

## **Residents Responsibility for Vermin & Pest Control**

The Vermin and Pest Control has been introduced to all New Residents, and, is in the process of being introduced to our current Residents. The reason for its introduction is that a number of Residents are unknowingly encouraging vermin activity by feeding garden birds and other actions.

***Our policy states Residents take responsibility for pest control.***

Follow three simple rules to reduce the chances of pests and vermin coming to stay.

### **1. Don't let them in**

Block up holes in the brickwork, roof, skirting boards and floorboards to prevent rats, mice and squirrels from getting into your home. Feel welcome to contact Genesis for advice on any help that we may be able to provide.

### **2. Don't feed them**

Keep your home clean, especially the kitchen. Clean surfaces and floors regularly to remove any traces of food. If possible store food in sealed containers. Uncovered food can attract pests and vermin. Put rubbish out in sealed bags or bins. Always use a bird table when you feed garden birds. Putting bird food on the ground can attract rats and mice, as can putting cooked food in a compost heap.

### **3. Don't make them comfy**

Don't leave old furniture, mattresses or other rubbish in your garden. These make a great place for mice and rats to nest.

Ask your local Council to collect bulky household waste or take this to the tip yourself. Try to keep your garden tidy too as an overgrown garden provides a good home for mice and rats.

## **Bees and Wasps**

Please remember that bees are not classed as a pest.

In fact they help pollinate crops and we should be helping them to survive.

If you can leave a bee or wasp nest then please do so but if it does need to be dealt with then this must be done by a professional pest controller.