

To:

Clinical Leaders of Clinical Commissioning Groups
Chief Executives of NHS Trusts
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Accountable Officers of Clinical Commissioning Groups

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Dear Colleagues

Heatwave Plan for England 2018

The Heatwave Plan for England 2018 went live on 1 June, and will remain in place until 15 September 2018. Its aim is to prevent avoidable harm to health by alerting people to the negative health effects of hot weather and enabling them to prepare and respond appropriately.

The plan recommends a series of actions to be taken by commissioners, providers of healthcare and individuals to reduce the risks to health from hot weather. In support of this plan, the Met Office issue [Hot Weather Alerts](#) during this period, which can be found on the [Met Office website](#).

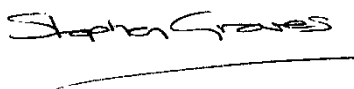
The Met Office has already issued a number of Level 2 Hot Weather Alerts, and with the warmer weather here to stay, we can expect Level 3 alerts in due course. These Level 3 alerts will indicate a 90% probability of severe hot weather at the time of release and the 48 hours which follow, and an impact on health services will be expected.

As we can anticipate an increased demand for healthcare during this summer period, I would like to take this opportunity to ensure that all organisations are taking appropriate actions, as described in the plan, to mitigate and to take steps to prepare for a potential increase in admissions due to the effects of the hot weather.

Weather-related deaths triggered by the increase in temperatures increase almost immediately with the onset of hot weather, reaching their highest levels after two days.

Further details on preparations for health can be found in the [Heatwave Plan for England](#).

Yours sincerely



Stephen Groves
National Head of EPRR

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