

# Cold Weather Alert

Tel: 0370 900 0100 [www.metoffice.gov.uk](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk)



**NHS (Ref: MO43)**

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Forecast Issued on Thursday, 15 March 2018 at 08:26

## 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 and locally heavy snow between 2100 on Friday 16 Mar and 0900 on Tuesday 20 Mar in parts of England. This weather could increase the health risks to vulnerable patients and could 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 2100 Local Time on Friday 16 Mar and 0900 Local Time on Tuesday 20 Mar.**

The areas that are likely to be affected are:

Region	Risk	Comments
North East England	90 %	Becoming much colder from Friday onwards, with any rain later on Friday turning to snow, especially across the Pennines. Very low temperatures and a chance of scattered snow showers Saturday onwards, then becoming less cold on Monday.
North West England	90 %	Becoming much colder from Friday onwards, with any rain later on Friday turning to snow, especially across the Pennines. Very low temperatures and a chance of scattered snow showers Saturday onwards, then becoming less cold on Monday.
Yorkshire and the Humber	90 %	Becoming much colder from Friday onwards, with any rain later Friday turning to snow, especially across the Pennines. Very low temperatures and a chance of scattered snow showers Saturday onwards, then becoming less cold on Monday.
West Midlands	90 %	Turning much colder from Saturday onwards, with an increasing chance of snow. Very low temperatures expected until Monday when it should start to become less cold and mainly dry.
East Midlands	90 %	Becoming much colder from Friday night onwards, with any rain on Friday turning to snow overnight, especially across the Peak District. Very low temperatures and scattered snow showers Saturday

East of England	90 %	onwards, then becoming less cold on Monday. Significant wind chill given strong easterly winds. Becoming much colder from early Saturday onwards, with any rain early on turning readily to snow. Very low temperatures and a chance of scattered snow showers Saturday onwards, then becoming less cold on Monday. Significant wind chill given strong easterly winds.
Southeast England	90 %	Becoming much colder from Saturday onwards with an increasing risk of snow. Very low temperatures likely until Monday when it should become less cold. Significant wind chill given strong easterly winds.
London	90 %	Becoming much colder from Saturday onwards with an increasing risk of snow. Very low temperatures likely until Monday when it should become less cold. Significant wind chill given strong easterly winds.
Southwest England	90 %	Becoming much colder during Saturday with an increasing risk of snow, especially Saturday night into Sunday. Very low temperatures likely until Monday when it should start to become less cold. Significant wind chill given strong easterly winds.

General Comments:- A cold easterly airflow is expected to return during the weekend, likely lasting until Monday. At present it looks unlikely to be as severe as the conditions experienced at the start of the month, but unusually low temperatures and some snowfall are still expected. After a relatively mild period this week, trigger criteria for low temperatures are likely to be met quickly across England from Saturday onwards, with the cold air first arriving during Friday night across the northeast. Widespread frost, low daytime temperatures and a significant wind chill are likely to develop. Snowfall looks likely across high ground Friday into Saturday, with snow showers following behind and affecting low-lying areas, especially in the east. A chance of more persistent snow across southern and perhaps parts of the Midlands Saturday night into Sunday, with some uncertainty at this stage. The highest confidence is in respect to the predicted low temperatures. Keep in touch with the Met Office weather warnings regarding snowfall over the coming days.

**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
<b>North</b>	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
<b>Midlands</b>	West Midlands	Staffordshire Warwickshire West Mercia West Midlands
	East Midlands	Derbyshire Leicestershire Lincolnshire Northamptonshire Nottinghamshire
	East of England	Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Essex Hertfordshire Norfolk Suffolk
<b>South</b>	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
<b>London</b>	London	London