

Cold Weather Alert

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NHS (Ref: MO43)

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Forecast Issued on Thursday, 07 December 2017 at 08:25

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/heavy snow between 0800 on Thursday 07 Dec and 0600 on Wednesday 13 Dec 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 0800 Local Time on Thursday 07 Dec and 0600 Local Time on Wednesday 13 Dec.

The areas that are likely to be affected are:

Region	Risk	Comments
North East England	90 %	Cold temperatures day and night with significant wind chill. Some snow showers likely most days, with more prolonged snow possible on Sunday.
North West England	90 %	Cold temperatures day and night with significant wind chill. Some snow showers likely most days, becoming frequent on Thursday evening into Friday with more prolonged snow possible on Sunday.
Yorkshire and the Humber	90 %	Cold temperatures day and night with significant wind chill. Some snow showers likely most days, with more prolonged snow possible on Sunday.
West Midlands	90 %	Cold temperatures day and night with significant wind chill. Some snow showers likely most days, becoming frequent on Thursday evening into Friday with more prolonged snow possible on Sunday.
East Midlands	90 %	Arctic air arriving from 1800 Thursday. Cold temperatures day and night with significant wind chill. Some snow showers likely at times, with more prolonged snow possible on Sunday.
East of England	90 %	Arctic air arriving from 1800 Thursday. Cold temperatures day and night with significant wind chill. Some snow showers likely at times, with more prolonged snow possible on Sunday.
Southeast England	90 %	Arctic air arriving from 1800 Thursday. Cold

London	90 %	temperatures day and night with significant wind chill. Some snow showers likely at times. Arctic air arriving from 1800 Thursday. Cold temperatures day and night with significant wind chill. Some snow showers likely at times.
Southwest England	70 %	Arctic air arriving from 1800 Thursday. Cold temperatures day and night with significant wind chill. Some snow showers likely at times.

General Comments:- Cold Arctic air is expected to spread south across all parts of England through Thursday and Friday. A brisk northerly wind will give significant wind chill. Whilst many areas will remain dry with sunny spells through the day, occasional snow showers are expected giving localised accumulations and icy patches. These are possible anywhere, although most likely in northwest England and West Midlands on Thursday into Friday, and also northeast England and east coastal areas. A band of rain moving east on Sunday and Monday is likely to turn to sleet or snow parts of the East of England, the Midlands, and areas northwards, potentially producing further accumulations.

This period of cold weather is then likely to continue into next week, beyond the current alert period.

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