

CaSSOA GUIDANCE

VERMIN CONTROL

General Advice

- Keep compounds free from food i.e. pick up any fallen fruit and discarded food waste
- Keep your premises in good repair; rats only need a gap of 15mm to access buildings.
- Remove potential nesting sites by keeping premises clean and tidy and by cutting back overgrown areas.
- Ensure drain covers are in place and in good repair.
- Seal gaps around heating and water pipes.
- Ventilation bricks and slots should already have a fine wire mesh protection.
- Do not leave waste where rats can access it - close bin and composter lids.
- Secure any gaps beneath your external buildings such as sheds and garages with galvanised wire mesh.
- Climbing vegetation which reach gutter level will allow rodents to access roof space and from there into the wall cavity and the rest of your premises.

Methods of Vermin Control

Trapping

- Re-usable
- Non chemical
- Spring loaded or electronic options
- Non-target animals may be trapped accidentally

Ultrasonic / Electromagnetic devices

- Deter rodents with high frequency noise inaudible to humans
- Lack of evidence for efficacy

Chemical

- To be used in conjunction with other control measures
- Can be lethal for non-target animals

Rules

- Only trap or kill permitted animals.
- Only use permitted methods to kill animals.
- Only use poison to kill the pests it's intended for - this will be written on the packaging.
- Only use traps that have been approved for use with the species you want to control - you must follow the instructions for use.
- If you're using pesticides, you'll need a Specified Certificate in the Use of Pesticides. These are available from the National Proficiency Tests Council.

Useful Links

<https://www.gov.uk/pest-control-on-your-property>
<https://bpca.org.uk/pest-advice/commercial>