

Earley grandmother has shower damaged by rats

• BY LINDA FORT, MAR 2016, UK

Earley grandmother had been without a working shower for three months because her home is infested with rats



Diane Henry and grandson Jahmal Hatton in rat-Infested home in Earley

An [Earley](#) woman and her grandson have been without a shower for three months because her loft is infested with rats.

Diane Henry, 50, of Barbel Close, Earley has been trying to get her shower mended for months after rats damaged the wiring in the loft.

She said “I got in touch with the housing association A2Dominion about three months ago when the shower stopped working.

“It took a while before they sent anyone out - about a month.

“When the man he came he went up into the loft, saw the rats up there and he came down again and refused to do anything to the shower until the rats were gone.”

Mr Henry then contacted [Wokingham](#) Borough Council to try to get rid of the rats.

She said: "I kept contacting the council but they wouldn't do anything."

She said: "My grandson could hear the rats running around in the roof."

Finally she got in touch with *getreading* and now things seem to be moving but very slowly.

She said: "I've now had someone round to get rid of the rats, they traps and poison down in the loft."

Mrs Henry is now concerned it may take several weeks before the rat infestation is cleared and her shower can be repaired.

She said: "A2Dominion have told me they still won't do my shower until I have got a certificate to prove there are no rats anymore. That could take weeks and weeks. It really is too much. "

She said: "It is bad enough for me, but my four-year-old grandson lives with me and I have to wash him in the sink."

Mrs Henry has lived at the property, which only has a shower and no bath, for about 18 months

Martyn Mumford, A2Dominion's assistant director of property services, said:

"Unfortunately a vermin problem in Ms Henry's loft has been preventing us from investigating and resolving a fault with her shower.

"Our contractors have been unable to gain access to the loft, where they believe the repair can be made.

"We reminded Ms Henry on February 19 that it is her responsibility to tackle any rodent infestation if it is within her property and not in a communal area.

"This is also outlined in her tenancy agreement with A2Dominion.

"As the infestation still persists inside her home, we have on this occasion arranged for a pest control company to attend and clear the problem as soon as possible.

"Once the loft is clear, our contractors will return to the property to bring Ms Henry's shower back into use."