



Heat-Health Alert summary action card for services delivering care to people in their homes

This is a summary of the suggested actions for managers in this setting at each alert level. Check the [Heat-Health Alert action card for health and social care providers](#) for more detail including what to do before summer, and adapt actions for your service as appropriate.

Summary actions for a yellow alert

- Conduct a local risk assessment for hot weather in your area and your organisation's response to it, consulting the Heat-Health Alert [guidance](#) and [full action card](#)
- Confirm that staff are aware of business continuity and hot weather plans and have received the [Heat-Health Alert](#). Share them with staff if they have not received them
- Share and explain the importance of [Beat the heat](#) messages to clients, staff and commissioners, including raising awareness of heat-illness signs and prevention
- Ensure staff advise clients on how to keep cool (for example, by closing windows when it is hottest and opening windows when it is cooler outside, such as at night)
- Give staff access to a thermometer. Check they know how to record and escalate concerns
- Ensure staff are making home checks (room temperature, medication storage, food and water supplies) when visiting clients. Add these to your work management system
- Ensure staff actively monitor high-risk individuals during hot weather episodes, and check these individuals have visitor or phone-call arrangements in place
- Assess staffing levels, recognising possible increased client needs in hot weather
- Encourage and enable staff to carry water and stay hydrated and to report concerns about their own health promptly

Summary actions for an amber alert

- Continue yellow alert actions
- Follow local business continuity and/or hot weather plans
- Ensure that staff monitor the temperature of at-risk individuals and their environment
- Advise staff and clients to raise concerns promptly, as heat illnesses can worsen fast
- Increase volume and frequency of [Beat the heat](#) advice to staff and clients

Summary actions for a red alert

- Continue amber alert actions
- Follow all local emergency response plans and continue to monitor the current situation by checking the weather alerts or local news
- Actively monitor all clients during hot weather episodes and monitor compliance with actions to keep living areas as cool as possible and cool rooms or areas below 26°C