

09:35 22-01-2024 Greta Bridge water gauge: Typical when I really need to see it, it stopped yesterday evening for ages and then again this morning- twice.

Have asked FWDO to get it updated a.s.a.p. and asked if Ops are coming out to close the gates at 3.6 as is usually the case. People will start worrying if the gates don't shut at that point. Concerned the EA Ops people don't realise the level is not reliable. The rain is pretty bad and the most intense period is from 4pm to 7pm. Jane Phillips said she thought ops would still come out although I did suggest our fire service can do the gates if need be. Waiting to hear...

The EA ops folk were too busy at Appleby to come to Keswick to close the flood gates. The fire service would have done it if the river hadn't peaked. The rugby pitch is under about 8 inches of water. People have needed rescuing from flooded cars in STJV, I think Kendal has flooding and Appleby and there are concerns about the Eden at Carlisle. I wonder how Cockermouth is with that collapsing building... if ever there was a case for DIY this just proves it again. It is such a relief to have the surface water pumps etc. made a huge difference. Will says waves are coming over the dam wall, it looks like STV had more rain in 24 hours than Dale Head.

There was 2cm of space left in Thirlmere just now, Tuesday is very wet but not for a long period. dry in between so that will help shift some volumes through.

The greta gauge has been playing up but the EA know.

Strategic Co-ordination Group met again at 9pm. Got this from a source!!!

Met Office confirmed that weather is as predicted and expected, in the thick of the main threat period now - gusts of around 70mph and in excess of this along the coast (and it's hit 118mph at Great Dunn Fell...) Winds will tail off through the night. Worst of the rainfall is through, but this will translate into river response so levels will rise and remain high. However the Environment Agency is hopeful that the worst of the risk has now passed.

The Highways team is dealing with high number of fallen trees, localised flooding and debris. Fairly low level incidents but there are very many of them, and the team is struggling to keep up with the calls coming in. Crews are working flat to deal with issues, reopen routes or put in place closures as soon as possible.

In terms of power supplies, Electricity North West reports 34 current faults with 5,900 off supply across Cumbria as of 9pm. All have crews dispatched to site at the moment. Latest and live fault info is on ENWL online: [Fault list \(enwl.co.uk\)](https://www.enwl.co.uk)

Rail services are all affected with the West Coast Main Line and all routes into Scotland closed.

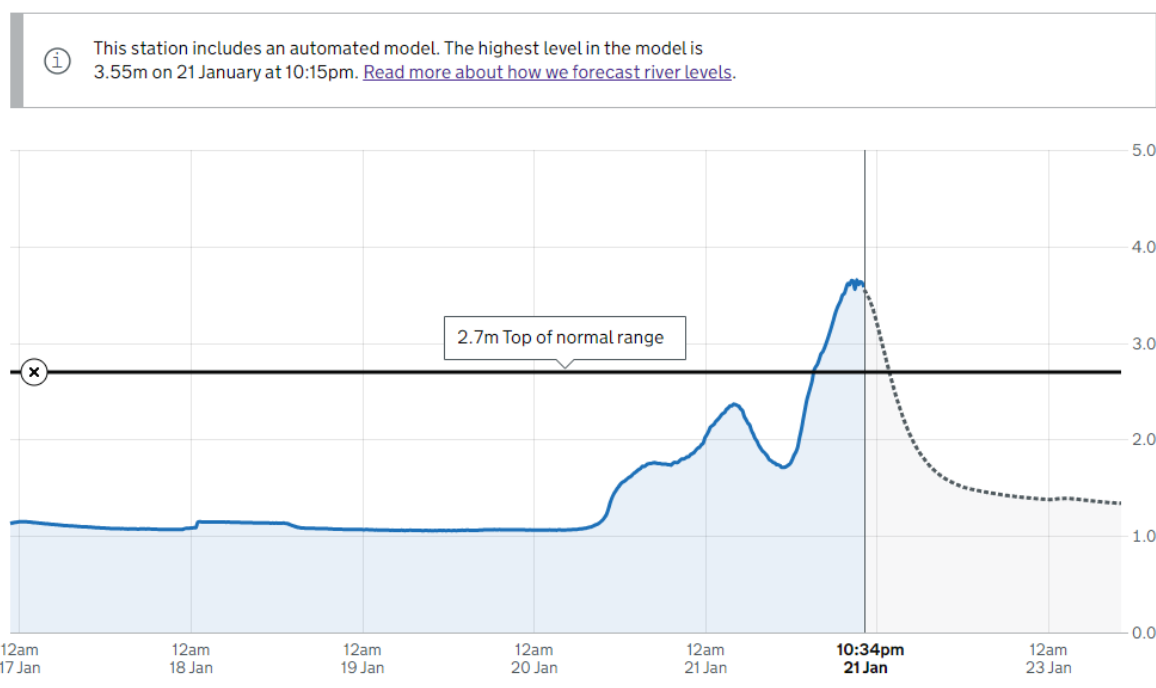
The situation is currently at the very stretched top end of business as usual for key agencies so the incident status remains at Major Incident Standby. No further multi-

agency meetings are scheduled overnight; there will be a Tactical Co-ordination Group at 9am to review the situation with a Strategic Co-ordination Group at 10am.

**20:34 21-01-2024** EA have just called. Both Greta Bridge and the Camp Site gauges should peak in the next hour. Derwentwater will go on rising until about 1am and should peak at around 2.4 at Lodore (that is much lower than Storm Ciara back in 2021 (2.94)

We've a burst of rain through now then about 3mm in the next 3 hours so the levels will drop. Got some dry weather before the next rain event on Tuesday.

#### Height in metres over the last 5 days and up to 36 hour forecast



**13:44 21-01-2024** Typical when I really need to see it, it stopped yesterday evening for ages and then again this morning- twice.

Have asked FWDO to get it updated a.s.a.p. and asked if Ops are coming out to close the gates at 3.6 as is usually the case. People will start worrying if the gates don't shut at that point. Concerned the EA Ops people don't realise the level is not reliable. The rain is pretty bad and the most intense period is from 4pm to 7pm. Jane Phillips said she thought ops would still come out although I did suggest our fire service can do the gates if need be.

Waiting to hear.

**18:14 20-01-2024 Saturday** The Greta level for the campsite triggered the recent flood alert but the EA do not expect any actual warnings over the weeknd. Apparently the rain totals look worse today than tomorrow. Expecting 120mm total for 24 hours today on the fells (and Desmond was 341.4mm on that dreadful 5 December 2015 which rather puts things in perspective).

We are all keeping an eye on it all, will send out any further changes if they happen.  
Lynne

**17:04 20-01-2024 Saturday** A Flood Alert has been issued by the Environment Agency.

Flood Alert in force: Rivers Greta, St Johns Beck and Bassenthwaite Lake.

Flooding is possible for: River Derwent from Keswick to Bassenthwaite. The Rivers Greta, Glenderamackin and St Johns Beck including Keswick.

Be prepared.

Water levels will rise steadily on the River Greta, St Johns Beck and Bassenthwaite Lake due to heavy rainfall.

Flooding is possible from the River Greta, St Johns Beck and Bassenthwaite Lake from 04:15 AM on Sunday 21/01/2024 to Monday 22/01/2024.

Further heavy rainfall is forecast throughout Saturday evening and Sunday.

River levels are rising steadily at the Keswick Campsite gauge.

We are monitoring rainfall and river levels and are checking rivers for blockages in the area.

Avoid using low lying footpaths and any bridges near local watercourses and do not attempt to walk or drive through flood water.

This message will be updated by 10:00 AM on 21/01/2024, or as the situation changes.

**11:32 19-01-2024 Friday**

Subject: Horizon scan for the North of England - Met Office - Weather Warnings - Storm Isha

To:

Good morning colleagues,

If you have been keeping up with our updates over the last few days then it shouldn't come as a surprise that we are coming towards the end of the cold, crisp spell of weather and heading towards a very wet and windy weekend. This is all due to the high pressure northerly arctic flow breaking down as Atlantic mobility takes over. A strong jet stream is driving a series of Atlantic weather systems towards the UK, resulting in some very wet and windy weather in the forecast. The peak of this will arrive on Sunday afternoon as a deep area of low-pressure transits across northern Britain bringing heavy rain and severe gales. This system has been named by the Met Office as **STORM ISHA**. This event has is likely to bring impacts due to the wind and rain through Sunday afternoon and early Monday, before moving offshore into the North Sea. Thereafter we will continue with an unsettled, windy regime through the first half of next week with a further low-pressure system likely to bring additional impacts due to wind and rain through Tuesday/Wednesday.

**Today:**

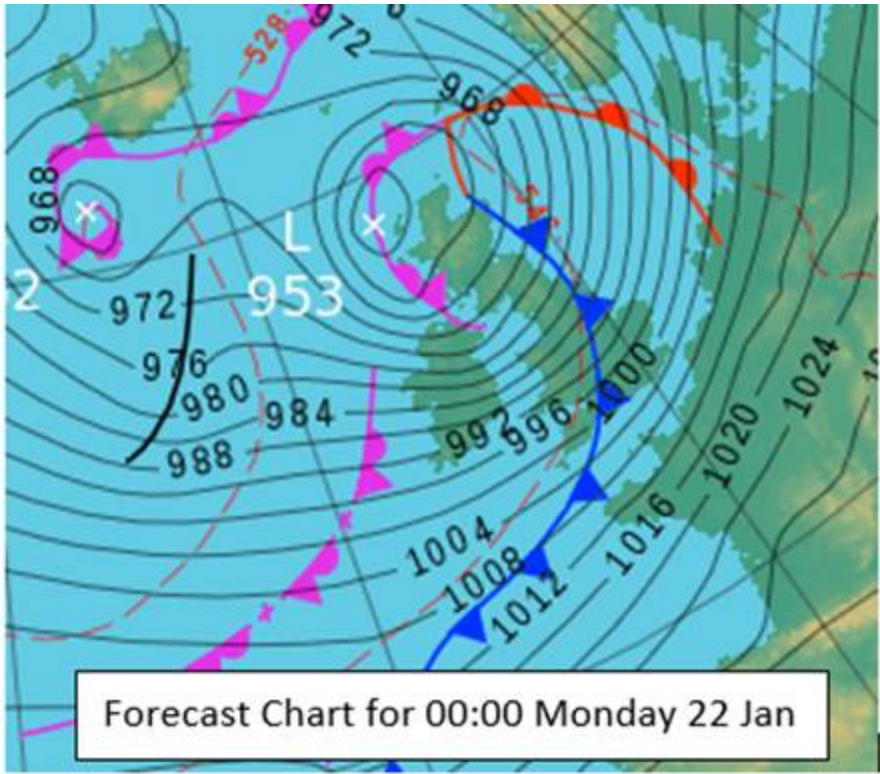
- Last of the cold weather today with a few wintry showers fading.
- Becoming cloudier, less cold and increasingly breezy later.
- Slight rural frost overnight especially around any lying snow), but less cold than previous nights.

**Saturday:**

- Rain will arrive from the west, affecting Cumbria and the North Pennines through the morning.
- More persistent rain will spread across most areas later, with higher ground of Cumbria and the Pennines bearing the brunt. (widely 20-40mm, possibly 60mm in Lake District)
- SW winds will increase steadily through the day, with gales along exposed western coasts and upslopes.
- Despite the wind and rain, Saturday remains free of any NSWWS warnings at this point.

**Sunday & Monday (Storm Isha):**

- A brief quieter interlude during the morning with a scattering of heavy showers
- The first band of rain associated with Storm Isha will arrive from the west in the early afternoon, turning heavy and persistent across many areas but with western facing upslopes in Cumbria and the Pennines once again facing the greatest amounts of rainfall, with cumulative affects from Saturday (30-50mm falling widely with potential for peaks of 80-100mm over hills).
- Strong SW winds and inland gales will develop across Northern England (gusts of 50-60mph widely), with severe gales (70, possibly 80mph) through Irish Sea coasts and over higher ground.
- Persistent rain will clear in the early hours of Monday morning leaving scattered heavy showers.
- Strong westerly winds will peak overnight, gradually easing through the course of Monday as Storm Isha transits east.



**Tuesday & Wednesday**

- Beginning dry, but rain will spread NE through Tuesday with blustery showers to follow.
- Potential for gales/severe gales across exposed coasts and high ground through Tuesday PM
- Remaining windy overnight, but gradually improving (less windy, becoming drier) through Wednesday

**NSWWS and Warnings Expected**

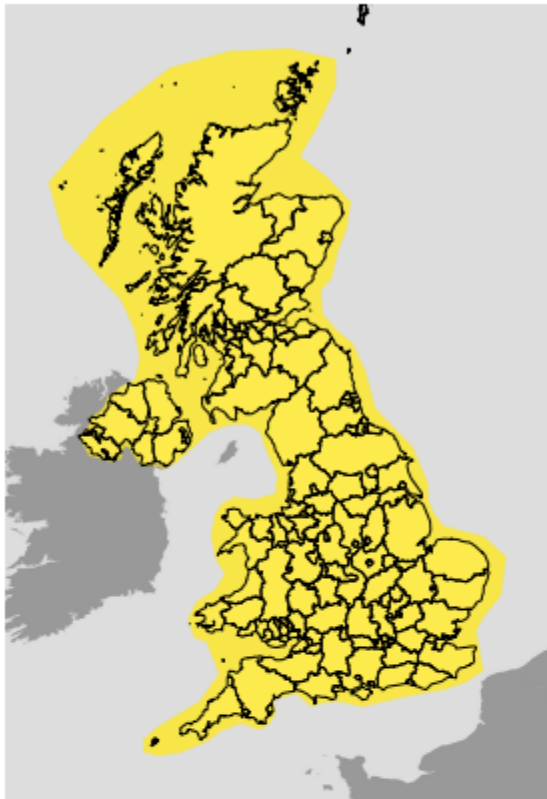
**Impacts:**

**1: Country-wide YELLOW WARNING FOR WIND 12:00 Sunday-12:00 Monday citing a LOW LIKELIHOOD OF MEDIUM IMPACTS (see below and attached in full)**



Yellow warning  
**Wind**

Between  
**12:00 Sun 21 Jan 2024** and  
**12:00 Mon 22 Jan 2024**



**Strong winds associated with Storm Isha may bring disruption to travel and utilities across parts of the UK on Sunday and Monday.**

#### What to expect

- Injuries and danger to life from flying debris are possible
- Some damage to buildings, such as tiles blown from roofs, could happen
- Road, rail, air and ferry services may be affected, with longer journey times and cancellations possible
- Some roads and bridges may close
- Power cuts may occur, with the potential to affect other services, such as mobile phone coverage
- Injuries and danger to life could occur from large waves and beach material being thrown onto sea fronts, coastal roads and properties

#### Further details

Strong winds associated with Storm Isha are expected to develop widely across the UK on Sunday, persisting into Monday across parts of England and Wales. Within the warning area, many places are likely to see southwesterly winds gust to around 50-60 mph and gusts may reach 60-70 mph for exposed locations (e.g. coasts). There remains a chance of stronger winds impacting parts of this area for a time but this aspect remains uncertain with further updates to the warning to be expected over the coming days.



 Low likelihood of medium impacts

**Issued at 10:33 Wed 17 Jan, 2024 Updated at 09:47 Fri 19 Jan, 2024**

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

**Phone:** 0370 900 0100 **E-mail:** [enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk)

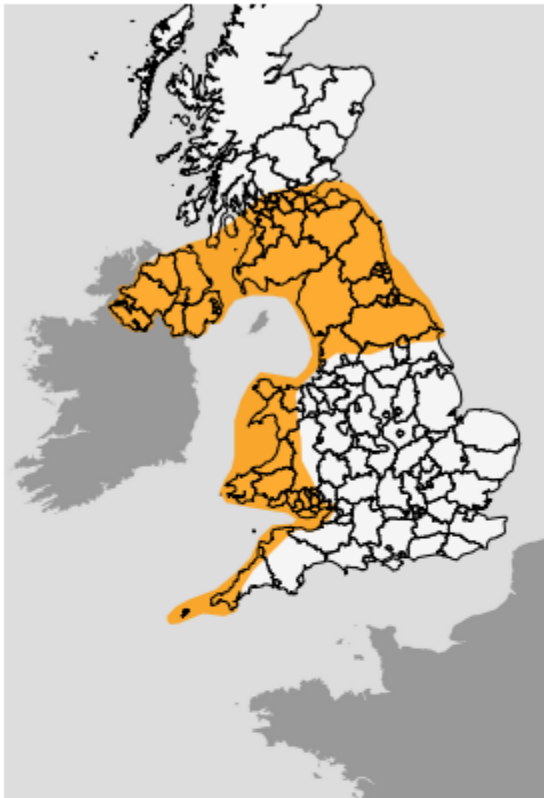
**Visit:** [www.metoffice.gov.uk/premium/hazardmanager](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/premium/hazardmanager)

**2. AMBER WARNING FOR WIND 18:00 SUNDAY – 09:00 MONDAY citing a MEDIUM LIKELIHOOD OF MEDIUM IMPACTS affecting all Northern England**



Amber warning  
Wind

Between  
**18:00 Sun 21 Jan 2024** and  
**09:00 Mon 22 Jan 2024**



**Storm Isha will bring a spell of very strong winds during Sunday evening into Monday. Disruption to travel and utilities is likely.**

#### What to expect

- Longer journey times and cancellations likely, as road, rail, air and ferry services may be affected
- Some roads and bridges likely to close
- Probably some damage to buildings, such as tiles blown from roofs
- There is a good chance that power cuts may occur, with the potential to affect other services, such as mobile phone coverage
- Injuries and danger to life is likely from large waves and beach material being thrown onto coastal roads, sea fronts and properties

#### Further details

Very strong southwesterly winds will develop widely across Northern Ireland, western parts of England, Wales and the southern half of Scotland during Sunday evening. Gusts will frequently reach 50-60 mph, perhaps 70 mph at times in a few locations and, along exposed coastal stretches 80 mph is possible at times. During the early hours of Monday winds will turn westerly and affect a wider area of southern Scotland and northern England, before easing through the morning.

What should I do?



✓ Medium likelihood of medium impacts

**Issued at 09:48 Fri 19 Jan, 2024**

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

**Phone:** 0370 900 0100 **E-mail:** [enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk)

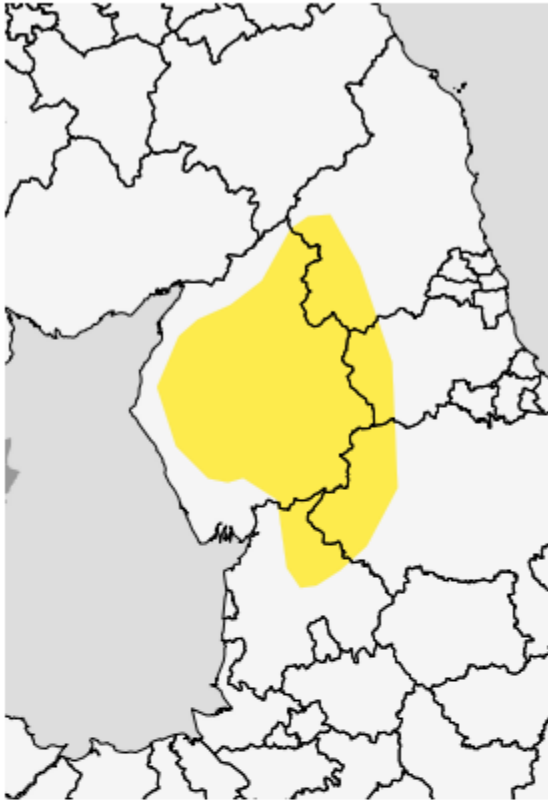
**Visit:** [www.metoffice.gov.uk/premium/hazardmanager](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/premium/hazardmanager)

**3. YELLOW WARNING FOR RAIN 06:00 SUNDAY – 06:00 MONDAY citing a MEDIUM LIKELIHOOD OF LOW IMPACTS – Affecting parts of Cumbria, Durham & Northumbria**



Yellow warning  
Rain

Between  
**06:00 Sun 21 Jan 2024** and  
**06:00 Mon 22 Jan 2024**



## Heavy rain likely to lead to disruption from flooding across parts of northern England on Sunday and early Monday.

### What to expect

- Flooding of a few homes and businesses is likely
- Bus and train services probably affected with journey times taking longer
- Spray and flooding on roads probably making journey times longer
- Some interruption to power supplies and other services likely

### Further details

Spells of heavy rain, combined with strong winds at times, will move across northern England over the weekend and into early Monday. The heaviest rain is expected during Sunday with 30-50 mm falling widely and the potential for peaks of 80-100 mm over hills. Milder conditions will also result in the thaw of lying snow.

#### What should I do?

Check if your property could be at risk of flooding.



 Medium likelihood of low impacts

**Issued at 11:15 Thu 18 Jan, 2024**

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

**Phone:** 0370 900 0100 **E-mail:** [enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk)

**Visit:** [www.metoffice.gov.uk/premium/hazardmanager](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/premium/hazardmanager)



The latest FGS (attached in full) has areas of concern across the North of England for River and Surface water flooding associated with successive bands of rain through the weekend and Monday.

Minor inland flooding impacts are probable on Sunday and Monday across parts of V and the North of England. The overall flood risk is LOW.

### Specific Areas of Concern Map 1 - Sunday 21 and Monday 22 January 2024

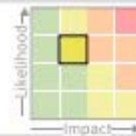
**RISK AREA A**  
Impact **MINOR**  
Likelihood **MEDIUM**



Source River Surface  
Likely duration 2 Days

Successive bands of heavy rain resulting in probable flooding impacts.

**RISK AREA B**  
Impact **MINOR**  
Likelihood **MEDIUM**



Source Surface  
Likely duration 2 Days

Successive bands of heavy rain resulting in probable flooding impacts.

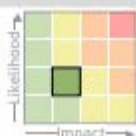
**RISK AREA C**  
Impact **MINOR**  
Likelihood **MEDIUM**



Source River  
Likely duration 2 Days

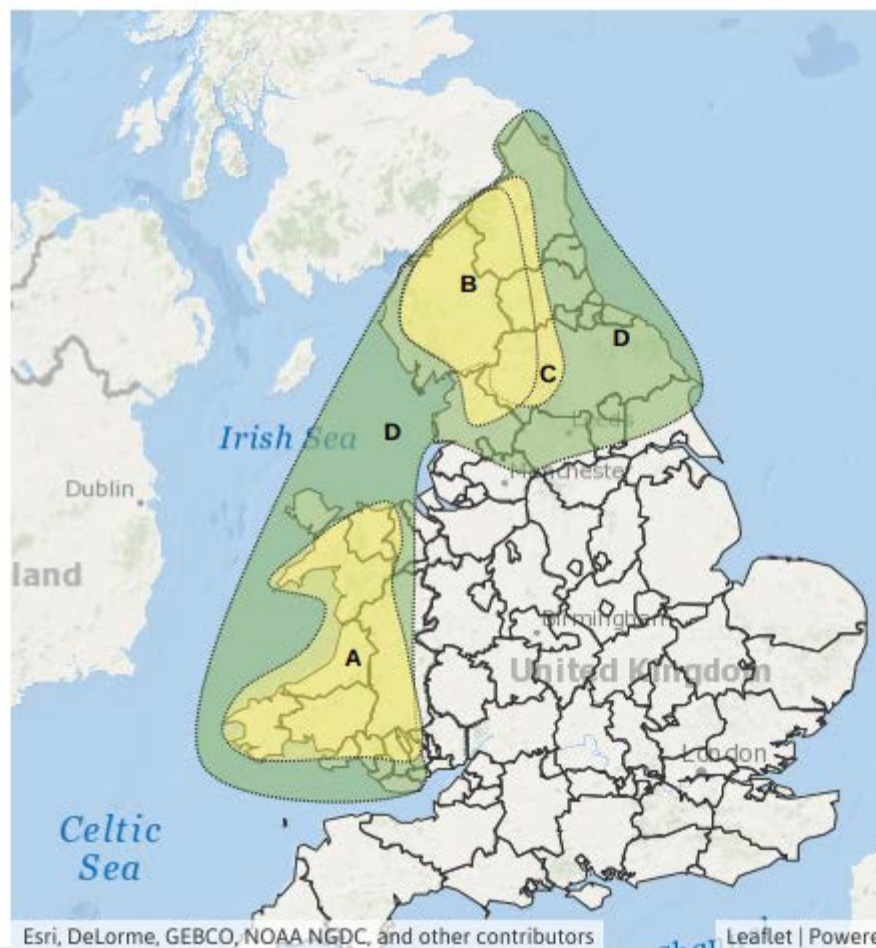
Successive bands of heavy rain result in probable flooding impacts.

**RISK AREA D**  
Impact **MINOR**  
Likelihood **LOW**



Source River Surface  
Likely duration 3 Days

Successive bands of rain leading to possible flooding impacts.



Messaging Strategy for the coming weekend:

- We will have on-call staff available throughout the weekend, and will message accordingly through these channels if there are any escalations to the warnings.

I anticipate that the forecast over the weekend will bring some issues across many LRFs and agencies, and I hope that you all stay safe.

Please get in touch if you wish to discuss the abovementioned weather and warnings. As usual, all the latest data, maps, warnings and advice is available on Hazard Manager and the MO website/social channels.

Kind regards,

John West

Met Office Advisor (Civil Contingencies)

**12:11 18-01-2024 Thursday** I have been asking for the "K FAG releases" to continue. In January UU allow us 1metre of space and the reservoir has dropped further so we've a bit more (5cms hardly enough to throw a party about). However, in the light of the forecast for the weekend I have been asking UU if they will continue the additional releases until tomorrow afternoon to give us that little bit more space before the weekend. So far no luck and the releases have been turned off this morning. Still trying to get them to do what, to me, seems pragmatic and reasonable given we have a significant amount of rain on the way AND snow melt. I doubt United Utilities have a heart! However, I felt I needed to try....

Lynne

**Met Office:**

Just looking ahead to the change back to much milder but much more unsettled weather this weekend. Yesterday I told you about the medium impact yellow wind warning issued for Sunday which included all of the Northwest. This morning, however, attention has shifted more towards the rain component which will affect Cumbria and N/NE Lancashire over the weekend and the start of next week. The rain will come in successive bouts during Saturday with some more continuous rain developing during Sunday and overnight before it all eventually gets away on Monday morning. The advent of the milder air means that there is also a component of snowmelt to add into the equation.

Anyhow, the net result of the impact assessment this morning has been to issue a yellow low impact rain warning for Sunday and Sunday night covering much of Cumbria and the far N of Lancashire. The thinking is that the rain during Saturday is much less likely to yield impacts, given the last two weeks or so have been largely dry. However, by Sunday, as rainfall totals mount up, so we are more likely to start seeing impacts, both from river response and from surface water.

I can say already that we're likely to see a further bout of wet and windy weather around Tuesday when another deep low pressure centre arrives on our shores. This will almost inevitably entail further severe weather warnings but more on that nearer the time.