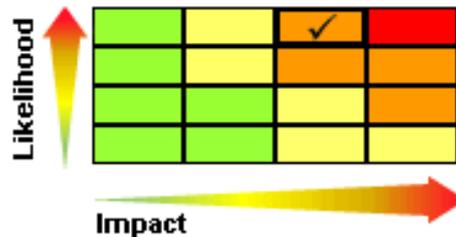
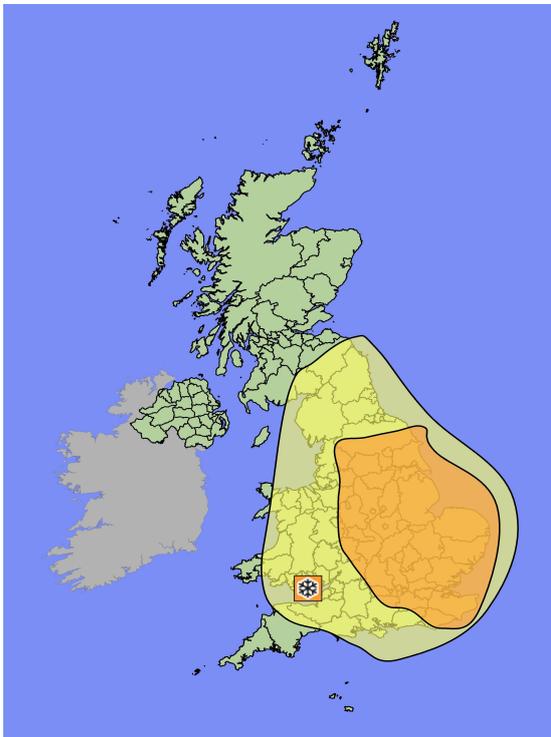


National Severe Weather Warning Service



Chief Forecasters Assessment

Atlantic frontal systems are beginning to move eastwards into the UK. As they do so they will encounter the very cold airmass currently over us. This will lead to the associated precipitation turning to sleet and snow, at least for a time, in many places away from far western and southwestern coastal areas. As is often the case in these situations the very cold airmass will be reluctant to give way and this leads to some uncertainties in the forecast, in particular with regards to amounts of snow and timing of when snow turns to rain.

For many places this could be the most significant snow event of the winter so far.

The Met Office have issued an **Amber Alert of Snow**

Valid from **12:00 on Sat, 04th Feb 2012** until **23:59 on Sat, 04th Feb 2012**

A band of wet weather over Northern Ireland and western Scotland early Saturday will move slowly east and southeastwards across the United Kingdom during the day. As it does so it will readily turn to sleet and snow away from western and southwestern coastal areas giving accumulations of 2-5cm in places and 5-10cm widely in the amber warning area. The snow is expected to turn to rain over some northwestern areas later. As skies then clear in this area after dark, icy patches will develop. The public are advised that this is likely to lead to some travel disruption, and it is recommended to keep up to date with forecasts as the event approaches.

For more details please go to:

http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/uk/uk_forecast_warnings.html

Issued by the Met Office at 11:29 on Thu, 02nd Feb 2012

Updated by the Met Office at 12:07 on Fri, 03rd Feb 2012

For enquiries regarding this warning please contact the Met Office Weather Desk

Phone: 0870 900 0100 Fax: 0870 900 5050 E-mail: enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk

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For the following areas

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 - Warrington
- SW Scotland, Lothian Borders
 - Dumfries and Galloway
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