West Lothian Council SNP Group

Leader: **Depute Leader:** Secretary:

Cllr Janet Campbell Cllr Robert De Bold Cllr Mary Dickson



Agenda Item 11

West Lothian Council Meeting 22nd Nov 2022

Motion -Dealing with vermin and statutory nuisance

Rats are naturally present in the environment we are told.

The responsibility for management and control of rats lies with the land and property owners where the rats are present we are told.

Feeding birds (or hedgehogs, etc.) in itself is not an offence we are told.

However, if feeding is excessive, or leads to accumulations of food waste, or a significant build-up of bird droppings, it comes under Section 79 section 1(e) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

"Any accumulation or deposit which is prejudicial to health or a nuisance;"

Local Authorities are responsible for enforcement of this act.

Where there are a significant number of complaints received then it is reasonably safe to assume that a nuisance is occurring.

Council therefore call for a review of the policies that cover procedures around the enforcement of the relevant Acts, in particular as to how they relate to residential properties. This should include a report to the appropriate PDSP.



Cllr Willie Boyle Bathgate Ward (SNP)

Received on 7 Nov 2022 at 11:02am

