

Following the Environment Officer's visit to this site- action plan below

We were made aware of the issue last week, and our pest control officer was able to visit to assess the entire site. With regard to Travelodge, he requested that:

- The ivy around the old reception is cut right back – it is very likely that it is providing harbourage (somewhere to live and hide) for the rats. This is where the smell of dead rats is strongest. We think they are ingesting bait from the KFC and BK bait boxes and then living in and around the old reception area – and hence dying there too.
- The flower beds in the same area are dug over to disrupt rat runs/holes. You may want to consider getting rid of these flower beds entirely if they are redundant.
- A thorough litter pick is undertaken over the entire Travelodge site – this must include the car park area, the grass verges, the area at the furthest end of the car park which is unused and all areas external to the Travelodge building. I note that during our conversation you advised that Travelodge do a litter pick each afternoon, however I would suggest that not all areas noted above are routinely picked. Litter must be removed as it provides food for the rats.
- Please ask your pest control contractor to revisit the site as a matter of urgency and undertake a survey to determine if the current pest control interventions are sufficient. They may need to look at whether there are sufficient rat boxes, whether the boxes are baited adequately etc as it would appear that the current interventions may not be entirely sufficient given the apparent level of rat activity at the site.
- Please could you also ask your pest control contractor to check the old reception area inside the building as it is possible that the rats may have accessed the building at that point, especially as you advised that end of the building is not routinely used.

I would be grateful if you could provide confirmation of each of these points as and when they take place, and also if you could forward your pest control records for the last 3 months to me (via email). Please also forward the pest control reports once your contractor has assessed the current situation.

Many thanks for your help, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Fiona

Fiona Fitzgerald

Senior Environmental Health Officer

Environmental Health



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