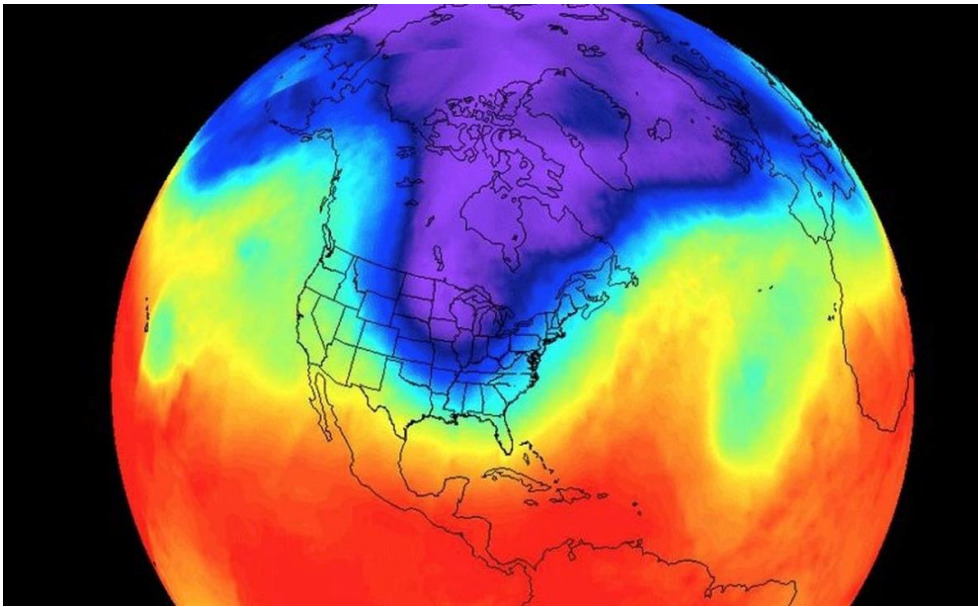


Freezing Weather Sweeps the UK



High winds in the Arctic have caused the spread of the polar vortex, leading to freezing temperatures spreading across the whole of the UK. With red weather warnings issued across Scotland and most of Northern England.

What is a Polar Vortex?

A polar vortex is a large area of low pressure and cold air surrounding both of the Earth's poles. It always exists near the poles, but weakens in summer and strengthens in winter. The term "vortex" refers to the counter-clockwise flow of air that helps keep the colder air near the Poles.

Why the UK?

In winter the polar vortex becomes less stable, this year in particular, the winds in Arctic are extreme. These high winds cause the cold air to move south from the arctic and sweep across the UK.