

Cold Weather Alert

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NHS (Ref: MO43)

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Forecast Issued on Friday, 02 February 2018 at 09:02

Cold Weather Alert

Level 3 - Cold Weather Action

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

There is a 90% probability of severe cold weather, icy conditions and snow between 0900 on Sunday 04 Feb and 0900 on Friday 09 Feb 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 Sunday 04 Feb and 0900 Local Time on Friday 09 Feb.

The areas that are likely to be affected are:

Region	Risk	Comments
North East England	90 %	Trigger criteria is likely to be met for low temperatures during this week, with a risk of slight snow accumulations and ice.
North West England	90 %	Trigger criteria is likely to be met for low temperatures during this week, with a risk of slight snow accumulations and ice, mainly Tuesday.
Yorkshire and the Humber	90 %	Trigger criteria is likely to be met for low temperatures during this week, with a risk of slight snow accumulations and ice.
West Midlands	90 %	Trigger criteria is likely to be met for low temperatures during this week, with a risk of slight snow accumulations and ice, mainly Tuesday
East Midlands	90 %	Trigger criteria is likely to be met for low temperatures during this week. Scattered sleet and snow showers could bring some slight snow accumulations and ice risk.
East of England	90 %	Trigger criteria is likely to be met for low temperatures during this week. Scattered sleet and snow showers could bring some slight snow accumulations and ice risk.
Southeast England	90 %	Trigger criteria will be met for low average temperatures during this week. Scattered sleet and snow showers are likely at times, mainly Kent and

London	90 %	Sussex. Trigger criteria will be met for low average temperatures during this week. Scattered sleet and snow showers are likely at times.
Southwest England	90 %	Trigger criteria is likely to be met due to lower average temperatures, with the low risk of some slight snow, and an associated ice risk mainly Tuesday.

General Comments:- Cold weather has now set in, with brisk northeasterly winds in the south. There is now high confidence for a period of cold weather this week, raising the Alert to level 3 for all areas.

Some snow showers are expected along the east coast, perhaps persistent across parts of Kent, through the Thames Estuary and into Sussex. This will bring a risk of icy stretches on roads and pavements with some localised slight accumulations possible Monday morning. A weakening band of snow then spreads southeast Tuesday, with some slight to moderate accumulations, most likely in the north and west, but possible elsewhere too. There is the low risk of further snow accumulations in the far southeast and east as this clears Wednesday morning.

The cold weather will then persist until the end of the week, with another band of rain, sleet or snow spreading southeastwards on Thursday and Friday. This could bring some less cold conditions for a time, perhaps lifting conditions above alert criteria in the south. However confidence is low at this stage, and this alert may need to be extended later this week, most probably for the north.

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