

SHIELD YOUR HOME AGAINST THE HARSH WINTER WEATHER

With the UK currently experiencing a cold snap and temperatures set to plummet further, Lloyds TSB Insurance is warning that claims for damage to property rise dramatically as the weather worsens. However, homeowners can take a few simple steps to avoid the potential problems caused by freezing temperatures and to make sure that they are not left with frozen pipes.

Lloyds TSB Insurance has the following advice to help homeowners to shield their property from the cold weather:

- Locate your stopcock and gas valve - so you know where they are if a problem occurs
- Store a torch with spare batteries in a safe, but accessible place, with a list of telephone numbers such as a plumber, heating engineer, glazier, electrician, roofing contractor
- If you are going away on holiday leave your heating on low for a short time each day to avoid pipes freezing
- Keep drain gratings, gutters and down pipes free of leaves and debris
- Insulate outside stand pipes and taps and lag pipes and tanks in your loft
- Have chimneys swept and heating appliances serviced
- Repair broken fences, gates and boundary walls
- Have the number of your insurer to hand, in case the worst happens. Some insurers, like Lloyds TSB, give you a helpline number.

Phil Loney, managing director of Lloyds TSB Insurance, said: "It's well worth being prepared for the cold winter weather ahead of us. A little bit of effort now could save you a lot of wasted time and stress caused by problems such as burst pipes or broken boilers. Making sure that you have adequate home insurance, should your home bear the brunt of the bad weather, will also give you peace of mind."

.../more

SHIELD YOUR HOME AGAINST THE HARSH WINTER WEATHER/ ...2

For more information about Lloyds TSB Home Insurance visit www.insurance.co.uk or your local branch of Lloyds TSB.

- ends -

For further information:

Amy Davies

Lloyds TSB Press Office

Tel: 0207 356 1714

E: amy.davies@lloydstsb.co.uk

www.mediacentre.lloydstsb.com