

GCSE Case Study: Storm Babet

Fill in the blanks	: 18th Octobe	r 2023,	Met Office,	Extratropical Cyclone,	Flooding,	Babet.	
Storm		, an		,	hit the UK	on	
				the most severe storr			
causing wide	spread		and	d damage. The storm	claimed th	e lives of	
seven peoj	ole and was	the sec	cond	named stor	m of the 20)23-24	
			seaso	n.			
Highest Ra	infall:	mı	m.	Highest gusts of winc	l:		
auses:	o the descript	ion					
Strong Je	Strong Jet Stream		A significant low-pressure system over the UK helped draw the storm in.				
	Warm Sea Surface Temperature		A high-pressure area over Scandinavia prevented the storm from moving eastwards, prolonging its impact over the UK.				
Low Pres	sure Area		A powerful je	et stream steered the sto	rm towards t	he UK.	
Blockir Pres	ng High sure			mperatures in the North additional energy to the	-	vided	

Locations affected:

Using an atlas, match the names of the locations most severely affected by the storm with their corresponding locations on this map:

Derry

Brechin, Angus

Aberdeen

Leeds

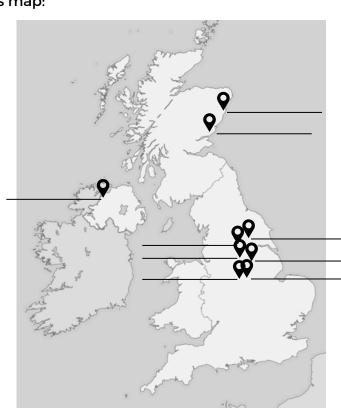
Derby

Nottingham

Retford

Sheffield

York







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Cut out the impacts of Storm Babet and categorise them by sticking them under the headings Social, Economic and Environmental impacts.

Fatalities and Injuries:

7 people died across the UK due to flooding and wind-related incidents.

Power Outages: Around 100,000 customers initially lost power, affecting homes and businesses. **Flooding:** Widespread flooding damaged rivers, lakes, and wetlands, displacing wildlife.

Infrastructure Damage:

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Significant damage to roads,
bridges, railways, and airports,
leading to transportation
disruptions. Leeds Bradford
Airport was closed on 20th
October after a large plane
skidded off the runway whilst
landing.

Landslides: Heavy rains from
Storm Babet triggered
landslides, causing damage
to forests and natural
habitats. For example, a slope
near houses at the base of
Chilwell Quarry collapsed
due to the intense rainfall in
October.

Debris and Waste: The storm caused extensive damage and debris, including hazardous materials. Over 750 tonnes of debris were removed from Sunderland's promenades and beaches after recent storms including Storm Babet.

Business Losses: Many businesses suffered due to flooding and power outages, resulting in job losses and economic downturns. Displacement: Hundreds of people were rendered homeless due to flooding and property damage. 1,250 properties in England were flooded. Soil Erosion: Soil Erosion:
Intense rainfall increased soil
erosion and disrupted local
habitats, affecting wildlife
and potentially reducing
biodiversity.

School Closures: Numerous schools across Cheshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Yorkshire, Scotland and North Wales, were closed due to a "danger to life".

Evacuations: Over 10,000 people were evacuated from their homes and forced to stay in temporary accommodation. Disrupting their daily life.

Agricultural Damage:

Flooding damaged crops and farmland, killed livestock, and resulted in significant financial losses for farmers, leading to disruptions in food supplies.

Cost of Damages: Estimates calculate the costs of damage due to Storm Babet to be between £450m - £650m.

pollution: Flooding spread pollutants from roads, industrial sites, and farms into rivers, contaminating water sources with harmful chemicals and affecting aquatic life.





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Reducing the Risk:

Describe what early warnings are and why they are important during a storm like Storm Babet.
What impact do you think the Met Office's red and amber warnings had on public safety How might people's actions have changed in response to these warnings?
List the flood protection strategies implemented during Storm Babet (e.g., flood alerts, sandbags, pumps).
Describe the roles played by local authorities and emergency services during the storm.
Is the weather in the UK is becoming more extreme?
Using the information provided, discuss whether Storm Babet is evidence that weather in the UK is becoming more extreme. In your answer, consider the intensity, frequency, and impacts of recent storms, and compare these to historical weather patterns.

