

COLD WEATHER ADVICE FOR BUSINESSES

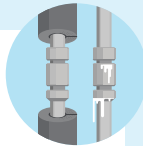
Make sure your business is prepared for the cold winter months by reading through the tips and advice below.

As winter approaches it is important that you ensure your business is prepared for a decrease in temperature and winter conditions.

Buildings that have exposed pipes or that are left empty for days, are often most at risk because a burst pipe, inside or outside the building can go unnoticed for days causing flooding a leaking huge amounts of water.

We have highlighted below some important tips that are relevant to all types of businesses:

Wrap up pipes and taps in a cold place, wrap them with insulation or a lagging kit and inspect them regularly.



Consider draining pipes which are in exposed cold places ahead of a cold snap, and turn off the valves.

Dripping taps and even the smallest leak can increase the risk of frozen pipes. Talk to your staff and make sure they report any leaks, broken fittings or broken insulation.

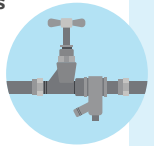


Keep your building warm by keeping the heating on low during freezing spells, service the boiler and check your radiators are all working properly.



Check the premises if it is being left empty for a period during a cold spell. Taking time to do this can reduce the impact of frozen or burst pipes.

Know where your stop taps are (you may have more than one), and check that they work. You'll need to get to them quickly, and know how to turn them off, should the worst happen. And take time to know where water pipes are, indoors and outside, are so you can inspect them regularly.



Know your plumbers. Keep a list of registered plumbers handy in case you need to call them in an emergency, the Water Industry Approved Plumbers scheme may be able to help you.

Know how much water you use, if possible take regular meter readings (where it is safe to do so) to spot any leaks quickly.