

Cold Weather Alert

Tel: 0370 900 0100 www.metoffice.gov.uk



NHS (Ref: MO43)

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Forecast Issued on Tuesday, 13 March 2018 at 09:56

Cold Weather Alert

Level 2 - Alert and Readiness

<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/cold-weather-alert/#?tab=coldWeatherAlert>

There is a 70% probability of severe cold weather/heavy snow between 0900 on Friday 16 Mar and 0900 on Monday 19 Mar in parts of England. This weather could increase the health risks to vulnerable patients and disrupt the delivery of services.

Please refer to the national Cold Weather Plan and your Trust's emergency plan for appropriate preventive action.

An update will be issued when the alert level changes in any region. Alerts are issued once a day by 0900 if required and are not subject to amendment in between standard issue times. Note that the details of the forecast weather are valid at the time of issue but may change over the period that an alert remains in force. These details will not be updated here unless the alert level also changes, the latest forecast details can be obtained at the following link:

<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/#?tab=map>

Regional Risk Assessments for occurrence of Cold Weather conditions between 0900 Local Time on Friday 16 Mar and 0900 Local Time on Monday 19 Mar.

The areas that are likely to be affected are:

Region	Risk	Comments
North East England	70 %	Becoming colder from Friday night onwards, with any rain turning to snow over the Pennines for a time. Very cold with a chance of scattered snow showers Saturday onwards.
North West England	70 %	Becoming colder later from Friday night onwards, with any rain turning to snow over the Pennines for a time. Very cold with a chance of scattered snow showers Saturday onwards, mainly in the east, with mainly dry conditions in the west.
Yorkshire and the Humber	70 %	Becoming colder from Friday night onwards, with any rain turning to snow over the Pennines for a time. Very cold with a chance of scattered snow showers Saturday onwards, mainly in the east.
West Midlands	60 %	Turning colder from Saturday onwards, with an increasing chance of snow showers Saturday night onwards. Daytime temperatures may struggle to get above freezing with rather cloudy skies.
East Midlands	70 %	Becoming colder from Friday night onwards, with any rain turning to snow over the Peak District for a time, then noticeably colder Saturday onwards with an increasing wind chill and scattered snow showers.
East of England	70 %	Becoming noticeably much colder Friday night onwards with an increasing wind chill and scattered

Southeast England	70 %	snow showers likely starting later Saturday onwards, these likely to accumulate. Becoming noticeably much colder Saturday onwards with an increasing wind chill and scattered snow showers, these likely to accumulate in places.
London	70 %	Becoming noticeably much colder Saturday onwards with an increasing wind chill and scattered snow showers, these likely to accumulate in places.
Southwest England	60 %	Becoming noticeably much colder Saturday onwards with an increasing wind chill. Isolated snow showers Saturday night onwards, perhaps becoming more widespread during Sunday, but with uncertainty as it is likely most parts of the southwest will stay dry. Cornwall will be the last place to become cold (more likely during Sunday).

General Comments:- A cold easterly airflow is expected to re-develop during the coming weekend, likely lasting until early next week, however at present looks unlikely to be as severe as the conditions experienced at the start of the month.

After a relatively mild period this week, trigger criteria for low temperatures are likely to be met quickly across most parts of England from Saturday onwards, with the cold air first arriving during Friday night across the east. Widespread frost, low daytime temperatures and a significant wind chill are likely to develop. Snow also becomes an increasing risk, especially across the higher Pennines for a time Friday night, but then after that the main focus of snow is in the south and east late Saturday onwards, with many northern and western parts likely staying mainly dry.

There is currently a lot of uncertainty about snowfall location, timing and amounts, but there is high confidence in low temperatures countrywide. The alerts are likely to be updated in the days to come when confidence in the story grows.

For winter health surveillance bulletins from Public Health England, please use the following link:
<http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/winter-health-watch>

The PHE Cold Weather Plan can be accessed at the following link:
<http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/cold-weather-plan-for-england>

A range of free resources from the Stay Well This Winter campaign can be downloaded or ordered here <https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns/34-stay-well-this-winter->

To aid local planning, listed below are the Local resilience Forum (LRFs) matched against their regions.

NHS Region	NSWW Region	Local Resilience Forum
North	North East England	Durham and Darlington Northumbria Cleveland
	Yorkshire and the Humber	Humber North Yorkshire West Yorkshire South Yorkshire
	North West England	Cheshire Cumbria Greater Manchester Lancashire Merseyside
Midlands	West Midlands	Staffordshire Warwickshire West Mercia West Midlands
	East Midlands	Derbyshire Leicestershire Lincolnshire Northamptonshire Nottinghamshire
	East of England	Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Essex Hertfordshire Norfolk Suffolk
South	South East England	Sussex Kent Surrey Thames Valley Hampshire and Isle of Wight
	South West England	Avon & Somerset Devon, Cornwall & Isle of Scilly Dorset Gloucestershire Wiltshire and Swindon
London	London	London