Humber and North Yorkshire
Health and Care Partnership

NHS
Humber and
North Yorkshire
Integrated Care Board (ICB)

Adverse Weather Plan

October 2024

Authorship:	EPRR Manager
Committee Approved:	HNYICB Executive Team
Approved date:	October 2024
Equality Impact Assessment:	October 2024
Target Audience:	ICB and its Committees and Sub-Committees, ICB Staff, agency and temporary staff & third parties under contract
Policy Number:	ICB76
Version Number:	1.0

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AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the policy may be issued from time to time. A new amendment history will be issued with each change.

New Version Number	Issued by	Nature of Amendment	Approving body	Approval date	Date published on website
0.1	EPRR Manager	New Policy	N/A	N/A	N/A
0.2	Senior EPRR Manager	Full review of policy, main amendments to include reference to LRF plans/command and control structures and access to 4x4 vehicles.	N/A	N/A	N/A
0.3	EPRR Manager	Considered comments from NHSE Sustainability lead and revised the Adverse Weather Action Card	N/A	N/A	N/A
1.0	EPRR Manager	New Policy Approved	HNYICB Executive Team	30/10/2024	November 2024

1 Introduction

This policy has been developed to ensure NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB), can fulfil their statutory duties and the requirements of the NHS England Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response Framework and associated guidance.

In 2023 UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) launched a new Adverse Weather and Health Plan (second edition released in 2024) bringing together the previous Heatwave Plan and the Cold Weather Plan for England. This combines all the responses to significant weather events into a single framework, allowing ease of reference. The plan is available to view here.

All NHS organisations should receive weather alerts and warnings (and where relevant – flood warnings) and have plans and arrangements in place to respond. Where adverse weather is causing a surge in demand, impacting on service delivery or is a risk to the public health, the ICB would lead the system response amongst health partners. In extreme events (major flooding / prolonged severe cold or heat) patient safety may be at risk. In such circumstances the ICBs will be involved in multi-agency response alongside LRF partners.

This plan has been developed to address the planning and response requirements for the ICB for all types and scales of adverse weather.

This plan should be read in conjunction with the ICBs Command and Control Framework and/or the ICBs Business Continuity Policy as appropriate to the prevailing weather situation at the time.

1.1 Climate Change

This plan focuses on immediate risks and hazards, the impact of longer-term climate change is not directly referenced. However, the ICB is cognisant of the impact climate change may have on this plan in the future, and that climate change will indeed contribute to increased frequency and impact associated with adverse weather. Any increased risks as a result of climate change highlighted by specialists will be considered in the annual review of this plan. The ICB's EPRR Team will maintain a close working relationship with the North East and Yorkshire Greener NHS Team, whom are stakeholders in this plan, to review risks associated with climate change. Climate change is categorised as a "Chronic Risk" by the Cabinet Office.

2 Purpose

To describe the ICB level response to Adverse Weather events within the Humber and North Yorkshire Area. Adverse Weather can affect the ICB operating area in a variety of forms:

- Heatwave
- Cold Weather/Snow
- Flooding Heavy Rainfall
- Drought
- Wind
- Fog
- Thunderstorms

- Lightening
- Widespread Ice

The ICB has a responsibility to ensure that it is prepared for such eventualities, this document contains considerations and actions required in response to such events, and the actions required in advance of such events to ensure preparedness.

2.1 Objectives

- Detail initial actions required in response to adverse weather incidents.
- Identify key critical roles involved in the response to and decision making for adverse weather events.
- Indicate the proactive steps that must be taken to enable ICB, ICB commissioned services and Primary Care staff to prepare for adverse weather incidents.

3 Definition/ Explanation of Terms

- Cold Weather/Snow – Cold-Health Alerts are in place for the UK to monitor adverse effects on people's health between 1st November and 31st March every year. Currently, there are two thresholds in place for the UK these are:

    - mean temperature falls below 2°C for 48 hours or longer; and/or
    - heavy snow and/or widespread ice

- Drought – Means a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall leading to a shortage of water

- Flood Risk – Is a combination of the probability and the potential consequences from flooding. Areas at risk of flooding from any source now and in the future. Sources include the rivers and the sea, direct rainfall on the ground surface, rising groundwater, overwhelmed sewers and drainage systems, reservoirs, canals and lakes and other artificial sources. Flood risk also accounts for the interactions between these different sources.

- Flooding – Means the submerging of normally dry land with a large amount of water, in the UK there are three main types of flooding, fluvial which is the flooding of rivers, pluvial which is the flooding linked to very heavy rainfall and coastal flooding.

- Fog – Poses minimal impact on health care, although impact on roads could result in an increased risk of road traffic accidents.

- Heatwave – Means an extended period of hot weather relative to the expected conditions of the area at that time of year, which may be accompanied by high humidity. The UK threshold for heatwave is met when a location records a period of at least three consecutive days with daily maximum temperatures meeting or exceeding the heatwave temperature threshold (North Yorkshire is set currently at 25°C and Humber at 26°C). The Met Office Heat-Health Alert service is in place between June and September.

- Heavy snow – Is defined as snow that is expected to fall for at least 2 hours. Geographic extent is not considered, and sometimes the event can be quite localised, but the Met Office will always try to indicate which area will be affected in a Weather Warning Alert. The potential health impact from snow can be vast. Whilst there is a

risk of an increase in accidents, there is also a potential impact of disruption to transport services. This can also result in the elderly being more reluctant to venture out to collect medication or attend health appointments.

- Lightning – Poses limited health impacts; however it is important to note that there is a risk of damage to buildings' utilities during episodes of lightning. This could potentially result in a business continuity incident due to loss of electricity.

- Poor Air Quality – Can lead to irritation of the eyes, nose, and throat, cause shortness of breath, aggravate asthma and other respiratory conditions, and affect the heart and cardiovascular system. There are a number of sources that contribute to poor air quality such as cars, buses, planes, trucks, and trains, power plants, oil refineries, industrial facilities, and factories. Other contributors include agricultural areas, cities, and wood burning fireplaces.

  Sunshine, rain, higher temperatures, wind speed, air turbulence, and mixing depths all affect pollutant concentrations. Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) provide a daily air quality index available here.

- Storm – Is usually applied to any violent atmospheric disturbance, whether it's a thunderstorm, squall, or snowstorm. Dependant on the intensity can cause significant damage to property and infrastructure and threat to life. When compounded with other factors can cause additional problems (i.e. snow drifting, dust storms).

- Thunderstorms – There is some evidence that thunderstorms can impact on pollen in the air and can trigger asthma. Thunderstorm asthma is a term used to describe any observed increase in acute bronchospasm cases following the occurrence of thunderstorms.

- Widespread ice – Ice forms when rain falls on surfaces at or below zero; or already wet surfaces fall to or below zero. The ice is usually clear and difficult to distinguish from a wet surface. It usually forms in sheets. Warnings are issued when any depth of ice is expected over a widespread area. Warnings will also be issued after a snowfall when compacted snow is expected to cause an ice risk. The main health impact from ice is in relation to trauma, in particular potential fractures or head injuries. There is also a higher risk of road traffic accidents which can result in additional pressures for Trauma Centres, Emergency Departments and orthopaedic services.

- Wind - There is direct risk of injury and loss of life caused by falling trees and flying debris. This is compounded in an urban environment where there are high structures, construction work in progress and trees in the urban street scene.

  There is also the risk that individuals may suffer from mental health impacts that have been caused by the impact of wind, including the potential displacement from the impact of the wind. This could potentially result in a business continuity incident due to loss of access to buildings which could impact on a services ability to run.

4 Scope of the Policy

The policy applies to NHS Humber and North Yorkshire ICB and all its employees and must be followed by all those who work for the organisation, including the Integrated Care Board, Integrated Care Partnership, those on temporary or honorary contracts, secondments, pool staff, contractors and students.

5 Duties/ Accountabilities and Responsibilities

5.1 Duties within the organisation

Severe weather incidents place additional burdens and responsibilities on all staff within the ICB. It is essential therefore that all staff are aware of the ICB's expectation in responding to severe weather. The ICB is responsible for leading the local health system and coordinating the system response whilst supporting multi-agency partners.

The roles and responsibilities described give an indication of the minimum expectations of staff in order to continue to deliver critical services, ensuring that the ICB meets its obligations to patients, staff and the public as well as its statutory and regulatory obligations

5.1.1 Accountable Emergency Officer and Executive Team

The Chief Executive of the ICB is able (under the NHS England Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response Framework V3 2022) to designate responsibility for EPRR to an Accountable Emergency Officer ('AEO'). This person will need to be a board level director. For HNYICB this is the Chief Operating Officer (COO). The AEO will be notified of any adverse weather which may cause disruption to services. Based on intelligence gathered, the AEO or their deputy will confirm if any subsequent actions are required, including escalation of the incident, and whether activation of the Adverse Weather Plan is required. The AEO will also be responsible for advertising and enacting this plan.

The AEO has overall responsibility for business continuity arrangements and emergency planning within the ICB, supported by the executive team and the Emergency Preparedness Resilience and Response (EPRR) team. The main responsibility for the AEO and executive team is to ensure that they are able to respond to a significant adverse weather event, by activating the Severe Weather Plan if necessary, and supporting Providers to deliver their critical services.

5.1.2 The Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR) Team

The EPRR Team is responsible for disseminating the adverse weather alerts to key individuals who will need to ensure the information is appropriately acted upon. At different levels the EPRR team will undertake a variety of actions.

Level	Action
Level 0 / Green	Long term plans to prepare and mitigate the impact of heatwaves and cold weather and other adverse weather Include awareness of the Adverse Weather plan in training sessions Register for Met Office alert service Review the distribution of the weather alerts across the system and ensure staff are aware of the plans and advice Ensure adverse weather forms part of the speciality Business Continuity Plans Attend any severe weather conferences held by UKHSA, the Met Office and London Resilience Group

Level	Action
Level 1 / Yellow	Continue to carry out all actions in Level 0 Ensure that staff are updated with weather specific information and advice to help staff cope in adverse weather Liaise with the Communications team to inform all staff of the relevant level alert and the actions required to be taken Send alert to Primary care leads, generic primary care team mailboxes and the surge team for dissemination to their teams to ensure relevant actions are taken
Level 2 & 3 / Amber	Continue to carry out all actions in Level 0 and 1/ yellow Activate Business Continuity arrangements and emergency plans as required Make contact with ICS Provider EPPR colleagues to ensure they have received notification and confirm level of plans that are activated Seek assurance from primary care colleagues that they are confident that GP practices understand the request and have activated their processes to contact and support identified vulnerable patients Link in with Local Authority teams partners (LRF) Activation of the ICB's Vulnerable Persons Process alongside providers to ensure vulnerable persons data is available for the LRF.
Level 4 / Red	Continue to carry out all actions in Level 0, Level 1/ yellow and levels 2 & 3 / Amber Support with a multi- agency response (LRF)

5.1.3 Primary Care Leads

It is the responsibility of those in receipt of email alerts to further disseminate the alerts and engage with GP practices, pharmacists, optometrists and dentists in their locality around the potential impact for all individuals including staff an those patients they consider to be the most vulnerable to the weather or hazards in question.

5.1.4 Place Leads

It is the responsibility of those in receipt of email alerts to further disseminate the information and ensure engagement with practices and providers in their locality. The surge team are responsible for ensuring that Acute, Mental Health and Community providers are aware of the alerts and offer help, advice and support where necessary.

5.1.5 Communications team

The communications team are responsible for ensuring that weather alerts are shared with wider staff. It is recommended that any NHSE updates are replicated for the ICB, unless specific regional messages are sent

Level	Action
Level 0 – 1 / Green	Work with EPRR team to prepare draft comms in readiness for each of the levels to include the alert level, specific actions required and tips for keeping staff & patients warm. Increase staff awareness of the Adverse Weather plan by including communication in weekly newsletters Work with staff on risk reduction awareness, information and education Encourage staff to be vaccinated against flu before winter starts
Level 2-4 / Amber - Red	Provide support to the EPRR team to ensure prompt communications of Met Office alert levels, the actions required and tips via standalone communications bulletins Communicate alerts to staff and make sure they can take appropriate actions, especially those to protect vulnerable service users Support with and communicate any ad hoc messaging that may be required Continue to communicate Public Health media messages Implementation of national emergency response arrangements by central government (level: 4 only)

5.1.6 All Managers

Ensure that all employees are treated fairly and consistently by regularly assessing the current and anticipated staffing levels during periods of adverse weather. Managers will need to ensure they balance the needs of the service with that of the individual employees as well as record lost hours as a result of adverse weather appropriately. Managers should ensure that they familiarise themselves with the ICBs Business Continuity Policy and Plan, and their own directorate level business impact analysis. Managers should also ensure that all of the staff they manage update their contact information on ESR so that they are contactable in the event of an emergency.

5.1.7 Employees

All employees are required to attend work (this may be on site or remotely) and perform the duties of their post, unless they have an authorised absence, this includes sickness, parental leave, or annual leave. Staff are required to make reasonable efforts to attend work during periods of adverse weather. Staff are responsible for ensuring they are aware who to contact when reporting absence or lateness, including due to adverse weather and to carry this out promptly. All staff can register for adverse weather alerts by click this link here. Staff will need to ensure they update their contact details on ESR so that they are contactable in an emergency via the ICBs Alert Cascade System.

5.2 Responsibilities for approval

The HNY ICB Executive Committee is responsible for the review and approval of this policy

6 Adverse Weather Related Risks

Weather related risks as defined on NHS England North East and Yorkshire risk register are as follows:

Risk	Hazard Description	Residual Risk Rating
Poor Air Quality	Health Impacts of poor air quality – prolonged expose to air pollution leading to exacerbations of respiratory or cardio-vascular conditions, increased use of primary & community health services, increased hospitalisation & increased deaths in the elderly population & those with pre-existing conditions	High
Storms	Potential for loss of life or injury. Structural damage to estates and facilities. Power outage. Disruption to all activities. Adverse effects on transport and other services.	High
Low temperatures and heavy snow	Potential for loss of life or injury. Disruption to all activities. Adverse effects on transport and other services. Numbers of staff unable to attend work.	High
High Temperatures and Heatwave	Potential for loss of life or injury. Increased demand for primary care services.	High
Surface water Flooding, Fluvial flooding	Potential for illness or injury. Damage or loss of buildings. Disruption to all services and activities. Adverse effects on transport and other services. Numbers of staff unable to attend work.	Moderate
Coastal Flooding	Impacting on the North East, North Yorkshire and Humber coastline. Mass evacuation may be required from at risk populations, also known as East Coast Tidal Inundation Damage or loss to building. Potential for illness or injury. Disruption to services and activities. Adverse effects on transport and other services. Staff unable to attend work	High
Drought	Prolonged dry weather leading to reducing/reduced water sources Potential risk to public health, disruption to services	Moderate

7 National Weather Alert Levels

This section indicates how the ICB will be alerted and subsequently alert partners to adverse weather incidents. Each provider trust, primary care and LRF partner will have their own internal processes for which the response will either include this response or ensure alignment to it.

7.1 Weather Health Alerts

These impact-based alerts are now issued by UKHSA in partnership with the Met Office. The alerts are underpinned by a dedicated webpage on gov.uk and a registration page where users are able to specify from which region within England they wish to receive alerts. These alerts are received by the ICB and at hnyicb.eprr@nhs.net

Click here to sign up for these alerts.

Warnings will be issued when the weather conditions have the potential to impact the health and wellbeing of the population.

The alerts will be given a colour (yellow, amber or red) based on the combination of the impact the weather conditions could have, and the likelihood of those impacts being realised. These assessments are made in conjunction with the Met Office when adverse weather conditions are indicated within the forecast.

Yellow and amber alert assessments cover a range of potential impacts (including impacts on specific vulnerable groups through to wider impacts on the general population) as well as the likelihood (low to high) of those impacts occurring. This additional information should aid making decisions about the appropriate level of response during an alert period. Within the alert that is issued, the combination of impact and likelihood will be displayed within a risk matrix.

Alerts will be issued with as much lead time to the event as is possible to allow users time to make their local assessments and to initiate all appropriate actions to reduce harm to health. Users should review every alert when issued to ensure they fully understand the potential impacts and how likely they are to occur.

The heat-health alert system operates from 1 June to 30 September and the cold health alert system operates from 1 November to 30 March. An out of season alert may still be issued if impacts from adverse weather on health (heat and cold) are expected.

Both systems are based on the Met Office forecasts and data. Depending on the level of alert, a response will be triggered to communicate the risk to the NHS England, government, and public health system including ICBs and Trusts. The platform aims to cover the spectrum of action from different groups. In general terms:

Green (preparedness):	No alert will be issued as the conditions are likely to have minimal impact and health; business as usual and summer/winter planning and preparedness activities.
Yellow (response):	These alerts cover a range of situations. Yellow alerts may be issued during periods of heat/cold which would be unlikely to impact most people but could impact those who are particularly vulnerable.
Amber (enhanced response):	An amber alert indicates that weather impacts are likely to be felt across the whole health service, with potential for the whole population to be at risk. Non-health sectors may also start to observe impacts and amore significant coordinated response may be required.
Red (emergency response):	A red alert indicates significant risk to life for even the healthy population.

7.2 Met Office National Severe Weather Warning Service (NSWWS)

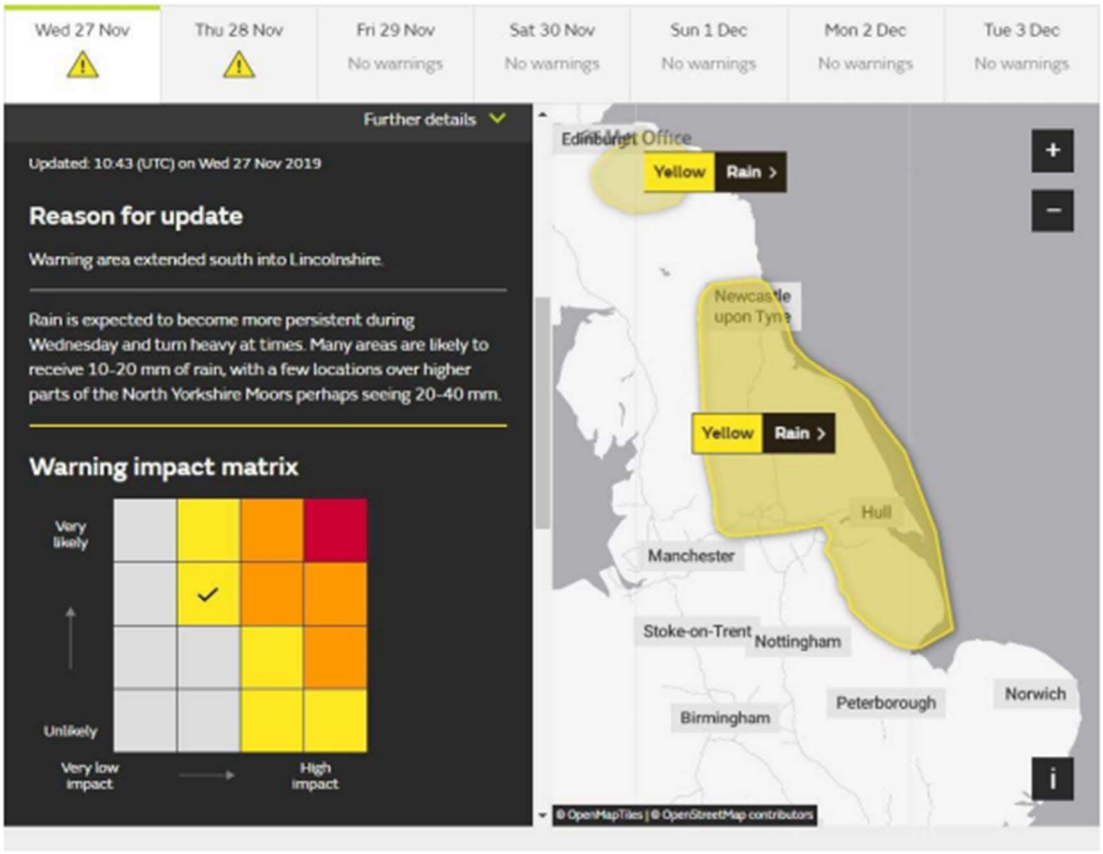
The Met Office also issues weather warnings through the National Severe Weather Warning Service (NSWWS) for severe weather that has potential for impact to the UK and uses a colour coded matrix system to convey the likelihood of impact and severity. Warnings are issued for rain, thunderstorms, wind, snow, lightning, ice, extreme heat and fog.

A NSWWS warning alerts the public and emergency responders (including the ICB) of a severe weather warning that has a likelihood of low, medium and high impact across various sectors causing widespread disruption such as damage to property, infrastructure and power lines, travel delays and cancellations, loss of water supplies and in the most severe cases, danger to life. These warnings are received by the ICB via the accounts listed above.

NSWWS warnings have the following classifications:

Yellow Warning	Yellow warnings can be issued for a range of weather situations. Many are issued when it is likely that the weather will cause some low-level impacts, including some disruption to travel in a few places
Amber Warning	There is an increased likelihood of impacts from severe weather, which could potentially disrupt your plans. This means there is the possibility of travel delays, road and rail closures, power cuts and the potential risk to life and property.
Red Warning	Dangerous weather is expected and, if you haven't already done so, you should act now to keep yourself and others safe from the impact of the severe weather. It is very likely that there will be a risk to life, with substantial disruption to travel, energy supplies and possibly widespread damage to property and infrastructure

NSWWS warnings are in the format shown below which map the areas affected and provide information about likelihood and impact.



7.3 Flood Warnings

Flood Warnings are issued by the Environment Agency to the Emergency Services and Local Authorities. Individuals may also sign up to receive them here.

They are also available to view on the Environment Agency website and are issued by local radio stations. You can view flood warnings in force in North Yorkshire and Humber Estuary, East Riding of Yorkshire, Hull, North East Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire

The key national messages at each flood warning level are listed below:

Flood Alert **PREPARE**		• Prepare a bag that includes medicines and insurance documents. • Check flood warnings.
Flood Warning **ACT**		• Turn off gas, water and electricity. • Move things upstairs or to safety. • Move family, pets and car to safety.
Severe Flood Warning **SURVIVE**		• Call 999 if in immediate danger. • Follow advice from emergency services. • Keep yourself and your family safe.

7.4 NHS Flood Risk Toolkit

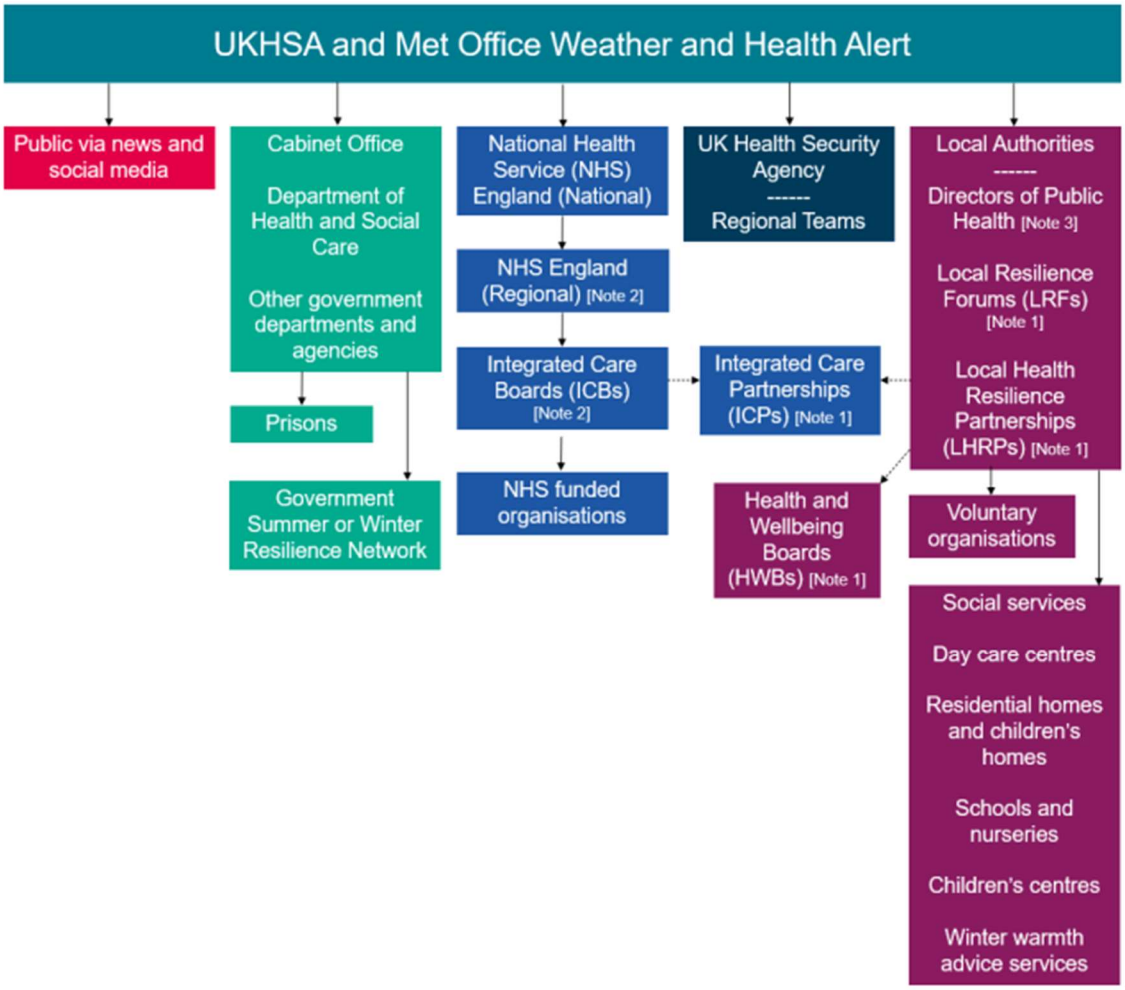
The NHS Flood Risk Toolkit is available on the NHS England Applications website.

The toolkit has been developed to support NHS Trusts in determining which of their sites require a flood risk assessment and to what extent. The tool is designed to:

- Identify and improve an understanding of flood risk across local sites and regional geographies.
- Inform business continuity plans and emergency preparedness for flood events

The toolkit incorporate predictions on how NHS sites may be impacted by climate change in different time periods.

8 Cascade System for Adverse Weather Notification



[Note 1] LHRPs, HWBs and ICPs are strategic and planning bodies, but may wish to be included in local alert cascades.

[Note 2] NHS England Regional Teams and ICBs should work collaboratively to ensure that between them they have cascade mechanism for Heat-Health Alerts to all providers of NHS funded services both in business as usual hours and the out of hours period in their area.

[Note 3] UKHSA would be expected to liaise with DsPH to offer support, but formal alerting would be expected through usual local authorities channels.

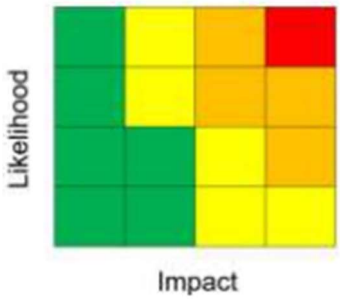
9 Heat Health

A Heat Health Watch alert system will operate in England from 1 June to 30 September each year. During this period, the Met Office may forecast heatwaves, as defined by impacts on the community. The current alerts can be seen on the Met Office Web Site at www.metoffice.gov.uk.

UKHSA Heat Health Alerts are an England only service considering the impact of prolonged extreme heat on public health, especially on those with long term health conditions, operating from 1 June to 30 September.

In line with other weather warning systems in operation within England (and the UK), warnings will be issued when the weather conditions have the potential to impact the health and wellbeing of the population. The alerts will be given a colour (yellow, amber or red) based on the combination of the impact the weather conditions could have, and the

likelihood of those impacts being realised. These assessments are made in conjunction with the Met Office when adverse weather conditions are indicated within the forecast.



The Heat-Health Watch system comprises of impact assessment to the community, as indicated below.

Green	Heatwave and Summer preparedness and long-term planning, 1 June to 15 September. No alert will be issued as the conditions are likely to have minimal impact on health.
Yellow	Yellow alerts may be issued during periods of heat which would be unlikely to impact most people, but those who are particularly vulnerable (for example, the elderly with multiple health conditions and on multiple medications) are likely to struggle to cope and where action is required within the health and social care sector specifically
Amber	Issued when the expected impacts are likely to be felt across the whole health service, with potential for the whole population to be at risk and where other sectors apart from health may also start to observe impacts, indicating that a coordinated response is required.
Red	Emergency response A red alert would indicate significant risk to life for even the healthy population.

Further information on the levels of the heat-health alert system can be found in the Adverse Weather Health Plan 2023 for England.

The ICBs response to a Heat Health alert is outlined in the Adverse Weather Action Card available in the HNY ICB Command and Control Framework

9.1 Health effects of Heatwave conditions

When the air temperature reaches normal body temperature the ability of the body to lose heat is only possible by sweating. Therefore, any condition or influence that stops or inhibits sweating will also prevent the body losing heat. These factors may include dehydration, tight clothing or certain medication. In addition, the thermoregulation is controlled by the hypothalamus and this can be impaired in the elderly and chronically ill rendering the body more liable to overheating.

9.1.1 Who is at risk during a Heatwave?

The main causes of illness and death during a heatwave are respiratory and cardiovascular diseases. Additionally, there are specific heat-related illnesses that can affect the general population. These include:

- heat cramps – caused by dehydration and loss of electrolytes, often following exercise
- heat rash – small, raised spots, an itchy feeling and mild swelling
- heat oedema – mainly in the ankles, due to vasodilation and retention of fluid

- heat syncope – dizziness and fainting, due to dehydration, vasodilation, cardiovascular disease and certain medications
- heat exhaustion (more common) occurs as a result of water or sodium depletion, with non-specific features of malaise, vomiting and circulatory collapse and is present when the core temperature is between 37ºC and 40ºC – left untreated, heat exhaustion may evolve into heatstroke
- heatstroke can become a point of no return whereby the body's thermoregulation mechanism fails, leading to a medical emergency with symptoms of confusion, disorientation, convulsions, unconsciousness, hot dry skin and core body temperature exceeding 40ºC for between 45 minutes and 8 hours – it can result in cell death, organ failure, brain damage or death; heatstroke can be either classical or exertional (for example in athletes).

Heat can exacerbate chronic conditions such as cardiovascular and respiratory systems but can equally increase the chances of other serious health issues such as:

- heart attacks
- strokes
- respiratory problems
- kidney diseases
- electrolyte disorders
- skin cancer

Extreme heat can also exacerbate a range of other health risks from increased transmission of food, vector and waterborne diseases, mental health manifestations, and drive increasing health inequities. Extreme temperatures stress health-system provision of emergency and ambulatory services and complicate responses to other health emergencies, such as the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

10 Cold Weather

Cold Weather Alerts operate in England from 1 November to 31 March every year in association with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and give advance warning of adverse weather conditions that could have a significant effect on health and wellbeing. Currently the Cold Weather Alert service comprises of 5 main levels (Level 0-4) (further information on the levels of the Cold Weather Alert service can be found in the Adverse Weather Health Plan 2023 for England.

Level 0	Year-round planning All year
Level 1	Winter preparedness and action programme 1 November to 31 March
Level 2	Severe winter weather is forecast – Alert and readiness Mean temperature of 2°C or less for a period of at least 48 hours and/or widespread ice and heavy snow are predicted, with 60% confidence
Level 3	Response to severe winter weather – Severe weather action Severe winter weather is now occurring: mean temperature of 2°C or less and or widespread ice and heavy snow.

Level 4	Major incident – Emergency response Central Government will declare a Level 4 alert in the event of severe or prolonged cold weather affecting sectors other than health.

A cold weather alert will be issued for 'cold' temperatures if there is a high likelihood (60% or more) that the mean temperature is expected to be at or below 2°C for a period of 48 hours in one or more regions in the next 5 days. A level 2 will be issued when these conditions are forecast and a level 3 when they are occurring. An alert for snow and ice will be issued when there is a high likelihood (60% or more) that there will be snow or widespread ice affecting one or more regions in the next 5 days; A level 2 will be issued when this weather is forecast and a level 3 when the snow and ice is occurring. A National Severe Weather Warning Service (NSWWS) warning is also highly likely to have been issued.

The ICB's response to a Cold Health alert is outlined in the Adverse Weather Action Card available in the HNY ICB Command and Control Framework

10.1 Health Impacts

The impact of cold weather on health is predictable and mostly preventable. Direct effects include an increase in:

- Heart attack
- Stroke
- Respiratory disease
- Influenza
- Falls and injuries
- Hypothermia

Indirect effects of cold include mental health illnesses such as depression, and carbon monoxide poisoning from poorly maintained or ventilated boilers, cooking and heating appliances and heating.

10.1.1 Who is at risk of health impacts?

For the purpose of this plan, key groups considered to be particularly at risk in the event of severe cold weather are:

- Older people (in particular those over 75 years old, otherwise frail, and or socially isolated)
- People with pre-existing chronic medical conditions such as heart disease, stroke or TIA, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or diabetes
- People with mental ill-health that reduces the individual's ability to self-care (including dementia)
- Pregnant women (in view of the potential impact of cold on the foetus)
- Children under the age of five
- People with learning difficulties
- People assessed as being at risk of, or having had, recurrent falls
- People who are housebound or otherwise have low mobility
- People living in deprived circumstances
- People living in houses with mould
- People who are fuel poor

- Homeless people or people sleeping rough
- Other marginalised or socially isolated individuals or groups

11 Floods

The following key flood risks have been identified in the ICB area:

- Major coastal and tidal flooding - sea surge, spring tides, gale force winds and/or heavy rainfall, some defences overtopped or failing at multiple locations.
- Severe fluvial flooding affecting more than two UK regions - single massive fluvial event or multiple concurrent regional events following a sustained period of heavy rainfall extending over two weeks (perhaps combined with snow melt and surface water flooding).
- Local/urban flooding due to fluvial or surface water run off(sustained period of heavy rainfall extending over two weeks, possible combining with snow melt, result in flash flooding and steadily rising river levels that could threaten an urban town.
- Local Pluvial Flooding. Very high intensity rainfall over one village or community overwhelms drainage system, resulting in flooding of properties before water enters watercourses - very high.
- Regional Pluvial Flooding - Heavy and prolonged rainfall across a wide area (large urban areas affected) overwhelms drainage systems, resulting in flooding of properties before water enters watercourse.
- Heavily localised flooding in steep vall ey catchments leading to extremely hazardous flash flooding.
- Critical waste water asset flooding caused by third party blockage, exceptional wet weather incapacity or loss of pumping capacity.
- Failure of above ground service reservoirs which are subject to the Reservoirs Act (above 25Ml) and the Flood & Water Management Act.

11.1 LRF Flood Plans and Response

The LRF for the area flooded will usually lead a flood response as a multiagency effort, using their own flooding plans and other complimentary plans (e.g. evacuation plans). Humber LRF and North Yorkshire LRF have the following plans:

- North Yorkshire LRF Flood Plan
- North Yorkshire localities also have smaller bespoke plans including Craven, Hambleton, Harrogate, Richmondshire, Ryedale, Scarborough, Selby and City of York. These take into account individual risks and recovery models.
- North Yorkshire LRF Severe Weather and Natural Hazards Plan
- Humber LRF East Coast Tidal Inundation Plan
- Humber LRF Severe Weather Plan
- Both LRFs also have their generic Incident Response Plans for any incident. For North Yorkshire this is the Response to Major and Critical Incidents plan (RMCI) and for Humber LRF this is their Emergency Procedures Manual.
- Evacuation plans on a large and local scale.

There are a variety of ways that LRF plans might be triggered:

- Flood advisory service (FAS): this service has been established by the Environment Agency and Met Office to provide a means of early communication between these two agencies, and all category 1 and 2 responders. The FAS can call a

teleconference meeting (it will be called by the Environment Agency), and the ICB is signed up to receive notifications of any meetings called (into the EPRR Inbox). The FAS will also often send an email alert advising that although a flood warning has been issued, that a FAS teleconference is not required. An LRF might decide to trigger their flood or response plans following a FAS teleconference.

- In the event of significant flooding event with little or not notice, plans would be activated in any case in order to response
- Due to a Flood Warning (Flood warnings are issued as identified in Section 7.3).

As a Category 1 Responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 the ICB is expected to attend tactical and strategic co-ordinating groups called by either LRF in response to a flood; or any Multi-Agency Advisory Teleconferences (MAAT) called by North Yorkshire LRF. There is not an expectation that the ICB attend the operational level place-based groups in North Yorkshire but providers are free to do so should they wish to. Humber LRF may also set up a Flood Advisory Cell, and the ICB are on the invite list for those meetings. All meeting invites and alerts come into the EPRR Inbox (hnyicb.eprr@nhs.net).

There is a general assumption in plans that emergency services will continue to deliver the services expected of them unless the incident prevents them from doing so – at which point the organisation will need to ask for support from the LRF. The ICB and any services it commissions ought to use their own business continuity and adverse weather plans in the event of any disruption to services. Where multi-agency support is required, the ICB ought to use the contact information for both Local Resilience Forums can be found in the On Call Directory.xlsx. Information on how to use the NYLRF RMCI notifications can be found in the NYLRF RMCI document on their planning page within Resilience Direct (North Yorkshire LRF Planning (resilience.gov.uk)).

11.2 Health Impacts

Direct health effects associated with flood water and its debris include:

- drowning (for example, walking or driving through flood water)
- physical trauma (for example, concealed or displaced objects, electrocution, fire)
- skin and gut infections from exposure to contaminated flood water

Longer-term health effects that may occur as a consequence of flooding include:

- mental health impacts
- carbon monoxide poisoning due to inappropriate use of generators
- respiratory disease from mould and damp
- rodent-borne disease

11.2.1 Who is at risk of health impacts

- Older People
- People with pre-existing mental health conditions
- People with chronic illness or with physical, sensory or cognitive impairments
- Children
- People in socioeconomically disadvantaged groups
- People with language and culture-based vulnerabilities

- People sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness
- University students
- Transient communities and people with no connection to a place or services
- People experiencing temporary vulnerabilities
- People receiving complex healthcare interventions at home

11.3 At Risk Premises across the ICB

Data obtained from the [NHS Flood Risk Toolkit]

Flood Risk & Benefit Areas By Trust and Site

Region	Trust Name	Site Name	In benefit scheme area?	Flood Risk Type / Flood Risk Category: Rivers and Seas				Surfac..
				High	Medium	Low	No Risk	High
North East and Yorkshire	Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust	Castle Hill Hospital	Yes					
		Hull Royal Infirmary	Yes					
	Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust	Granville Court Nursing Home, Horn..	Yes					
		Greentrees Lodge	Yes					
		Hawthorne Court	Yes					
		Humber Centre Forensic Unit	Yes					
		Inspire – Walker Street Childrens Ce..	Yes					
		Maister Lodge	Yes					
		Mill View	Yes					
		Miranda House	Yes					
		Newbridges	Yes					
		Townend Court	Yes					
		Westlands	Yes					
		Whitby Community Hospital	Yes					
	Northern Lincolnshire And Goole NHS Foundation Trust	Diana, Princess Of Wales Hospital	No					
		Goole And District Hospital	Yes					
		Scunthorpe General Hospital	Yes					
	York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	Bridlington Hospital	No					
		Malton And Norton Hospital	Yes					
		Scarborough Hospital	Yes					
		St Helen's	No					
		St Monicas Hospital	No					
		The New Selby War Memorial Hospi..	Yes					
		Whitecross Court	Yes					
		York Hospital	No					

12 Access to 4 Wheel Drive Vehicles

Access to four wheel drive vehicles can be a key requirement during a heavy snow fall event or a flooding event. Responding organisations with access to 4x4 vehicles will communicate as required to discuss whether existing resources can be shared between partners via Local Resilience Forums. Category 1 and 2 Responder organisations that may be able to provide 4x4 vehicles include:

- The Environment Agency
- The Fire and Rescue Service
- Local Authority Fleet Transport
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency

Some Voluntary Sector organisations may also be able to provide support, including:

- Yorkshire 4x4 Response
- Lincolnshire 4x4 Response
- LCAT 4x4 Response

- British Red Cross
- St John Ambulance
- Mountain Rescue Team (North East) – North Yorkshire LRF.

Humber LRF will convene a 4x4 Cell if required, inviting the above parties to attend – this meeting is co-ordinated by British Red Cross.

Some health providers have access to their own 4x4 vehicles that can be used to transport community staff, but numbers are small and it is likely that support would need to be sought. Some providers also operate a system whereby they are able to communicate with staff to ask those that have their own 4x4 vehicles offer to assist with transport requirements where needed.

13 Other Types of Adverse Weather

A weather impact table which includes heat, cold, flooding and the following additional types of adverse weather is available at Appendix 3 – Weather Impact Table for Emergency Responders and Key Messages This includes impact and advice for each of these anticipated adverse weather conditions.

- Snow
- Drought
- Wind
- Fog
- Thunderstorms
- Lightening
- Widespread Ice

14 ICB Response

14.1 Impacts to ICB

Due to ICB staff being largely remote workers the impact of adverse weather events will be lowered. However, where there are critical functions identified in business continuity plans that must be delivered from ICB premises these must be considered when planning response to adverse weather.

14.2 ICB Incident Notification & Response

The ICB Command and Control Framework and Business Continuity Policy & Business Continuity Plans contains guidance on the process by which the ICB responds to Business Continuity, Critical and Major Incidents.

During adverse weather events the system may take decisions to reduce activity for non-essential services. This should be considered in relation to impacts to ongoing clinical care for patients to ensure emergency services are maintained. Considerations should include:

- What is the impact from the adverse weather event on trust(s) does this require a reduction in services?
- What will the impact be for the reduction of these services?
- Are there any mutual aid initiatives that could be implemented to safeguard activity for the system?

The appendices includes the Adverse Weather Action Card available in the HNY ICB Command and Control Frameworkthat staff will follow in conjunction with those included in the ICB Command and Control framework. The ICB's evacuation and shelter response in the case of flooding is outlined in it's action card available in the HNY ICB Command and Control Framework. Providers are all required to have their own Evacuation Plans that comply with the NHS England » Evacuation and shelter guidance for the NHS in England.

14.3 Staff Welfare

Ensure that during a response that staff welfare is considered, several key principles must be considered/adhered to:

- Access to work during heavy snowfall, is it safe for staff to drive are their other options that could be considered.
- During a heatwave, consider access to water/air conditioning/fans for staff working on site.
- Childcare could become an issue during adverse weather events as schools close, ensure this is considered in planning and approximate numbers of staff that would be affected factored into planning.
- Consult Workforce Special Leave Policies as there may be occasions when it is difficult to get to work safely due to exceptionally severe inclement weather conditions such as snow, flooding, etc.
- When employees are unable to get into work (or their nearest base) due to inclement weather understand if they will need to take annual leave, flexi-time or unpaid leave (unless otherwise directed by the Executive Team in cases of severe weather).
- Where practicable, employees may work from home with the agreement of their manager.
- Employees not able to get to work must inform their line manager of their absence as close as possible to the beginning of their day's work.

15 Vulnerable People

It is key during the response to adverse weather that vulnerable persons are considered within all response, the most vulnerable include:

- elderly;
- ongoing health conditions;
- young;
- those on medical equipment i.e. dialysis machines;
- those requiring community health services input;
- those on home care requiring social care input.

Health organisations in Humber and North Yorkshire have developed the HNY Vulnerable Persons Process, which should be used to ensure provision of data on vulnerable individuals to the LRF. Pre-detemined triggers for pulling data are included in the process, including Flood Alerts/Warnings and Amber or Red severe weather warnings and weather health alerts.

One should note that accessing these lists can take time and that most providers have less capacity to provide lists out of hours. If an evacuation is urgent then responders on scene should proceed with "door knocking" rather than wait for lists of vulnerable people.

Access to these lists if required for incident response purposes would be via the information sharing agreements in place across Humber and North Yorkshire and would need to be requested and utilised in the response to the incident. The LRFs Information Sharing Protocols are signed up to by the ICB.

Providers will also need to track patients that may have been displaced by severe weather e.g. flooding. In such circumstances it is important that the streets and postcodes of evacuated areas are communicated to providers so they can match this data against patient records to ensure follow up.

15.1 HNY ICB Information Sharing Protocol

The ICB has developed an Information Sharing Protocol which is available here. This protocol consolidates and signposts to existing documents and data sharing agreements in relation to information sharing in response to incidents and reaffirm the Integrated Care System's commitment to sharing data in accordance with the relevant documentation, legislation and guidance as critical responders regardless of categorisation under the CCA 2004 or membership of an LRF.

16 Stand Down, Recovery & Debriefing

Stand Down, recovery and debriefing from incidents will be dealt with via processes identified within the ICB Command and Control Framework.

16.1 Post – Incident Learning

After a period of adverse weather, it is important that the ICB reflects on any potential learning that can be shared to ensure that organisational learning is captured for future adverse weather events. This should be done in accordance with the Debrief Action Card in the ICB's Command and Control Framework.

17 Consultation

Key stakeholders will be communicated and with consulted on this plan prior to its advancement through the ICB Governance System. Details can be found in the HNYICB EPRR Policy under Governance Arrangements. Consultation and any resulting changes will be recorded in the change log for this policy on the amendments page.

18 Training

All NHS commanders are required to understand when a business continuity incident has occurred and have an awareness of where their plans are located. All staff in the ICB should also have a general understanding of where plans are kept should they be required. ICB first and second on-call staff will receive training as part of their induction on the documentation that can support them in responding to any incidents, including. Training compliance will be monitored by the EPRR Team along with all other EPRR Competencies.

19 Monitoring Compliance

The ICB is required to evidence annually compliance with the NHS Core Standards for EPRR to ensure that it has effective arrangements in place for adverse weather events, including risk assessments to consider extreme events for adverse weather.

All EPRR Policies are required to be reviewed annually to ensure continued effectiveness of the plans.

20 Arrangements for Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner where appropriate. The ICB Executive Committee is responsible for approving this policy.

21 Dissemination

This policy and associated plans will be stored here:

- Resilience Direct
- SharePoint (including in On-call Pack)
- HNYICB ICC

Post review and re-approval, the plan's location should be disseminated by email to:

- Relevant directorate lead for directorate specific plans
- Director for Corporate Affairs
- The COO as the Accountable Emergency Officer
- Tactical and Strategic Commanders for the ICB.
- Director of Governance and Board Secretary
- the EPRR Team

Confirmation of sign off of the plan and its location should be cascaded to all staff via the Staff Bulletin and Update. Associated Documentation

22 References

- Adverse Weather and Health Plan (second edition released in 2024)
- NHS England Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response Framework V3 2022
- NHS England North East and Yorkshire risk register
- Civil Contingencies Act 2004
- HNY ICB Command and Control Framework
- HNY ICB Business Continuity Policy & Business Continuity Plans
- NHS England Flood Risk Toolkit
- NHS Core Standards for EPRR
- HNY ICB Information Sharing Protocol

23 Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption
- Appendix 2 – Adverse Weather Related Action Cards
- Appendix 3 - Weather Impact Table for Emergency Responders and Key Messages

24 Impact Assessments

24.1 Equality

NHS Humber and North Yorkshire ICB is committed to creating an environment where everyone is treated equitably and the potential for discrimination is identified and mitigated. It aims to design and implement services, policies and measures that meet the diverse needs of our service, population and workforce, ensuring that none are placed at a disadvantage over others.

It is required that a Impact Assessment is carried out on a new policy that is likely to impact on patients, carers, communities, or staff. As a result of this assessment no adverse impact was identified a copy of the HNY ICB Integrated Impact Assessment is available to view with this plan at HNYICB Adverse Weather Plan

24.2 Sustainability

A Sustainability Impact Assessment has been undertaken. The results of the assessment are displayed on the internet with this policy.

24.3 Bribery Act 2010

Due consideration has been given to the Bribery Act 2010 in the development (or review, as appropriate) of this policy document, further details can be found in Appendix 1 - Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption.

24.4 General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

The ICB is committed to ensuring that all personal information is managed in accordance with current data protection legislation, professional codes of practice and records management and confidentiality guidance. More detailed information can be found in the Data Protection & Confidentiality Policy and related policies and procedures.

25 Appendix 1 - Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption

If fraud, bribery and corruption are particularly relevant include the following:

The ICB has a responsibility to ensure that all staff are made aware of their duties and responsibilities arising from the Bribery Act 2010. Under the Bribery Act 2010 there are four criminal offences:

- Bribing or offering to bribe another person (Section 1)
- Requesting, agreeing to receive or accepting a bribe (Section 2);
- Bribing, or offering to bribe, a foreign public official (Section 6);
- Failing to prevent bribery (Section 7).

These offences can be committed directly or by and through a third person and, in many cases, it does not matter whether the person knows or believes that the performance of the function or activity is improper.

It should be noted that there need not be any actual giving and receiving for financial or other advantage to be gained, to commit an offence.

All individuals should be aware that in committing an act of bribery they may be subject to a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment, an unlimited fine, or both. They may also expose the organisation to a conviction punishable with an unlimited fine because the organisation may be liable where a person associated with it commits an act of bribery.

Individuals should also be aware that a breach of this Act renders them liable to disciplinary action by the ICB, whether or not the breach leads to prosecution. Where a material breach is found to have occurred, the likely sanction will be loss of employment and pension rights.

To raise any suspicions of bribery and/or corruption please contact the Executive Director of Finance and Investment. Staff may also contact the Local Counter Fraud Specialist (LCFS) at – Audit Yorkshire, email: nikki.cooper1@nhs.net or mobile 07872 988939.

The LCFS or Executive Director of Finance and Investment should be the contact for any suspicions of fraud. The LCFS will inform the Executive Director of Finance and Investment if the suspicion seems well founded and will conduct a thorough investigation. Concerns may also be discussed with the Executive Director of Finance and Investment or the Audit Committee Chair.

If staff prefer, they may call the NHS Counter Fraud reporting line on 0800 028 40 60 between 8am-6pm Monday-Friday or report online at www.reportnhsfraud.nhs.uk. This would be the suggested contact if there is a concern that the LCFS or the Executive Director of Finance and Investment themselves may be implicated in suspected fraud, bribery or corruption.

OR if not relevant:

BRIBERY ACT 2010

The ICB follows good NHS business practice as outlined in the Business Conduct Policy and the Conflicts of Interest Policy and has robust controls in place to prevent fraud, bribery and corruption. Under the Bribery Act 2010 there are four criminal offences:

- Bribing or offering to bribe another person (Section 1)
- Requesting, agreeing to receive or accepting a bribe (Section 2)
- Bribing, or offering to bribe, a foreign public official (Section 6)
- Failing to prevent bribery (Section 7).

26 Appendix 2 – HNY ICB Adverse Weather Related Action Cards

The following action cards support the HNY ICB Adverse Weather Plan and are included in the HNY ICB Command and Control Framework available at HNY ICB EPRR Command and Control Framework

Action Card Number	Action Card
11	Evacuation and Shelter
10	Adverse Weather Action Card

27 Appendix 3 – Weather Impact Table for Emergency Responders and Key Messages

Impact Level	Very Low	Low	Medium	High
Impact and advice associated with: Extreme Heat	N/A	N/A	Adverse health effects experienced by those vulnerable to extreme heat. Some changes in working practices and daily routines may be required Some heat-sensitive systems and equipment may fail, leading to power cuts and the loss of other services to some homes and businesses Some delays to road, rail and air travel, with potential for welfare issues for those who experience long delays. More people visiting coastal areas, lakes and rivers leading to risk of water safety incidents.	Adverse health effects experienced by all, not just limited to those most vulnerable to extreme heat, leading to serious illness or danger to life. Changes in working practices and daily routines will be required. Failure of heat-sensitive systems and equipment with loss of power and other essential services, such as water, electricity, gas or mobile phone services. Delays on roads and road closures, along with delays and cancellations to rail and air travel, with significant welfare issues for those who experience even moderate delays. Significantly more people are likely to visit coastal areas, lakes and rivers leading to risk of water safety incidents.
Impact and advice associated with: Rain	A few places will have flooding of low-lying land and susceptible roads. A few transport routes affected. Road conditions affected with spray and some standing water in a few places.	Some flooding of homes and businesses and susceptible roads. Some transport routes and travel services affected. Some journeys require longer travel times. Road conditions affected by spray and standing water. Short term disruption to utilities and services in some places.	Flooding of homes and businesses. Danger to life from fast flowing/deep water. Damage to buildings/ structures. Transport routes and travel services affected. Longer journey times expected. Some road closures. Difficult road conditions due to spray and standing water. Interruption to utilities and services. Some communities temporarily inaccessible due to flooded access routes.	Widespread flooding of homes and businesses. Danger to life from fast flowing/deep water. Extensive damage to and/or collapse of buildings/ structures. Transport routes and travel services disrupted for a prolonged period. Long travel delays. Widespread road closures. Dangerous driving conditions due to spray and standing water. Prolonged disruption to or loss of utilities and services. Communities become cut off for a prolonged period, perhaps several days, due to flooded

Impact Level	Very Low	Low	Medium	High
Impact and advice associated with: Wind	Loose debris blown around. A few transport routes affected by difficult driving conditions. Instances of spray and large waves affecting coastal routes, sea fronts and coastal	Some transport routes and travel services affected. Some journeys require longer travel times. Some disruption to road, rail, air and ferry transport. Difficult driving conditions for high-sided vehicles on prone routes, such as cross winds on exposed or high level roads. A few power interruptions. Coastal routes, sea fronts and coastal communities affected by spray	Injuries and danger to life from flying debris Some structural damage, such as slates dislodged from roofs. Transport routes and travel services affected. Longer journey times expected. Disruption to road, rail, air and/or ferry transport. Closure of some susceptible and key routes (e.g. some vulnerable bridges). Interruptions to power and/or other utilities and services. Casualties and danger to life from large waves/beach material being thrown onto coastal routes, sea fronts and coastal communities.	Widespread danger to life from flying debris. Widespread structural damage e.g. roofs blown off, mobile homes overturned, power lines brought down. Transport routes and travel services affected for a prolonged period. Long travel delays. Closure of main bridges, road and rail networks in many areas, and significant disruption to air and ferry transport. Widespread and prolonged disruption to power, and/or other utilities and services. Danger to life from large waves/beach material being thrown onto coastal route, sea fronts and coastal communities.
Impact and advice Associated with: Fog	Limited travel disruption with difficult travel conditions mostly confined to a few prone routes. A few road traffic collisions.	Difficult driving conditions with slower journey times. Some road traffic collisions. Passengers delayed with short-term closure of airports.	Difficult driving conditions with long journey times. Road traffic collisions. Passengers delayed and/or stranded at airports and/or ferry terminals.	N/A
Impact and advice associated with: Snow	A few transport routes affected	Some transport routes and travel services affected. Some journeys require longer travel times.	Transport routes and travel services affected. Longer journey times expected. Some stranded vehicles and passengers, with disruption to rail, road and air services. Interruptions to power and/or other utilities and services. Some rural communities temporarily inaccessible due to deep snow or snow drifts.	Transport routes and travel services affected for a prolonged period. Long travel delays. Large numbers of stranded vehicles and passengers with widespread disruption to rail, road and air services. Widespread and prolonged interruptions to power and/or other utilities and services. Rural communities cut off for a prolonged period, perhaps several days, due to deep snow or snow drifts.

Impact Level	Very Low	Low	Medium	High
Impact and advice associated with: Ice	A few transport routes affected by ice on some untreated roads, pavements and cycle paths. Limited travel disruption with difficult conditions mostly confined to a few prone routes.	Some injuries from slips and falls. Some transport routes and travel services affected with some ice on untreated roads, pavements and cycle paths, but road networks generally open. Some road traffic collisions.	Casualties with risk to life. Injuries from slips and falls. Transport routes and travel services affected by widespread black ice. Some road closures and some only passable with care. Untreated pavements and cycle paths impassable. Some travel disruption with longer journey times and road traffic collisions. Interruptions to power and/or other utilities and services.	Widespread risk to life. Casualties and injuries from slips and falls. Transport routes and travel services affected by sudden formation of black ice across whole communities with roads pavements and cycle paths becoming instantly impassable. Widespread disruption to road, rail and air transport with frequent road traffic collisions. Widespread interruptions to power due to power line icing, leading to impacts on telecommunications.
Impact and advice associated with: Thunderstorms	A few places will have flooding, usually lasting an hour to a few hours at most. A few local transport routes may be affected with difficult driving conditions. Very short-term disruption to power and/or other utilities and services in a few places.	Some flooding of homes, businesses and susceptible roads lasting several hours in places. Some damage to buildings/ structures from flooding and/or lightning. Some transport routes and travel services affected. Some journeys require longer travel times. Road conditions affected by spray and standing water and/or hail. Short-term disruption to power and/or other utilities and services in some places.	Flooding of homes and businesses. Danger to life due to sudden deep/fast flowing water. Damage to buildings/ structures from flooding and/or lightning, hail, strong winds. Transport routes and travel services affected quickly by flooding. Longer journey times and cancellations. Difficult road conditions due to spray, standing water and/or hail, sudden gusty winds. Interruption to power and/or other utilities and services. Some communities temporarily inaccessible due to flooded access routes.	Widespread flooding affecting homes and businesses. Danger to life due to sudden fast flowing/deep water. Injuries from hail. Casualties and danger to life from lightning strikes. Extensive damage to buildings/ structures from flooding and/or lightning, hail, strong winds. Transport routes and travel services affected by flooding for a prolonged period with long travel delays and rapidly changing/deteriorating conditions. Dangerous driving conditions due to spray, standing water and/or hail, sudden gusty winds. Prolonged disruption to or loss of power and/or other utilities and services. Communities become cut off for a prolonged period, perhaps several days, due to flooded access routes or damage to road infrastructure.