Pest and Dog Control Services

Neighbourhood Services and Community Involvement Scrutiny Commission 16th August 2022



- Head of Service Bob Mullins / Brian Stafford (job-share)
- Team Manager Andrew Oxspring
- Senior Pest and Dog Control Officer currently vacant
- Pest and Dog Control Officers 2
- Pest Control Technicians 5



- Pest and Dog Control Officers
 - Work citywide to fulfil the Council's statutory duty to remove roaming and/or stray dogs from the streets
- Pest Control Technicians
 - Work is predominately area based
 - Areas based on demand
 - Treatment of rats, mice, bedbugs, fleas,
 wasps and squirrels in Council properties
 - Rat ingress/nest drain investigations for private residences





- Guided by:
 - Prevention of damage by Pests Act 1949
 - Places a duty on local authorities "... to secure as far as practicable that their district is kept free from rats and mice ..."
 - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
 - Environment Protection Act 1990
 - Places a duty on local authorities for the seizure of stray dogs "Every local authority shall appoint an officer ... for dealing with stay dogs ..."
 - Dangerous Dogs Act 1991
 - Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996



- Guided by:
 - Animal Welfare Act 1998
 - Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002
 - Regulates the use of rodenticides and pesticides
 - Microchipping of Dogs Regulations 2015
 - The team has no powers of entry, dealt with through Environmental Health Officers who also have the main powers of enforcement



Service Contact

- Online https://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-environment/pollution-and-pests/pest-control/
- By phone 0116 454 1001 (Customer Services)
- Email pest-dogs@leicester.gov.uk



Service Contact

Pests we treat

Please note, VAT will be added on top of the fees stated below.

Pest	Cost	Response time
Rats outside	Free	15 working days
Rats inside	Free	48 hours where possible
Mice	£65 (two visits), + £30 for extra visits	15 working days
Cockroaches	£65	15 working days
Wasps (we do not treat bees)	£65	10 working days
Fleas (council properties only)	£65 for up to 3 bedrooms. £20 for extra rooms	15 working days

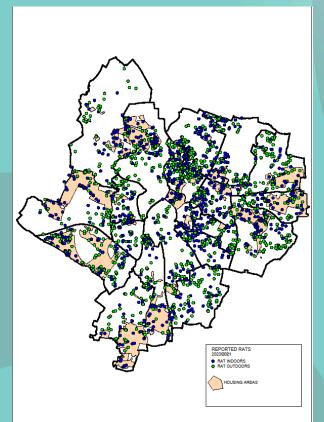
Service Statistics

Pest Type	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 (to date)	Grand Total
Ants	14	17	17	21	28	97
Bedbugs	60	86	8	115	15	284
Cockroaches	107	70	69	124	20	390
Fleas	99	73	39	25	18	254
Foxes	0	0	0	1	0	1
Mice	354	317	319	381	116	1487
Other insect	0	1	2	1	8	12
Pigeons	0	0	1	3	6	10
Rats Inside	1312	1336	1298	1497	455	5898
Rats Outside	1146	1217	1442	1332	488	5625
Voles, squirrels and other mammals	28	38	32	34	15	147
Wasps	386	208	217	225	31	1067
Grand Total	3506	3363	3444	3759	1200	15272



Service Statistics

- Analysis of data
 - Identification of 'hot-spots'
 - Resource allocation
 - Programmed works





Service Statistics

- Dog service requests and kennelling higher during lockdowns
 - Strays
 - Noisy dogs
 - Dog fouling
- Strays kennelled consistently around 120 per annum
- Kennelling a contracted service

Year	Service requests	Kennelling numbers
2018/19	1,145	196
2019/20	1,107	217
2020/21	771	116
2021/22	865	128



Strategic Working

- Identification of issues
- Working with Housing to reduce costs to the Council
 - Systematic treatments of bedbugs and cockroaches
 - Officer working group on rat treatments and prevention
- Working with Estates to reduce costs to the Council
 - Review of current practice to minimise return visits



Environmental Concerns

- Principal of identification of pest and appropriate treatment
- Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU)
 - Guidelines and best practice
- Rodenticides found in apex species (raptors)
 - Regular review of all rodenticides and pesticides
 - Minimum stock levels maintained
 - Perimeter baiting at the minimum





Questions

