activity (£k)	£120,000 – CO education activity

GDN	Percentage	Funding
Cadent	49.6030%	£59,523.50
NGN	11.5965%	£13,916.00
SGN	27.1459%	£32,575.00
WWU	11.6546%	£13,985.50

Problem(s)

This section needs to outline the problem(s) which is/are being addressed by the VCMA project.

Fuel poverty and energy efficiency

The cost-of-living crisis continues to significantly affect households across the UK. According to the Child Poverty Action Group (2025), 31% of children are living in poverty, increasing the likelihood of fuel poverty and unsafe or inefficient energy use to stay warm.

Fuel poverty is often thought to be something that mainly affects the elderly, but it has a serious impact on people of all ages, including young children. A report from Fuel Bank Foundation highlights fuel poverty as a cause of poor physical and mental health, higher rates of school absence, and increased risk of long-term poverty in children.

This impact continues into young adults, and those living independently for the first time, particularly students and those in rented accommodation. These groups often face financial pressures while managing energy bills for the first time. A lack of understanding around safe and efficient energy use can increase both fuel costs and carbon monoxide (CO) risk, and or lead to cold, damp homes.

Although younger children aged 5–11 are highly effective at sharing what they learn with their families, many households are still not accessing the knowledge needed to understand fuel poverty or adopt energy-efficient behaviours. Without structured education for young people on these topics, families miss out on valuable, child-led shared learning that could improve their awareness, reduce energy use, and potentially ease the impacts of fuel poverty both now and in the future.

Carbon Monoxide awareness

Carbon Monoxide (CO) poses a serious risk to human health and can be fatal, with around 40 deaths caused by CO poisoning each year in the UK and approximately 4,000 people treated in hospital annually as a result of CO exposure.

A lack of awareness about the dangers of CO and how to prevent harm remains a key reason why CO-related deaths and injuries continue to occur, despite safety measures such as CO alarms being cheaper and more accessible than ever.

While everyone is at risk of CO harm, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) identified young people as one of the most at risk groups for CO poisoning. They are also one of the groups least aware of its dangers, Gas and CO safety research carried out collaboratively by all GDNs in 2020 found that awareness of CO poisoning fatality was significantly lower amongst 16–24-year-olds (82%) compared to the general population (92%). The same research showed that nearly half (49%) of 16–24-year-olds believed that CO has a smell.

As young people transition into young adulthood, many move away from home for the first time to attend university or live independently in rented or shared accommodation. This group often has limited experience of gas safety, appliance maintenance, recognising CO symptoms, or understanding their rights as tenants, including landlord responsibilities for gas safety checks and safe appliances. This lack of knowledge increases the risk of unsafe conditions going unnoticed or unchallenged.

Scope and objectives

Outline the scope and objectives of the VCMA project linked to the problem statement above. This should be clearly defined including the benefits which would directly impact customers on the participating GDNs' network(s), and where the benefits of the VCMA Projects lie.

Scope:

Scouts deliver a wide-ranging programme designed to equip young people with skills for life, including outdoor activities such as campfires and barbecues where CO risks can arise. While CO awareness activities have been developed in collaboration with the GDNs, further work is required to ensure CO safety is fully embedded across the programme and that adult volunteers are confident in understanding CO risks and educating the young people in their care.

The project delivers direct benefits to customers on participating GDN networks by increasing energy literacy, reducing CO risk, and fostering a culture of safety and responsible energy use within households and communities. Estimated annual engagement includes 145,000–170,000 activity interactions for energy efficiency and fuel poverty topics and 128,000–151,000 activity interactions for CO awareness. Through shared learning, these interactions extend the impact to family members, friends, and wider communities. By integrating these topics into well-established youth programmes, the project ensures sustainable reach and long-term behavioural impact, creating safer, more energy-conscious communities across the GDN networks.

To enable us to continue to reach tens of thousands of young people every year with energy efficiency and CO safety activities, the scope includes:

- Continued promotion of the 12 activities created during GD2 covering all Scouts age ranges that raise awareness and understanding of CO poisoning, and how to manage and reduce the risks
- Continued promotion of the 9 activities created during GD2 covering all Scouts age ranges that suggest ways to be energy efficient to help combat fuel poverty
- Sponsored and branded Cub Home Safety, Scouts Camper and Explorers Camper activity badges which are designed to give young people the skills and knowledge to stay safe around the home and out camping whilst also knowing what to do in the event of an emergency
- Creation of at least two new CO-focused activities annually for Scouts and Explorers to link with the Camper badges
- Creation of two new activities for Explorers and Network, one linked to the Scouts' Money Skills badges focusing on budgeting, fuel efficiency and energy awareness, and another on CO awareness with a particular focus on information to support people leaving home for the first time
- Continued promotion of the CO Awareness Blanket Badge and the CO-ol Safety Scheme which creates CO ambassadors in the Scouting Community

- Promotion of energy efficiency, CO safety, and the partnership through collaborative social media campaigns
- Continued promotion of our bespoke Leader CO e-learning into Scouts.org, providing accessible training for adult volunteers to empower them to cascade knowledge to young people
- Embedded CO safety information in Scouts safety guidance materials
- Engagement at national and regional Scouts events, allowing GDNs to directly interact with youth members and adult volunteers in the Scouts movement.

Objectives:

The above project scope will;

- Enable us to educate, engage, and empower young people on how to use energy efficiently and to understand CO risks, helping them develop safe and efficient behaviours that they can apply and share at home as well as during outdoor activities
- Extend access to energy efficiency and CO education for children and young people from lower-income and/or communities who benefit from tailored and proactive engagement, enabling them to act as advocates for safe and efficient energy use within their households and communities
- Equip up to 140,000 adult Scouts volunteers with the knowledge and confidence to teach CO and broader energy safety concepts, ensuring learning is reinforced with young people and their wider networks
- Embed CO safety and energy efficiency guidance within Scouts' core adult volunteer resources, ensuring a lasting educational legacy
- Support long-term behavioural change, helping young people and their households reduce CO risks, improve energy efficiency, and manage energy costs effectively.

Project design engagement

Targeting vulnerability support: This must describe how the GDN(s) identified the vulnerability need being addressed through the VCMA project, including the use of consumer research, stakeholder engagement, and data and technology.

Evidence of stakeholder and/or customer support: Information regarding all stakeholder and/or customer engagement which has contributed to the development of the VCMA Project.

Stakeholder project design input: How stakeholders were actively involved in the project design, and how their input and feedback were incorporated to shape the project design. Where stakeholders disagree about the project design, justification must be provided for why the current project design is deemed preferable.

This project builds on the successful VMCA partnership between the GDNs and Scouts to continue and expand the energy efficiency and carbon monoxide (CO) awareness programmes providing education to young people across the participating GDNs' networks. The programme will engage Scout members from Beavers up to Network level, including a combination of updated and new activities, resources, and badges designed to embed energy efficiency and CO safety into both everyday life and outdoor experiences.

Scouts' membership is incredibly diverse in all respects and through this partnership we've ensured that the development of resources is co-designed to educate on energy efficiency and CO safety with a broad and diverse group of young people, who can take this learning and share with their families, friends and communities, becoming CO advocates.

Diversity in the Scouts:

- **Gender -** 27% of Scouts membership is female
- **Affordability -** 18.4% of Scouts sections across the UK are situated in IMD areas 1-3. This means 65,500 young people from the toughest to reach communities are a part of the Scouts.
- **Ethnicity -** 9.7% of Scouts youth membership are from underrepresented communities, this equates to over 42,350 youth members. Scouts are dedicated to increasing this representation from these communities over the coming years.
- **Disability/SEND -** 19% of Scouts youth members state that they have a disability/additional need, meaning that Scouts over-represent in this area.

Our stakeholder-supported Scouts gas safety and energy awareness programme has evolved dynamically since its launch, adapting to today's social challenges like rising energy costs, while equipping young families and future bill payers with lifelong skills.

Initially focused on gas and CO safety for Beavers and Cubs, it has expanded through feedback from young people, Scout leaders, and stakeholders to include tailored activities for Beavers, Scouts, Explorers, and adult volunteers.

In response to growing needs within our communities, we've introduced new energy efficiency modules designed to support immediate family energy challenges, encourage smart behaviours that help reduce fuel poverty, and build long-term resilience.

Educating young people about energy efficiency helps them form positive habits that last into adulthood. Simple, everyday actions such as using appliances correctly, ventilating homes, switching off lights when they're not needed, and keeping heat in, can reduce energy costs, improve safety, and make a meaningful difference. These behaviours can be shared within households and across communities, amplifying their impact.

Over the years, we've shared the impact of our partnership with a broad range of stakeholders via the Annual VCMA Showcase, including in 2025 where the project was highlighted, enabling us to showcase measurable impacts like enhanced home safety practices across 350,000+ participants. Feedback from that 2025 showcase showed 88% of attendees agreed or strongly agreed that we were focusing on the right carbon monoxide (CO) awareness activities, with only 3% who disagreed, and 77% felt we were collaborating with the right organisations on CO safety, with just 1% who disagreed. This shows that our stakeholders feel we are doing the right things and working with the right organisations, including Scouts around CO safety.

Scouts Safety Team

The Scouts Safety Team welcomes the continued partnership with the Gas Distribution Networks, which has strengthened the understanding of our young people and volunteers of carbon monoxide safety and energy efficiency.

The GDNs' technical expertise and guidance have supported the development of robust, age-appropriate activities and high-quality volunteer e-learning, helping to ensure safety messages are accurate, consistent and aligned with real-world risks.

This collaboration has enhanced our ability to embed CO awareness into everyday Scouting activities like camping and expeditions and for those managing safe meeting places.

It supports our commitment to keeping young people and volunteers safe at Scouts, developing greater independence and influencing their local, national and international communities.

Aidan Jones – CEO Scouts

"I am pleased that Scouts continues to work in partnership with the Gas Distribution Networks on carbon monoxide safety and energy efficiency. Keeping our young people and adult volunteers safe is our highest priority, and this collaboration plays an important role in supporting that commitment. The GDNs' guidance and expertise have enabled us to strengthen our activity content and create a volunteer e-learning, ensuring safety messages are practical, relevant and embedded within our programme. I welcome the continued development of this partnership as we extend our reach further to Scouts, Explorers and Network members, supporting young people as they take on greater independence and responsibility."

Co-design process

This project has been co-designed with the Scouts and the GDNs, we've maintained the core programme we had in place for much of GD2 across the younger years, and based on our learning and the risks involved we're investing more resources in the older years (Explorers and Network sections) to build greater confidence in skills for life at a time where energy safeguarding and the cost of living are increasingly important as they are looking progressing into independent living.

Why the project is being funded through the VCMA

This should include an explanation of why the VCMA project meets the VCMA eligibility criteria, and how it aligns with the GDN's VCMA collaborative strategy.

This project meets this eligibility criteria, as the project aligns with the GDNs collaborative vulnerability strategy, in which we have a clear ambition to keep our communities safe and warm, and to support those most in need by helping vulnerable households not just today but as we invest in a green energy future.

This project aligns with the following shared objectives of our collaborative vulnerability strategy:

- Empower local communities to identify and support vulnerable households with their energy safeguarding needs
- Help more vulnerable households access energy safeguarding services
- Reach communities under-served and most in need of trusted intermediaries to take up support services

How VCMA funding complements or supplements BAU activities

Where the VCMA Project is being delivered alongside a BAU vulnerability and/or CO safety activity or activities funded through the GDN's baseline allowance, the GDN must provide sufficient evidence that the VCMA Project complements or supplements the BAU activity or activities to prevent the risk of double funding.

This project delivers energy efficiency and carbon monoxide (CO) safety education through a varied programme of activities, resources, and engagement across the Scouting community.

As the anticipated reach and level of engagement for both topics are broadly similar, and the required time commitment from Scouts is also comparable we are funding the project on a split basis: 50% through VCMA for the energy efficiency elements and 50% through BAU for the CO safety elements.

By working with Scouts across both areas, we can provide a holistic learning experience that educates and empowers young people. The programme helps them develop safe, efficient behaviours that they can apply within Scouting activities and share at home, strengthening awareness and safety in their wider communities.

Outcomes, associated actions and success criteria

Details of the VCMA Project outcomes and the associated actions to achieve these, interim milestones and how the Funding Licensee will evaluate whether the project has been successful. Each action should have a proportion of the funding allocated.

Key outcomes expected from this project:

Scouts and SGN as lead partner will carry out monthly reporting reviews on measurable outcomes against targets to ensure successful delivery. Quarterly reviews will provide the opportunity for more in-depth analysis and the ability to highlight insights and learnings to share, as well as identify any risks and requirement for any associated actions to mitigate these.

Due to the nature of the delivery of these outcomes and it not being possible to track geographical delivery the outcomes for this project are split in the same way as the investment based on the GDN customer numbers percentage split.

Outcome	**Annual Target**	**Target by network**			
		Cadent Target 49.6030%	**NGN Target** 11.5965%	**SGN Target** 27.1459%	**WWU Target** 11.6546%
Energy efficiency activity interactions; Energy Advice	145,000	71,924	16,815	39,362	16,899
CO safety activity interactions; CO awareness	128,000	63,492	14,843	34,747	14,918
Adult leaders/ volunteers provided CO awareness training; CO training	1,000	496	116	272	116

Associated actions

For SGN;

- Collation, monitoring and sharing of monthly reporting
- Bi-monthly meetings with Scouts to review impact, assess engagement and agree/implement additional communications to drive engagement if necessary
- Capture and share lessons learnt throughout the project

- Manage collaborative social media campaigns, content, timeline etc.
- Sharing of MI, reporting and case studies with all GDNs

For all GDNs;

- Work collaboratively with The Scouts on co-development of energy efficiency and CO awareness activities
- Support with collaborative social media campaigns, assisting with content and posting/sharing in line with agreed timeline
- Collectively provide suitable CO safety information to be embedded into Scouts safety guidance materials

For Scouts;

- Work collaboratively with the GDNs on co-development of energy efficiency and CO awareness activities.
- Manage collaborative social media campaigns, content, timeline etc.
- Share details of both national and local Scout events, linking the GDNs in with local groups where necessary
- Embed CO safety information in Scouts safety guidance materials
- Provision of monthly updates and reporting
- Monthly meetings with SGN to review impact, assess engagement and agree/implement additional communications to drive engagement if necessary

Potential for new learning

Provide details of what the GDN(s) expect(s) to learn and how the learning will be disseminated.

By expanding CO education into Camper badges and pre-expedition training, we expect to gain deeper insight into how best to embed safety messaging within outdoor and high-risk activities. This will inform future approaches to engaging young people in practical safety behaviours.

The introduction of energy efficiency/fuel poverty activities into these areas will also provide valuable learning on how young people understand, apply, and share information about energy use and affordability within their households. We expect to identify which messages resonate most with different age groups and how effectively youth-led learning supports household-level behaviour change.

We also anticipate learning more about digital engagement and accessibility, particularly through increased use of online resources, one example being our CO safety blanket badge being added to the Scouts badge finder, and further promotion/integration of e-learning within the new Scouts.org volunteer management system.

Overall, the project will strengthen our understanding of how long-term, embedded education programmes can deliver sustained behavioural change, informing future VCMA initiatives and supporting us in meeting our customer vulnerability and community engagement objectives.

Aligning with and supporting wider vulnerability approaches

Details of how the project supports or aligns with approaches to vulnerability taken by the wider energy industry, other utilities and/or consumer organisations; local, national or devolved governments; or evidence innovation or a gap in vulnerability support provision. For example, this could include evidence of collaboration beyond the VCMA, non-VCMA joint funding of the initiative, or identified gaps in the provision of vulnerability services which the project seeks to address. The GDN should show how the project fits within broader approaches to vulnerability.

Educating young people on energy efficiency through the Scouts aligns strongly with wider vulnerability approaches by providing early intervention, helping build long-term resilience, and reaching households that traditional services often miss. Young people act as "energy champions," taking learning back into their homes, supporting hard-to-reach families such as low-income, private-rented, or digitally excluded households.

This education also strengthens community resilience, normalising conversations about energy use and creating local networks of informed young people who can support family and peers. It contributes to long-term behaviour change, shaping early habits around energy use, climate awareness, and understanding bills, reducing both financial and environmental vulnerability in later life.

The approach supports cross-sector goals such as fuel poverty reduction, Net Zero, and safeguarding against cold homes. Because Scouts are trusted, inclusive and well-established, they serve as an effective, non-commercial channel for energy messages that align naturally with their existing focus on safety, practical skills, and environmental responsibility.

Monitoring and evaluation

Details of how the GDNs will work with their project partners to monitor the impact of the VCMA project and evaluate its effectiveness and success.

This project features co-designed success criteria underpinning its Social Return on Investment (SROI) framework, with clear reporting and insight requirements from mobilisation through to delivery. The Scouts and the Lead GDN (SGN) review monthly reports on measurable outcomes, collaborating to ensure successful delivery, while each quarter the core project team alongside other GDNs, shares performance insights, highlights mitigations for any underperformance, and drives continuous improvement.

We report annually on partnership impact, sharing broadly via collaborative and company-specific reports to showcase outcomes and key learnings. Additionally, the CO and Vulnerability Working Groups provide performance updates to the National Delivery Group and NSP, with all GDNs disseminating results through their business governance processes, including ISGs.

Scale of VCMA project and SROI calculations, including NPV

Justify the scale of the VCMA project – including the scale of the investment relative to its potential benefits. As part of this, the Funding Licensee(s) should provide the SROI calculation, including NPV. Note: The value in numbers of the SROI and NPV must be provided, rather than confirmation of positive impact.

Together with the other Gas Distribution Networks we worked with leading social impact research consultancy SIRIO Strategies on the development of the Industry Standard Social Value Framework and supporting GDN

Rulebook. We have used that GDN Rulebook to carry out an assessment of the VCMA funded financial and wellbeing outcomes applicable to our services for vulnerable households included in this partnership. We've incorporated social value for providing young people with basic energy efficiency advice and providing adult leaders with training on CO safety. In line with our approach to reporting from the GD2 partnership, we have discounted the forecast reach of the Energy Efficiency activities by 20% to account for potential duplication of engagement with activities. Carrying out an assessment of these predicted outcomes we forecast a positive net Social Return on Investment of £23.90 for every £1 spent.

Social value measurement

Total cost*	£118,931.94
Total gross present value	£2,961,612.66
Net Present Value (NPV)	£2,842,680.72
SROI	£23.90

*Accounting for inflationary factors over the term of the project.

Internal governance and project management evidence

Provide a description of GDN(s) review of proposal and project sign off, with details on how the project will be managed.

SGN as project lead has worked with the Scouts to co-design this partnership on behalf of all GDNs to ensure that its ambition contributes to the delivery of our collaborative Vulnerability Strategy, and it aligns to guidance from our respective ISG and stakeholder groups, as well as the VCMI Governance criteria.

SGN will meet bi-monthly with the Scouts to review delivery against targets, share best practice, address any delivery issues, and ensure the project remains aligned to the scope and ambition set out in this document. We will also facilitate steering group sessions for all GDNs as required.

GDN	Approver (Name and Role)	Date
Cadent	Phil Burrows, Head of Customer Vulnerability	25/03/26
Northern Gas Networks	Laura Ratcliffe, Social Strategy Programme Manager	25/03/26
SGN	Maureen McIntosh, Director of Customer Service	26/03/26
Wales & West Utilities	Sophie Shorney, Engagement & Social Impact Manager	25/03/26

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility Criteria	Description	Project qualifies Yes / No
Positive SROI	Have a positive, or a forecasted positive, Social Return on Investment (SROI) calculated in accordance with a model which the GDNs have developed and submitted to Ofgem including for the gas consumers funding the VCMA Project	Yes
Positive NPV	Have a positive, or a forecasted positive Net Present Value (NPV)	Yes
Support Criteria	Either: i. provide support to consumers in Vulnerable Situations and relate to Energy Safeguarding, or ii. provide support for those most at risk of being left behind in the transition to net zero, or iii. provide awareness of, and education on, the dangers of CO beyond the activities funded as business as usual (BAU) through baseline allowances, or iv. reduce the risk of harm caused by CO	Yes
Defined Outcomes	Have specific, measurable, and time-bound outcomes which align with relevant Consumer Vulnerability Strategy objectives to achieve the requirements set out in Support Criteria above;	Yes
Beyond Other Funding	Go beyond activities that are funded through other price control mechanism(s), including baseline allowance funding, or required through licence obligations	Yes
Support or Align	Support or align with approaches to vulnerability taken by the wider energy industry, other utilities and/or consumer organisations, and local, national and devolved government, or evidence innovation or a gap in vulnerability support provision;	Yes
No Other External Funding	Not be delivered through other external funding sources directly accessed by a GDN, including through other government (national, devolved or local) funding	Yes
BAU vulnerability and CO safety activities	Where a GDN's BAU vulnerability and CO safety activities are funded through baseline allowances, these are not suitable for funding through the VCMA. The GDN is permitted to use VCMA funds to supplement or complement its BAU activities, however, it must ensure that its reporting provides sufficient evidence to prevent double funding.	Yes

Eligibility criteria for company specific essential gas appliance servicing

Eligibility Criteria	**Description**	**Project qualifies Yes / No or N/A**
Servicing must meet the following criteria:	Either: i. A GDN has had to isolate and condemn an essential gas appliance following a supply interruption or as part of its emergency service role; or ii. A GDN or its Project Partner has identified an essential gas appliance which has not been serviced in the last 12 months in the owner-occupied home of a customer in a Vulnerable Situation where an occupier of the property suffers from a permanent or temporary health condition12 that makes them more vulnerable to health risks associated with cold homes; or iii. A GDN or its Project Partner has identified an essential gas appliance which has not been serviced in the last 12 months in a tenant-occupied home of a customer in a Vulnerable Situation where it is the tenant's responsibility to maintain the essential gas appliance, where an occupier of the property suffers from a permanent or temporary health condition that makes them more vulnerable to health risks associated with cold homes	N/A
Affordability	The household cannot afford to service the essential gas appliance, as assessed against the affordability criteria set out in the VCMA governance document	N/A
Funding	Sufficient funding is not available from other sources (including a social or private landlord and national, devolved, or local government funding) to fund the essential gas appliance servicing	N/A

Eligibility criteria for company specific essential gas appliance repair and replacement

Eligibility Criteria	Description	Project qualifies Yes / No or N/A
Unsafe pipework and essential gas appliance repair or replacement must meet the following criteria:	Either: ii. GDN has had to isolate and condemn unsafe pipework or an essential gas appliance following a supply interruption or as part of its emergency service role; or iii. A GDN or its Project Partner has had to condemn unsafe pipework, or an essential gas appliance, following an essential gas appliance service (as described in 3.19 of the VCMA governance document)	N/A
Health condition	Either: i. The occupier of the property suffers from a permanent or temporary health condition that makes them more vulnerable to health risks associated with cold homes and has a household income of £31,000 or below in 2025/26 prices, adjusted for inflation using Consumer Price Index with Housing costs (CPIH) 13, or ii. the household cannot afford to service the essential gas appliance, as assessed against the affordability criteria set out in Appendix 1 of the VCMA governance document	N/A
Funding	Sufficient funding is not available from other sources (including national, devolved, or local government funding) to fund the unsafe pipework or the essential gas appliance repair or replacement.	N/A