



## **RATS FOUND IN NURSERIES, SCHOOLS AND EVEN A CARE HOME**

Read about the rodents plaguing public buildings in Renfrewshire as we list those affected

**BY Stephen Houston**

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Swarms of rats and mice have been found across schools and public buildings in Renfrewshire.

Pest exterminators had to be called out 170 times over the past three years to council property spanning libraries to sports centres.

Many of the visits by Renfrewshire Council pest squads to their own properties were for wasps nests.

But rodents were also discovered across the region.

The council has released the data under Freedom of Information legislation.

The only care home with rats was the Montrose Care home, in Paisley's Heriot Avenue, where inspectors were called out twice, six months apart.

Nurseries with mice were Auchenlodment, in Johnstone, Moorpark Pre-Five centre and Glendee Pre-Five Centre, both in Renfrew, Our Lady of Peace Nursery, in Linwood, Bridge of Weir Nursery and Douglas Street Pre-Five Centre, in Paisley.

Nurseries with rats were Ferguslie Pre-Fives at the Tannahill Centre, the Paisley Pre-Five Centre, in Stow Street, St Margaret's Nursery and Spateston Pre-Five Centre, in Johnstone, St Peter's, in Paisley, and the Hugh Smiley Pre-Five Centre, in Paisley.

Some of the nurseries had persistent problems with rats, needing several visits before the problem was fully tackled.

The primary schools with mice were St John Ogilvie, in Paisley, Our Lady of Peace, in Linwood, St Anthony's, in Johnstone, Gallowhill, in Paisley, Auchenlodment and Newmains, in Renfrew, St Charles' in Paisley, St Catherine's in Paisley, Houston Primary, Wallace in Elderslie, and Heriot in Paisley.

Primaries with rats were Heriot, in Paisley, Inchinnan, West, in Paisley, St Margaret's, in Johnstone, Thorn Primary, in Johnstone, St Charles, in Paisley and Wallace Primary, in Elderslie.

Beetles were found inside a £2billion-a-year procurement centre which deals with contracts for all Scotland's 32 local authorities.

The Scotland Excel centre in Renfrewshire Council's Cotton Street building had the exterminators out in January 2018.

The only other place beetles were found was the Montrose Day Centre, in Paisley.

Silverfish insects were exterminated at Bushes Primary and Lancraigs, both in Paisley, Rashielee Primary, in Erskine, as well as Johnstone High.

Slugs were taken from Newmains Primary, in Renfrew.

And ants were destroyed in the canteen at the council recycling centre in Underwood Road, Paisley.

Rats were also found at Johnstone recycling centre.

Other venues plagued by rats included Paisley Museum, Johnstone Community Sports Hub, Ferguslie Park Library and the Disability Resource Centre, in Love Street.

The high schools with rats were Johnstone - on three separate occasions, Castlehead, Renfrew, and Park Mains in Erskine.

Johnstone High also had to be targeted twice for mice.

A Renfrewshire Council spokeswoman said: "Where complaints are made regarding pests and rodents, the area is visited as soon as possible, and an appropriate course of treatment is undertaken by the council pest control officer to deal with the situation.

"If any resident has concerns with vermin in their property or area, they should contact the council's pest control service on 0300 300 0380 who will arrange to visit and undertake an appropriate course of treatment."