

Pigeons

Information leaflet



EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Flocks of feral pigeons have become an increasingly common sight in many towns and cities. They thrive in urban areas in particular because there is usually a good food source and also because of the absence of predators.

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

Vacant buildings, structural defects and building design can all provide attractive roosting sites.

WHAT DO THEY EAT?

Food spillage and litter containing food waste. Some people feed pigeons in the mistaken belief that the activities of the birds are harmless to humans.

DISEASE TRANSMISSION

Pigeons carry a number of potentially infectious diseases such as Salmonellosis, Tuberculosis and Ornithosis. Contamination of food by pigeon droppings or by the birds themselves can transmit these diseases to humans.

CONTROL MEASURES

- Dispose of food carefully
- Use litterbins provided
- Do not feed the pigeons!

The fouling of buildings may be reduced by the use of repellent devices. Various repellents are available including jelly-like substances which makes the surface where applied unattractive to the roosting bird.

Plastic strips hung in doorways deter pigeons from entering but may not be completely successful.

Windows, doors, eaves and balconies can be proofed by plastic netting stretched across or wire placed along ledges a few inches above the surface.

If you are a private tenant you may need the approval of your landlord before fitting any attachments to the structure of your dwelling. Always check first.

HOW WE CAN HELP

East Cambridgeshire District Council does not offer treatment for pigeons. Control and proofing is available from professional pest control companies listed in the local directory/ yellow pages.

For further advice, please contact Environmental Services on 01353 665555.

WHEN USING PESTICIDES ALWAYS FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE LABEL.