

Figure 3.2: Provider organisations – health and social care (community services, hospitals, care homes, prisons)

Level 0	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<p>Year-round planning</p> <p><i>All year</i></p> <p>Ensure that you are engaged with local EPRR and other strategic arrangements.</p> <p>Ensure that your organisation can identify those most vulnerable to cold weather and draw up plans for joined-up support with partner organisations.</p> <p>Agree data-sharing arrangements within information governance principles.</p> <p>Assess the longer-term implications of climate change: reduction in carbon emissions; and sustainability for longer-term business continuity.</p> <p>Consider how to best mobilise and engage voluntary and community sector organisations and support the development and implementation of community emergency plans.</p> <p>Make sure that staff have identified all those vulnerable to cold weather and that arrangements are in place to support and protect them appropriately.</p> <p>Work with staff on risk reduction awareness, information and education. Encourage staff to be vaccinated against flu before winter starts.</p> <p>Ensure that the business continuity plan includes severe winter weather. Plan for a winter surge in demand for services.</p> <p>Consider carers needs and support they can continue to give.</p> <p>Work with environmental health officers on HHSRS hazard identification.</p>	<p>Winter preparedness and action</p> <p><i>1 November to 31 March</i></p> <p>Ensure that CW alerts are going to the right staff and appropriate actions are agreed and able to be implemented, especially to protect vulnerable clients.</p> <p>Make sure that staff have identified all those vulnerable to cold weather and that arrangements are in place to support them appropriately.</p> <p>Ensure staff are undertaking appropriate home checks when visiting clients; eg room temperature; medications and food supplies.</p> <p>Hospitals and care, residential and nursing homes: ensure that rooms, particularly living rooms and bedrooms are kept warm (Figure 3.2) and that staff are taking appropriate action to protect residents from cold weather.</p> <p>Work with partner agencies to co-ordinate cold weather plans; ensure data sharing and referral arrangements are in place.</p> <p>Continue to work with staff on risk reduction awareness, information and education. Encourage staff to be vaccinated against flu, if not already.</p> <p>Work with local authority teams to identify accident hotspots on pavements or roads; advise on gritting priorities to prevent accidents, and ensure access by utilities and other essential services.</p> <p>Ensure staff aware of the business continuity plan for winter weather; plan for a winter surge in demand.</p> <p>Ensure carers are receiving advice and support.</p>	<p>Severe winter weather is forecast - Alert and readiness</p> <p><i>Mean temperatures of 2°C and/or widespread ice and heavy snow is predicted with 60% confidence</i></p> <p>Communicate alerts to staff and ensure that locally agreed CWP actions take place, especially those to protect vulnerable patients/ clients.</p> <p>Continue to ensure local actions for the vulnerable such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arranging daily contacts/visits • ensuring staff are undertaking appropriate home checks when visiting clients; eg room temperature; medications and food supplies • ensure carers are receiving appropriate advice and support. <p>Hospitals and care, residential and nursing homes: continue to ensure that rooms, particularly living rooms and bedrooms are kept warm (Section 4.1 and Section 4.2).</p> <p>Activate business continuity arrangements and emergency plans as required. Activate plans to deal with a surge in demand for services.</p>	<p>Severe weather action</p> <p><i>Mean temperatures of 2°C and/or widespread ice and heavy snow</i></p> <p>Communicate alerts to staff and ensure that locally agreed actions take place, esp those to protect vulnerable patients/clients.</p> <p>Implement local plans for contacting the vulnerable. Consider daily visits/ phone calls for high-risk individuals living on their own who have no regular contacts.</p> <p>Ensure carers are receiving appropriate advice and support.</p> <p>Implement plans to deal with surge in demand.</p> <p>Implement business continuity arrangements.</p>	<p>Major incident – Emergency response</p> <p><i>Central government will declare a level 4 alert in the event of severe or prolonged cold weather affecting sectors other than health.</i></p> <p>All level 3 responsibilities must be maintained during a level 4 incident.</p> <p>Implementation of national emergency response arrangements by central government.</p> <p>Continue to implement business continuity arrangements.</p>