Seasonal Assessment – Spring 2022

The following represents a provisional assessment of the weather experienced across the UK during Spring 2022 (March, April and May), and how it compares with the 1991 to 2020 average.

The spring was warmer than average, by up to 1.0 degC in most areas, largely due to daytime temperatures in March and night-time temperatures in May being higher than average. The weather was relatively settled for much of the time, though the first part of March continued the unsettled theme of late winter, and the early part of April was also unsettled in some areas, then most of May was also rather unsettled. March was also unusually sunny, especially in northern areas.

March saw maximum temperatures well above average, with anomalies of more than 2 degC in many central and northern parts of the UK. Skies were often clear, which meant that minimum temperatures were much closer to average, and also that sunshine totals were well above average. Mean temperatures for March were 1.0 °C above the long-term average. There were some cold nights and late frosts during April, but daytime temperatures were mostly slightly above average; monthly-mean temperatures were 0.2 °C above average. May was mostly warmer than average, especially for minimum temperatures, but cooler at the end, and was 1.2 °C above average overall.

Rainfall totals for March were below normal in many places, particularly for western Scotland, north-west England and North Wales, with less than a quarter of average in the far north-west of Scotland, but some places from eastern Scotland to southern England were close to normal, giving an overall UK figure of 58% of average. Most of April's rainfall came during the first half of the month, and, except for some northern parts of Scotland, it was another rather dry month with 68% of average UK rainfall in total. May was very wet in parts of western Scotland, but some parts of England and Wales were rather dry, with 107% of average rainfall overall.

Many areas were unusually sunny in March, with both Scotland and Northern Ireland having their sunniest March in a series from 1919, and the UK having its second sunniest March with 152% of average. April sunshine totals were closer to average, with some eastern counties of England most favoured, and an overall UK figure of 107% of average. May was rather dull, particularly towards the north-west, with only 79% of average.

UK statistical summary		
Mean temperature	Rainfall	Sunshine
The provisional mean value is	The provisional total is 174	The provisional total is 485
8.9 °C, which is 0.8 °C above	mm, which is 76% of the	hours, which is 106% of the
the 1991-2020 average.	1991-2020 average.	1991-2020 average.







