

Weather Message from Met Office Advisor for SW England for COLD and ICE this week

HEADLINE: The mainly dry, but bitterly cold and frosty, weather with a mix of cloud and bright/clear spells has now arrived across SW England and is set to stay with us during this week.

This has resulted in the UKHSA Cold Weather Alert being upgraded to AMBER and continuing through to 12:00 Friday 12 January. And, with severe frosts during the dark hours, we may see icy conditions on untreated wet roads, paths, pavements etc, and other ground susceptible to ice, especially where there is seepage from fields etc. Potential impacts expected from this weather: an increase in slips, trips, and falls, traffic incidents and possibly power/comms/services outages. With this in mind, there is now a low level impact ice weather warning in force for ice, with a little snow, in place for late afternoon, this evening into the early hours of Tuesday morning.

We may see further ice weather warnings issued during this week too.

WEATHER/POTENTIAL IMPACTS:

COLD and ICE for this week:

- Bitterly cold, with a noticeable wind chill at times, although bright/clear spells at times too. Daytime temperatures – between zero and plus 5 Celsius – while night-time temperatures around minus 1 to minus 6 Celsius. **Impacts expected are from widespread frost, plus potential ice on untreated wet roads, paths, pavements etc, due to seepage from fields etc, leading to potential increase in slips, trips and fall, traffic incidents and possibly power/comms/services outages.** We may see further ice weather warnings issued through this week.

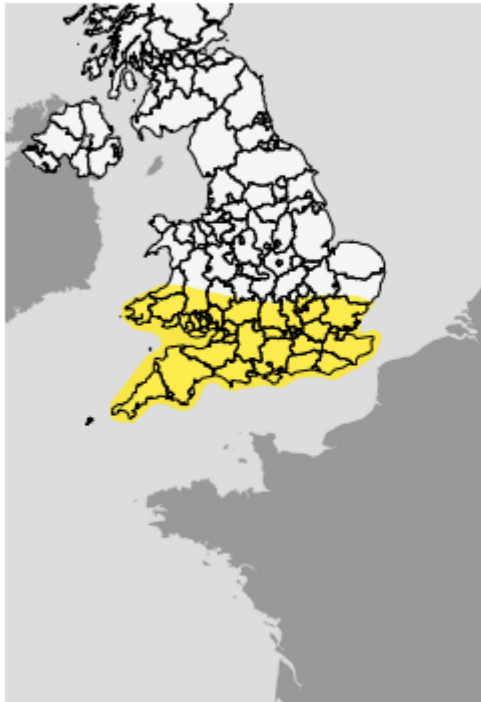
Currently for **SW England the UKHSA Winter Cold-Health Alert is AMBER – Enhanced Cold Weather Response** – currently in effect to **12:00 Friday 12 January**. It is available [here](#).

South West	AMBER (12)	Significant impacts are probable across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; internal temperatures in care settings (e.g. hospitals, care homes and primary care settings) may fall below recommended threshold for clinical risk assessment; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people; staffing issues due to external factors (e.g. travel delays); other sectors may start to observe impacts (e.g. transport and energy).
------------	------------	--



Yellow warning
Ice

Between
15:00 Mon 8 Jan 2024 and
03:00 Tue 9 Jan 2024



Ice and small amounts of snow could lead to slippery surfaces in a few places.

What to expect

- Some injuries from slips and falls on icy or snowy surfaces
- Perhaps some icy patches on some untreated roads, pavements and cycle paths

Further details

Parts of southern Britain are likely to see some snow showers during Monday afternoon and the first part of the night. Most places will see little or no lying snow, but 1-2 cm may settle in one or two places, mostly over high ground.

In addition, some icy surfaces are possible for a time. However, the chance this reduces by dawn on Tuesday as snow showers clear to the west and surfaces dry out.



✓ Medium likelihood of low impacts

RAIN for this week:

Expected to be dry, but current flooding impacts maybe ongoing for a while. Currently for parts of SW England the Flood Guidance Statement (FGS) is currently **YELLOW** for next 5 days for ongoing groundwater flood risk in Dorset and Wiltshire, and **GREEN** elsewhere in SW England. It can be viewed [here](#).

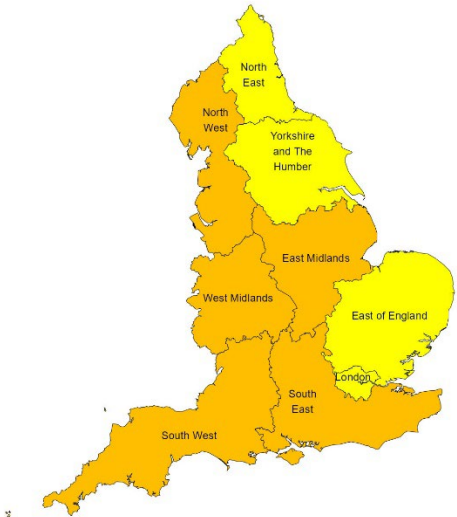
Please note, all weather forecasts and warning(s) are available on [Hazard Manager](#), the [Met Office App](#) or [Met Office website](#). If you have any questions about the above weather, please feel free to email on swengland&westmids.cca@metoffice.gov.uk and one of the team will get back to you during normal weekday working hours. If you require an immediate 24/7 response for urgent enquiries, please ring the duty forecaster on 0330 135 4267.

Cold-Health Alert has been updated in the South West

Overall Risk Score: AMBER (12)

General Overview - Significant impacts are **probable** across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; internal temperatures in care settings (e.g. hospitals, care homes and primary care settings) may fall below recommended threshold for clinical risk assessment; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people; staffing issues due to external factors (e.g. travel delays); other sectors may start to observe impacts (e.g. transport and energy).

AMBER Cold-Health Alert - (Enhanced cold weather response) has been updated for the South West and is in effect between 08/01/2024 at 12:00 and 12/01/2024 at 12:00.

	<p style="text-align: center;">Overview of weather conditions</p> <p>The latest forecast details are available via the Met Office: Find a forecast</p>
--	---

<table border="1" style="text-align: center;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="background-color: #28a745;">4</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">8</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">13</td> <td style="background-color: #dc3545;">16</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="background-color: #28a745;">3</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">7</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">12</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="background-color: #28a745;">2</td> <td style="background-color: #28a745;">6</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">10</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">14</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="background-color: #28a745;">1</td> <td style="background-color: #28a745;">5</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">9</td> <td style="background-color: #ffc107;">11</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: middle;">Likelihood</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">Impact</td> </tr> </table>		4	8	13	16		3	7	12	15		2	6	10	14		1	5	9	11	Likelihood						Impact				<p style="text-align: center;">Risk Matrix</p> <p>Heat-Health impact risk scores have been derived between the UKHSA and the Met Office for each region and are provided in the below table. Users are advised to refer the regional risk score to the matrix.</p>
	4	8	13	16																											
	3	7	12	15																											
	2	6	10	14																											
	1	5	9	11																											
Likelihood																															
	Impact																														

Region	Overall Risk Score	Expected Impacts at Regional Level
North East	YELLOW (10)	Significant impacts are possible across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; impact on ability of services delivered due to effects on workforce possible; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people.
North West	AMBER (12)	Significant impacts are probable across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; internal temperatures in care settings (e.g. hospitals, care homes and primary care settings) may fall below recommended threshold for clinical risk assessment; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people; staffing issues due to external factors (e.g. travel delays); other sectors may start to observe impacts (e.g. transport and energy).
Yorkshire and The Humber	YELLOW (9)	There is potential for significant impacts to be observed across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; impact on ability of services delivered due to effects on workforce possible; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people.
East Midlands	AMBER (12)	Significant impacts are probable across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; internal temperatures in care settings (e.g. hospitals, care homes and primary care settings) may fall below recommended threshold for clinical risk assessment; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people; staffing issues due to external factors (e.g. travel delays); other sectors may start to observe impacts (e.g. transport and energy).
West Midlands	AMBER (12)	Significant impacts are probable across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying

		health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; internal temperatures in care settings (e.g. hospitals, care homes and primary care settings) may fall below recommended threshold for clinical risk assessment; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people; staffing issues due to external factors (e.g. travel delays); other sectors may start to observe impacts (e.g. transport and energy).
East of England	YELLOW (9)	There is potential for significant impacts to be observed across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; impact on ability of services delivered due to effects on workforce possible; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people.
London	YELLOW (9)	There is potential for significant impacts to be observed across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; impact on ability of services delivered due to effects on workforce possible; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people.
South East	AMBER (12)	Significant impacts are probable across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; internal temperatures in care settings (e.g. hospitals, care homes and primary care settings) may fall below recommended threshold for clinical risk assessment; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people; staffing issues due to external factors (e.g. travel delays); other sectors may start to observe impacts (e.g. transport and energy).
South West	AMBER (12)	Significant impacts are probable across the health and social care sector due to forecast weather conditions, including: observed increase in mortality across the population, particularly in the 65+ age group or those with certain underlying health conditions, but impacts may also be seen in younger age groups; increased demand for remote health care services likely; internal temperatures in care settings (e.g. hospitals, care homes and primary care settings) may fall below recommended threshold for clinical risk assessment; maintaining indoor temperatures at recommended 18°C may become challenging for some, leading to increased risk of vulnerable people; staffing issues due to external factors

		(e.g. travel delays); other sectors may start to observe impacts (e.g. transport and energy).
--	--	---

Organisations providing health and social care should be aware of the advice and guidance set out in the [Adverse Weather and Health Plan](#), as to the actions necessary before and during a Cold-Health Alert Period. Specific advice is available in the links below.

Cold-Health Alerts are sent to the Chief Executive of every Health Trust provider of NHS commissioned care, Local Authority and Social Care Organisation in England. If you would like to add a colleague to receive these alerts, please go to: <https://forms.office.com/e/Bw6mj6a6qa>.

The Cold-Health Alert Service operates in England from 1 November to 31 March each year, in partnership with the Met Office. This is the period when low temperatures are likely to occur. However, should low temperatures be observed or expected outside of this period, an extraordinary Cold-Health Alert will be issued and stakeholders are advised to take the usual public health actions.

To aid local planning, Local Resilience Forum (LRFs) and their regions can be found here: [Guidance - Local Resilience Forums: Contact Details](#).