

Severe Weather - We are prepared just in case

We have a range of measures in place during Storm Imogen to ensure we're fully prepared for any impact on our electricity network.

Issued on: Monday 8th February 2016 - 9am

Weather forecast:

WPD South West is currently on: **Red alert**

- *The forecast indicates:* Westerly gales will become severe this morning in Cornwall and Northern and Western parts of Devon, they will ease slightly in all areas from mid-afternoon onwards.

WPD South Wales is currently on: **Red alert**

- *The forecast indicates:* Gale force winds throughout daylight hours with heavy showers, winds will exceed 50mph until late evening and then ease further.

WPD East Midlands and WPD West Midlands are currently on: **Amber alert**

- *The forecast indicates:* Heavy rain will be present in the afternoon and westerly winds will strengthen into the evening.

Preparations Western Power Distribution is taking:

Our resilient systems and dedicated staff are prepared so that, whatever the weather, we can work to restore power supplies as quickly and safely as possible if they are disrupted. In particular we have:

- Additional operational and engineering staff ready and on stand-by to respond to any network issues
- Additional Contact and control Centre operatives available to manage the electricity network and to help customers with their enquiries
- Put arrangements in place to open offices early as required, if they have not already been required to be open overnight.
- Helicopters available to fly and identify badly affected areas to hasten repairs if safe to do so from first light
- Cancelled all non-essential work on the Extra High Voltage network and non-essential maintenance on the 11kV network.

Additional information

If you experience a power cut or spot anything dangerous which may affect the electricity network, please contact us anytime by:

Phone: **105** or **0800 6783 105**

Twitter: [@wpduk](https://twitter.com/wpduk)

All of our contact details can be found [here](#).

For our most vulnerable customers, we also provide additional support during a power cut. Click [here](#) for more information about our Priority Service Register.

-  1. Check you have a phone available that will work in a power cut – digital or cordless ones may not work.
-  2. Keep a battery/solar charger handy so that you can recharge your smart phone or tablet and follow updates on social media and our online power cut map.
-  3. Keep our telephone number handy or save it into your mobile phone (105 or 0800 6783 105) so that you can report a power cut or call for information and advice.
-  4. Have things like a torch or lantern ready (it's best not to use candles or paraffin lights).
-  5. Protect sensitive electrical equipment such as computers with a surge protector plug.
-  6. Keep a wind-up/battery/solar radio ready so you can listen to local radio updates.
-  7. If you have a mains operated stair lift, check to see if there is a manual release handle that can be used to return it safely to the ground level if it stops working.