

## Tenant's nightmare in high-rise flat infested with bed bugs, silverfish and beetles

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A vulnerable tenant suffers sleepless nights and OCD attacks as he is forced to live alone in an infested east end flat.

Andrew Breslin, 42, discovered silverfish and beetles when he first moved into the Sandyhills high-rise block in February, though he said he "didn't think much of it."

But when he began waking up with rashes all over his skin, he was horrified to discover bed bugs crawling in his duvet, his pillow and his new mattress.

He looked underneath the bed and discovered more of the insects scurrying out of the skirting and all over the carpet.

He told Glasgow Live: "I've been savaged by all the bed bugs. I hadn't had experience with them before now but the whole place is crawling with them.

"I woke up early one morning and saw two of them crawling up the duvet towards me. And there were babies under the pillow. They leave horrible marks."

Andrew explains he got in touch with the housing officer, who he claimed said it was a problem they had not experienced before. An exterminator was sent out in November to spray the property and said they would return to carry out the work.

The tenant has reached out to the contractor since and claims his calls and texts have been "blanked."

He admits his depression has worsened due to the issue.

He added: "I'm sleeping on the sofa now but they've begun following me in there.

"I now have the same ritual before I go to bed. I check in the pillows and in the duvet.

"It's a battle. I don't know how much more I can take. I have OCD with bugs, and this has affected me hugely. It really has me going around the bend. This sort of issue plays with people's mental health.

"I can't even sleep properly because I've got creepy crawlies sensations. It's turned into a nightmare. I'm at my wit's end."

Andrew added: "I understand these are hard times and all due to lockdown, but it is pushing me over the edge. I have nowhere else to go."

A spokesperson for GHA confirmed the housing association was reaching out to Mr Breslin at the time of publication.

He said: "We've tried several times to contact this tenant to arrange a time for our specialist contractors to go out and sort the latest issue, but we couldn't get him by phone or email.

"We were very sorry to hear the issue had come back after our contractors treated the problem in November, followed up by regular weekly checks. We understand it's affecting the tenant's wellbeing so there's no issue with getting it fixed.

"We finally made contact with him today and we'll try to get this resolved as quickly as possible."