



Snow Causes Disruption Across UK

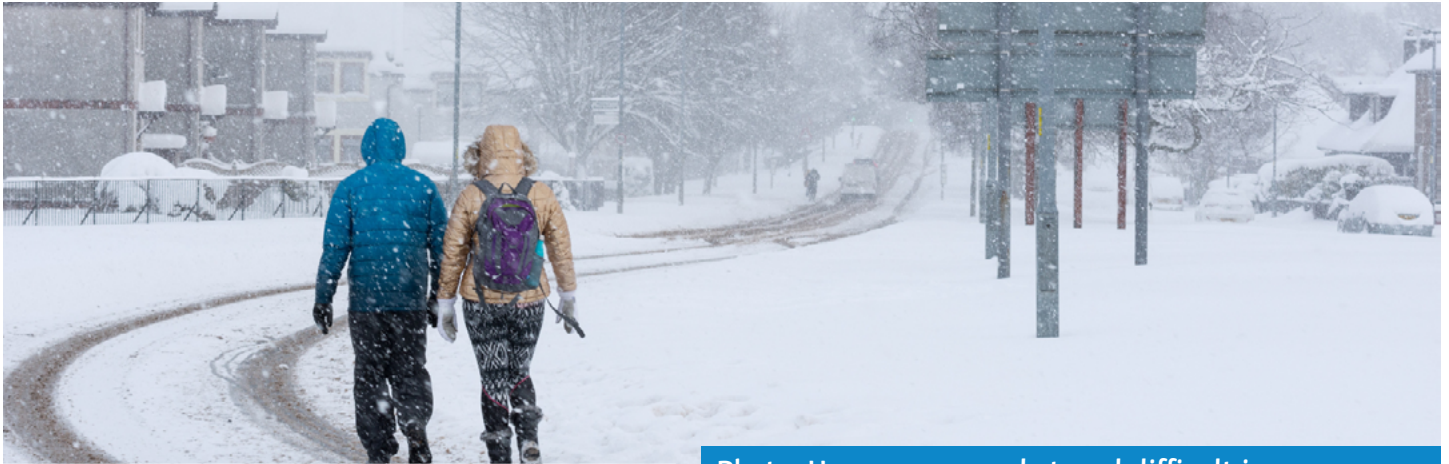


Photo: Heavy snow made travel difficult in some areas.

Why are some storms named?

- Storms are given short and clear names to help make people more aware of them and their potential dangers.
- Sometimes storms are named alphabetically (A-Z) throughout the year and a new list of names is created every 12 months.

Weather warnings were in force as freezing temperatures and icy winds brought disruption to much of Britain this week.

Storm Darcy met with cold air from the east and caused heavy snow in parts of the UK.

In some places, the snow was so thick that the roads became **impassable**.

The weather even forced some schools, nurseries and coronavirus vaccination centres to close.

The heavy snow caused some people to lose power to their homes and temperatures plunged to below -20°C in parts of Scotland.

Dr Owen Landeg is an environmental scientist. He said, "It's really important during this particularly cold period to keep checking on **frail** or older neighbours or relatives."

What are Weather Warnings?

The Met Office is the UK's weather service. They study the weather and predict what it will be like. When the weather is likely to be more **severe** than normal, they issue weather warnings.

The warnings come in one of three colours: yellow, amber and red.

If an area is given a yellow warning, it means some people in that area might be affected while others may be able to carry on as normal.

An amber warning means the weather in an area is likely to be more severe. It may cause power cuts and even road and rail closures.

A red warning means that weather conditions are dangerous. They say this sort of weather means it's "very likely that there will be a risk to life." A red warning is the highest alert that can be given from the Met Office.

Glossary

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| disruption | When something is stopped from carrying on normally. |
| impassable | Impossible to travel over because it is blocked. |
| frail | Delicate or weak. |
| severe | Something bad and intense. |

Questions

- Using information from the story, fill in the missing words to complete the sentence.
Some parts of the UK were hit with freezing _____ and thick _____ this week when Storm Darcy met winds from the _____.
- Give the meaning of the word 'plunged' as it is used in this sentence: **The heavy snow caused some people to lose power to their homes and temperatures plunged to below -20°C in parts of Scotland.**
- Dr Owen Landeg is worried about how the cold weather might affect some elderly people.** Find one piece of evidence from the article which supports that statement.
- Match up the first and second part of each sentence by writing the correct letter in each box. One has been done for you.

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|------------------|----|-----------------------------------|--|
| A red warning | A. | is the UK's weather service. | |
| An amber warning | B. | is the highest weather warning. | |
| The Met Office | A. | C. | is the least severe of the three warnings. |
| A yellow warning | D. | is the level below a red warning. | |

- What was the name of the storm mentioned in the article?

- What does the word 'predict' mean as it is used in this sentence: **They study the weather and predict what it will be like. (tick one)**

Say what happened in the past.

Admit to not knowing something.

Pretend to know something.

Say what will likely happen in the future.