

Summary

The [amber warning for snow](#) remains in force until 09:00 this morning and will be replaced with a yellow snow warning extended until 11:00. Possibility of 1-2cm this morning until 11:00 then gradually decreasing. Most impacts from now will be further east and there will be a gradual thaw this afternoon. Overnight we expect to see a warning for Ice. Tomorrow further rain showers particularly in Kent and possibly in the East of West Sussex

You will all be aware of the traffic gridlock that has hit the southeast region affecting Kent, East Sussex, Brighton & Hove and West Sussex as a result of the snow conditions.

The situation is still particularly bad around the NE of the County which has been compounded by problems on the M23/A23 where there are still problems on handcross hill / in the pease pottage area. Problems have also been experienced along the coastal strip but these have started to improve.

Impact

We will continue to keep our [website severe weather pages](#) up to date with all impacts to WSCC service delivery today

South East Coast Ambulance (SECAMB) struggling to resource all 999 calls and have declared a business continuity incident.

School / nurseries closures – 171 Schools and 31 Nurseries reported so far and still. Updates can be found [here](#)

Aspire Sussex adult education programme for Tuesday 12 March across West Sussex is cancelled.

Meals on Wheels: WRVS operate a system of calling everyone and making sure they are ok and have something in to eat or family or friend can call on them in those cases they cannot deliver. 4WD support may be required today

Highways - Still many problems across the County. Roads have been treated where accessible but will require traffic to activate the salt so first impressions might be that it hasn't been treated.... once traffic starts moving we will see a massive improvement.

Road Closures

- A29 still shut at Bury- JCB going from Drayton depot to clear drifts so we can get it open, believed few vehicles stuck there but unknown currently as to quantity / full situation
- A283 still closed at Stopham due to a fallen tree. Highways dealing
- Titnore Lane, Worthing - have got a JCB going to site to clear worse than grit road, it is unknown if vehicles are stuck there, although have sent out resources from our Clapham Depot to look at it
- A280 Long Furlong : JCB going to site after Titnore Lane to clear drifts - believed a few vehicles stuck there but off road - again our team from Clapham will report back

Abandoned cars are causing many problems.... particularly bad around Turners Hill and M23 / A23 corridor, Goodwood Hill also a problem with abandoned cars. Highways in discussion with FRS for assistance in moving these this morning

The hills still causing problems with large vehicles and rear wheel drive vehicles getting stuck.

A24, A259, A264, A272 all passable but drifting continues to cause problems.

Due to ongoing A23 handcross hill problem local roads very congested

Gritters are just going out again now at 20gms and situation will be reviewed after they get back

Costal roads passable with care

Actions being undertaken

- WSCC gritted last night, twice during the day, commenced a third run at 7pm and had another planned for 2am. They are now operating on a back to back basis with gritters deploying again now
- Fire and Rescue deployed 4WD vehicles to Handcross Hill last night to support motorists stuck on this Highways agency road and obtained Red Cross support for motorists (Blankets / hot drinks)
- Blue light services supporting SECAMB with 4wd access. Rights of Way team 4WD vehicles on standby to support social care / roads assessment
- Continuing to send out severe weather alerts to alertme subscribers and tweets on road impacts

Actions required

- Service continuity coordinators have been requested to provide updates on service impacts as early as possible and by 09:45 at latest and again today for 1600 so the position overnight is clear.
- Currently assessing number of abandoned cars on the network and working with Police / Fire to consider moving these on a case by case basis if required.

For more information

Check the '[WSCC Severe weather plan](#)' for the actions you need to complete now.

Further information is available from:

Met Office [Severe Weather Warning](#)

Met Office [Cold Weather Alert](#)

[WSCC Severe Weather](#) web pages

Next update

There is a virtual Sussex Resilience Forum Strategic Coordinating Group this morning at 09:30. Updates will follow this

Kind regards

Justin

Emergency Management