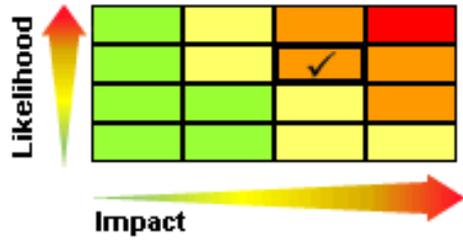
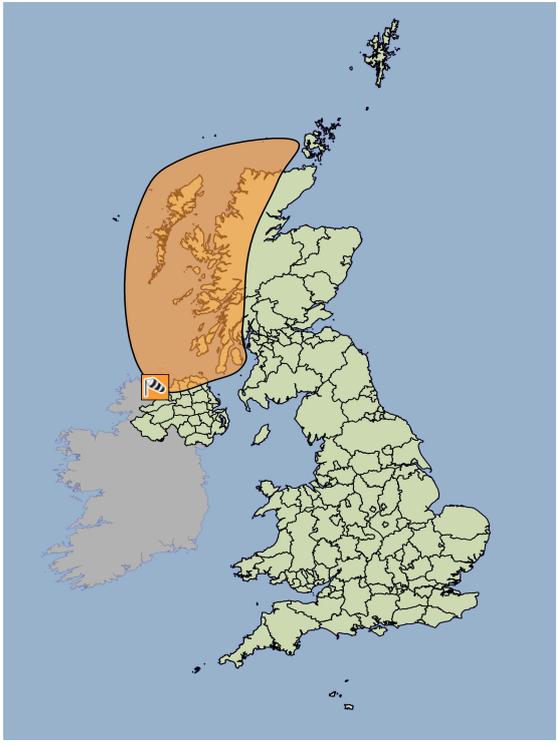


National Severe Weather Warning Service



Chief Forecasters Assessment

A rapidly deepening area of low pressure will pass close to northwest UK later on Wednesday and during the first part of Thursday. There is still some uncertainty about the exact track of the swathe of strongest winds and peak gusts, but in combination with heavy rain and some coastal flooding, the storm has the potential to bring some significant disruption.

The Met Office have issued an **Amber Warning of Wind**

Valid from **21:00 on Wed, 18th Dec 2013** until **08:00 on Thu, 19th Dec 2013**

Severe gale force winds will affect parts of Northern Ireland, western, central and northern Scotland. A swathe of storm force winds will progress northwards with time, perhaps clipping the far north of Northern Ireland before moving north to affect the western Isles and skirting western and northwestern fringes of mainland Scotland.

Gusts of 70 to 80 mph are expected within the Amber warning area, and to around 90 mph in some of the more exposed locations in western Scotland and the Western Isles. Such winds will lead to very large waves with some coastal over-topping likely. Some heavy rain is also expected. The rain and the strongest winds will clear early on Thursday, giving way to blustery and wintry showers.

The public should be prepared for disruption to transport and possibly power supplies.

For more details please go to:
<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/warnings>

Issued by the Met Office at 10:59 on Wed, 18th Dec 2013

For the following areas

- Highlands & Eilean Siar
 - Eilean Siar
 - Highland
- Northern Ireland
 - County Antrim
 - County Londonderry
- Strathclyde
 - Argyll and Bute
 - North Ayrshire

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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