

Energy Companies Obligation (ECO): Narrow Hard-to-Treat Cavity (HTTC) Declaration

This form is for use by a person ('the verifier') who makes a declaration as to the width of the cavity within one or more cavity walls of domestic premises.

This declaration should be completed in accordance with the *Notes for verifiers*, see back page.

Name of verifier: Title_____ First name_____ Surname _____

Name and address of company: Name_____ Address_____

_____Post code_____

There are three options to complete this declaration. Please complete the relevant section below:

1. Independent verifier:

- a) Are you employed directly by any party responsible for the installation of the measure? This does not include the supplier. ☐ Yes ☐ No
- b) Have you measured the cavity width in accordance with the methodology in the *ECO: Supplementary Guidance on HTTC Wall Insulation* (described overleaf)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. Chartered surveyor:

- a) RICS registration number _____
- b) Have you measured the cavity width in accordance with the methodology in the *ECO: Supplementary Guidance on HTTC Wall Insulation* (described overleaf)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Technology:

- a) Does the technology record the width of the cavity and the date and location of the property? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Please complete the following table. Attach an extra sheet if necessary.

Address (Building number/name, Street, Town, City, County, Post code)	Mean width of cavity per wall (mm)			
	Wall 1	Wall 2	Wall 3	Wall 4¹
<i>E.g: 1 Acacia Avenue, London, SW1 1AA</i>	<i>40mm²</i>	<i>70mm</i>	<i>40mm</i>	<i>70mm</i>

For each address above, a record must be attached showing the location and extent of the section of cavity measured. This may be in the form of a sketch, photo or GPS boroscope. Each record should be labelled to show the address of the property. Sketches may be drawn on page 2 of this form.

DECLARATION BY VERIFIER:

By signing below I confirm that:

- I have visited and personally assessed each property to which this declaration relates.*
- I understand that this declaration may be provided to Ofgem for the purpose of demonstrating that the width of a cavity is as stated in this declaration.*
- The statements I have made in this declaration are true and accurate.*

Signature of verifier

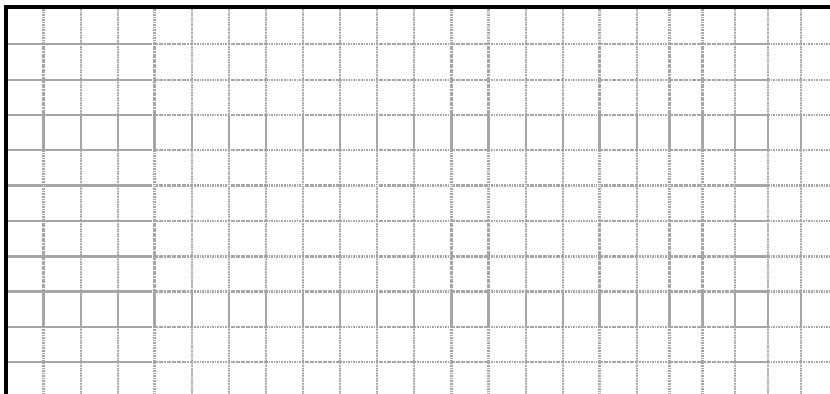
Date: dd/mm/yyyy

__ / __ / ____

¹ If a property contains more than four cavity walls, please record the information about the additional cavity walls on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this declaration.

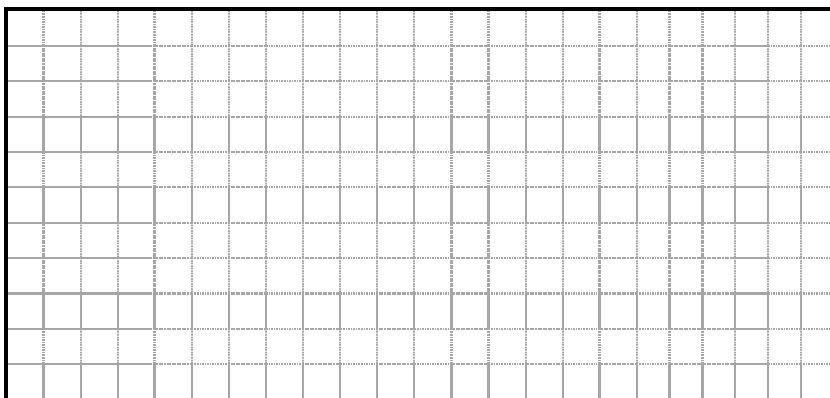
² The mean width may be recorded to 1 decimal place.

Draw each relevant wall and mark with an X where the cavity was measured

**FRONT ELEVATION**

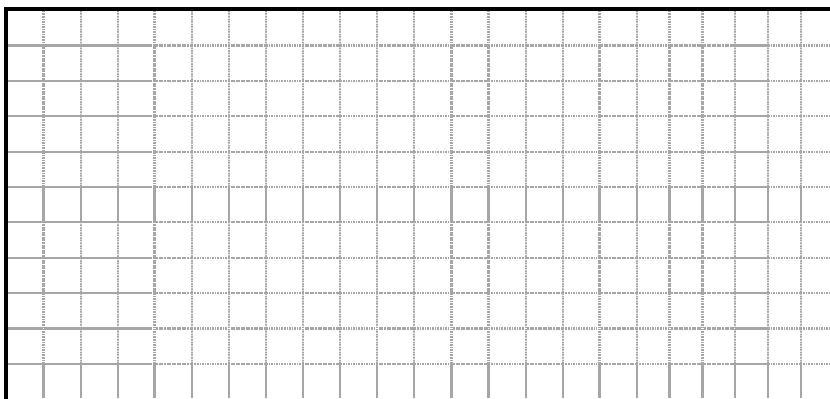
Cavity width:

Notes:

**REAR ELEVATION**

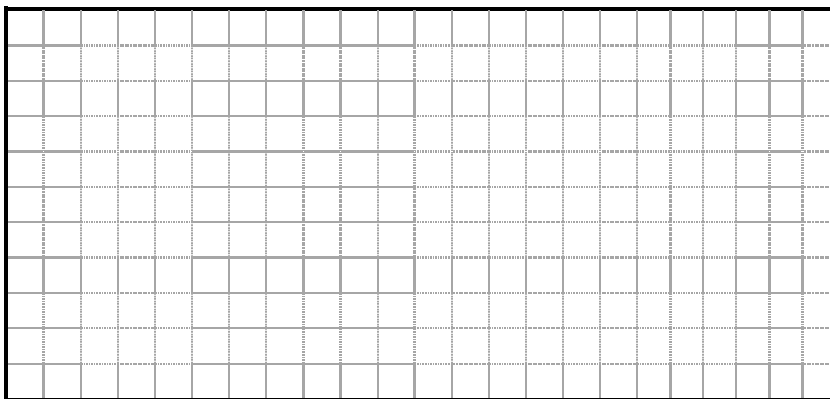
Cavity width:

Notes:

**LEFT ELEVATION**

Cavity width:

Notes:

**RIGHT ELEVATION**

Cavity width:

Notes:

Notes for verifiers

This declaration is required for purposes relating to the Energy Companies Obligation (ECO). Ofgem is responsible for administering ECO. General information about ECO is available at:

<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-programmes/energy-companies-obligation-eco>

Timing of the assessment

This form must be completed before notification of a narrow HTTC insulation measure. The assessment should take place before installation of the measure is complete so that additional drilling is not required.

Measuring a cavity

The measurement of the width of a cavity to determine whether it meets the statutory definition of a narrow cavity under ECO must be conducted in accordance with the methodology outlined below:

Three inspection holes are required per elevation in order to calculate the cavity width of that elevation. These must have the following characteristics:

- They must each have a diameter of between 8 and 12mm;
- They must be drilled through the mortar joints; and
- They must be at least 500mm apart.

The inspection holes should be at ground level. Where a ground floor wall can be shown to be a narrow HTTC, higher floors are also deemed to be a narrow HTTC (including where the higher floor is a separate premises).

The drilling may be conducted either by the individual or company which completes the Narrow HTTC Declaration or by another individual or company. Where the drill holes are produced separate to the measurement of the cavity width, the holes should be temporarily sealed to prevent water ingress. This may be achieved using a silicon mastic or other suitable alternative, which will enable the individual or company completing the Narrow HTTC Declaration to identify and access the drill holes for the measurement process.

The overall width is determined by using either a steel measuring rod or vernier gauge, which is inserted into the drill hole until it reaches the back wall or, in the case of cavities which are already *partially filled* (see below), until it reaches the face of the partial insulation. It should then be marked to the outer face of the outer leaf. The measurements should not be taken between mortar joints.

A *partially filled* cavity is a traditionally constructed cavity with insulation fixed to the inner leaf in the vertical plane. For the avoidance of doubt a cavity is not considered to be partially filled merely because it contains slumped insulation or insulation to less than the full height of the wall.

If the vernier gauge cannot be used the measurement of the external leaf will be taken at a window or door reveal. The width of the external leaf is determined first by measuring from the internal face of the outer leaf to the outer face of the outer leaf. The external leaf width is deducted from the overall width.

The final width of the cavity is determined by calculating the mean cavity width for each elevation from the three measurements. For example:

Elevation A

Inspection hole 1: 51mm
Inspection hole 2: 51mm
Inspection hole 3: 46mm
Average cavity width: 49mm

Outcome: Narrow HTTC (<50mm)

Elevation B

Inspection hole 1: 51mm
Inspection hole 2: 54mm
Inspection hole 3: 46mm
Average cavity width: 50mm

Outcome: Not a narrow HTTC (≥50mm)

This calculated mean must be recorded on the Narrow HTTC Declaration. Each measurement should be rounded to the nearest mm however the calculated mean may be recorded to 1 decimal place on the Narrow HTTC Declaration. Any elevation that does not have a mean cavity width of less than 50mm will not be deemed a HTTC under this category.

A clear record must be made identifying the location of the inspection holes used to undertake this measurement. The record can be in the form of a photograph or a sketch.

If there is a period of time between the measurement of the cavity width and the installation of the measure, it is important to ensure that all drill holes are sealed to prevent water ingress.

Further guidance on measuring hard-to-treat cavities can be found in Ofgem's [ECO: Supplementary Guidance on Hard-to-Treat Cavity Wall Insulation](#).