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# PPC118



## TO BEE OR NOT TO BEE:

...A viewpoint on the pros and  
cons of honey bee removal



**FLIP OVER FOR  
THE PPC LIVE  
SHOWGUIDE!**



**PROFESSIONAL PEST CONTROLLER MARCH 2025**  
THE JOURNAL OF THE UK PEST MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY



ISSN 2046-5025



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CRAWLSPACES, ATTICS  
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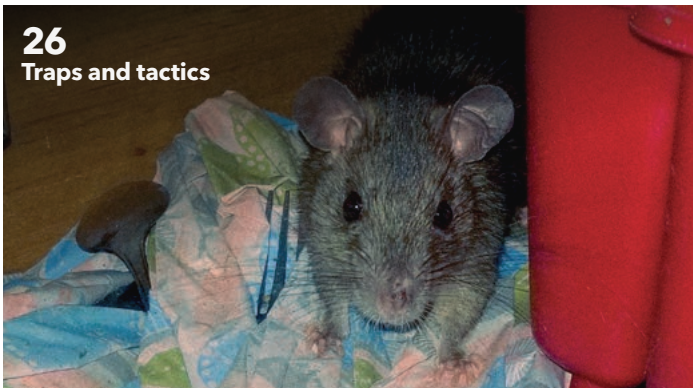
For information on how the Power of  products can enhance your rodent control service and solve problems at your accounts, contact your local Pest Control Distributor or visit [www.bellsensing.com](http://www.bellsensing.com).



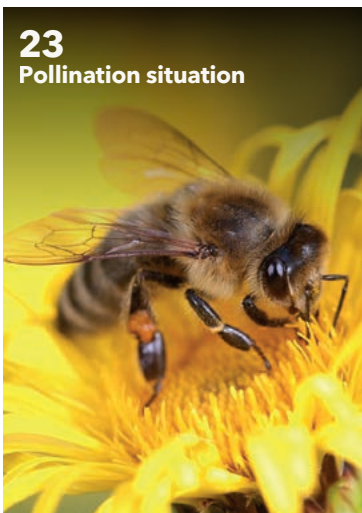
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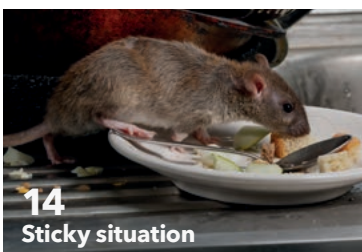
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**FULL SHOW GUIDE**

How time flies! PPC Live is back this March bringing you into spring. Flip to the back for your on-the-day guide!





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[youtube.com/BPCAvideo](https://www.youtube.com/BPCAvideo)

## PPC

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PPC has been printed using carbon-balanced papers, showing our commitment to choosing a sustainable supply chain and reducing our carbon footprint with each edition.



**BPCA Registered CPD points**  
Online CPD quiz = 1 point each

Remember to log anything else you've learned in your CPD diary for even more points. [bpca.org.uk/add](http://bpca.org.uk/add)



**Basis Prompt point allocation**  
Reading PPC mag = 2 points  
Online CPD quiz = 1 point each  
[bpca.org.uk/find-cpd](http://bpca.org.uk/find-cpd)

# An event you're invited to (and one you're not)

Merry 2025, all. It's shaping into a massive year for the sector and BPCA.

PPC118 is an issue of two halves – literally and figuratively. We have the BPCA annual report looking back at all the successes we've had together in 2024. And if you flip this mag, you'll find the PPC Live showguide packed with talks and exhibitors looking ahead at what the future might hold.

If you haven't booked your place at PPC Live yet, please do. It's shaping up to be an incredible event.

In many ways, it's not as big as PestEx – fewer international visitors and exhibitors will attend, and obviously, it's only a single-day event. But in many ways, it's the biggest event in the industry. It has the most interactive sessions, demonstrations and talks. It takes place in the beautiful open Great Yorkshire Event Centre, the most stunning venue for any pest event in the sector.

Please take the time to come to see us on 19 March. It'll be well worth your time.

At the time of writing, we're prepping for our first BPCA Volunteer's Day. We've invited all 50+ BPCA member volunteers to join us for some intensive workshops to help drive the Association's mission.

This isn't a spa day. It's about rolling up your sleeves and donating your time for the benefit of the entire sector.

Volunteers are working on projects they're passionate about, giving up time in their businesses to support yours. We're a member-owners, volunteers-run Association, after all. Getting us all together simultaneously in the same place is a first for us. We couldn't be more excited.

Want to attend and get stuck in? Well, you can't. At least not this year!

If you want to get on the guest list for next year and make a real difference, head to [bpca.org.uk/groups](http://bpca.org.uk/groups) and find a committee that resonates with you.

By members, for members – it's how we work. Help us Drive excellence in pest management by choosing to volunteer this year.

*Scott + Dee*

PPC editors  
[hello@bpca.org.uk](mailto:hello@bpca.org.uk)



## CEO RECRUITMENT FOR BPCA UNDERWAY

At the time this goes to print BPCA will be deep into the search for its new Chief Executive Officer.

Working closely with the Executive Board, the core of the role will have a focus on:

- Championing the interests of the pest control sector to government and stakeholders
- Developing comprehensive business strategies
- Promoting membership growth and protecting the sector's toolkit
- Professional development in the industry.

BPCA Ops Manager Lorraine Norton said:

"Applications were taken via an agency that specialises in CEO recruitment, and we had a great raft of candidates come through.

"Our aim is that by the time this magazine lands on your doorstep we'll have extended an offer to a candidate and had that offer accepted. And while it's not guaranteed, we hope the new CEO will be able to join us at PPC Live in Harrogate on 19 March, to informally meet you all before officially starting in their role."

### Who picks the next BPCA Chief Executive?

Lorraine continued:

"BPCA is owned and run by its members, which is why member volunteers will appoint the new CEO.

"That's why we opened it up at the start of the process and asked members to send us any suggestions for interview questions. We had some questions to ask.

"The Executive Board has delegated the interview process to a recruitment panel of five out of eleven Board members.

"We already have a shortlist of candidates, and once we narrow it down further, they will meet the rest of the Board, who will make the final decision together." [hello@bpc.org.uk](mailto:hello@bpc.org.uk)

## LICENSING UPDATES FOR ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND IN 2025



From January 2025, an update was provided to some of the general and class licences within England and Scotland for birds and Glis glis.

There are currently no changes to licences in Wales and Northern Ireland.

### England

The following updates have been provided by Natural England:

CL03 Birds: licence to catch them on food premises - this has been reworded in several sections to make the information clearer, including the sections on 'Definitions used in this licence', 'Registering to use this licence' and 'Recording and reporting requirements'.

We've also had the following species added as part of our licensing conditions:

- Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone*)
- Magpie (*Pica pica*)
- Woodpigeon (*Columba palumbus*).

Section 25 was updated to ensure that Natural England must be notified, within 5 working days, if you find any of the following at the licensed site:

- One or more dead owls or birds of prey, such as sparrowhawk or kestrel
- Three or more dead birds of any species.

You do not need to report dead birds that have died due to another known or likely cause (other than avian influenza, also known as bird flu), such as legal shooting, road traffic accident or other trauma, natural predation or severe weather incident.

CL12 Birds: licence to kill or take them for air safety purposes - this licence was reworded in several sections to make the information clearer, including the section on 'Registering to use this licence' and licence condition 13a.

Updated licence condition 14, the 'avian influenza' information and advice note, and the definition of a 'Registered Person'. Additional information added to licence note a.

### Bird flu guidance

An updated guidance has been provided with regards to the avian influenza (bird flu) situation. The excerpt is below:

"Avian influenza (bird flu) is a notifiable animal disease and if you suspect any type of avian influenza in poultry or captive birds you must report it immediately by calling the Defra Rural Services Helpline on 03000 200 301.

"If you suspect that wild birds are affected, you should use the new online reporting system or call the Defra helpline (03459 335 577).

### Glis glis

Edible Dormouse (*Glis glis*) CL02 received several amendments to make the information clearer, including the sections on 'Registering to use this licence', 'Recording and reporting requirements' and 'Annex A'.

### Scotland

NatureScot is the body in charge of issuing licences in Scotland.

There is one change under General Licences 02 (To kill or take certain birds for the prevention of serious damage) and 03 (To kill or take certain birds for the preservation of public health, public safety and preventing the spread of disease).

This change applies to an additional control method specific to Feral pigeons (*Columba livia*), when shooting at night with the aid of any device for illuminating a target or any device for night shooting.

### Get in touch!

If you have any further questions, get in touch with our technical team. Members only.

[technical@bpc.org.uk](mailto:technical@bpc.org.uk)



## REMEMBERING BRUCE BLYTHING

Written by Phil Blything.

Bruce Blything, known to many in the pest control industry, died on 20 December 2024 at Arrowe Park Hospital.

Co-founder and MD of Industrial Pesticides (NW) Ltd, in Liverpool, Bruce was a perennial figure, described by many as quite a character, always to be seen at exhibitions and events, especially throughout the 80's and 90's.

Bruce started his career at Arton Saunders pharmaceutical company, moving on to Wellcome Foundation where he made many industry connections and friends who spanned a lifetime.

When Wellcome withdrew from the pest control market, Bruce decided to establish IP, along with Stan Dodgeson of ICS Group.

The business held main agency distributorships for the principal manufacturers for many decades, serving customers across the UK, from Local Authorities to grain producers who valued his knowledge, loyalty and dedication.

Bruce took an active role in the trade associations, sitting on BPCA Manufacturers and Distributors Committee for many years, and also kept involved with the NPTA.

He retired and the business was sold to Essex Environmental (later SX) in 2011, which, after several consolidations through P&L systems, now forms part of the Pelsis portfolio.

Bruce enjoyed a long and happy retirement, volunteering at Ness Botanical Gardens, playing golf and rekindling his musical abilities as a jazz saxophonist.

He enjoyed especially his two grandchildren, Adam and Will, who he took great delight in, watching them grow and explore the world.

He is missed by widow Doreen, sons Martin and Philip, and the family who are sorry to share this sad news.

Funeral Service took place at Blacon Crematorium Chester on Monday 27 January, 2025 at 1.20 pm.





## REHIS CELEBRATES 150 YEARS OF PROTECTING SCOTLAND

Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (REHIS) is celebrating its 150-year anniversary with a series of events and projects – and a very special tartan reflecting its long history.

The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland has been at the forefront of efforts to improve the health of Scotland's people since 1875, through education, training and qualifications.

Now REHIS is planning a year of celebrations, kicking off with the creation of a colourful tartan that cleverly uses the Institute's history as inspiration. Created by Tartan Caledonia, the design incorporates the colours of the official REHIS crest and boasts thread counts that mark the year of its inception.

A working group of members are involved in a series of projects to mark the 150-year anniversary. These include: a new 150 logo; a video montage of members' reflections on how REHIS has influenced and shaped their working lives; and a timeline of key events in the life of the Institute.

The Institute will host a 150-anniversary Forum with a dinner in September, when the timeline will be launched. The forum theme will be "Reflecting on the Past, Looking to the Future".

The year will end with a special anniversary edition of the REHIS Journal, featuring reflections from Past Presidents and key events in the Institute's history.

REHIS encourage all members to promote and participate in the year ahead to mark this huge milestone and the work of the Institute.

For more information, please contact the Chief Executive at REHIS:  
[contact@rehis.com](mailto:contact@rehis.com)

## CLIVERTON INSURANCE LAUNCH NEW ACCIDENT AND ILLNESS POLICY

To help protect you and your business, Cliverton Insurance Brokers have launched a new Personal Accident and Illness insurance policy, Cliverton Protect, in conjunction with Ortus Underwriting

Running a business can be incredibly rewarding, but it also comes with its own risks of potential accidents or illnesses that could leave you unable to work, especially working in pest control.

This could leave a financial burden, especially for those who are self-employed and be a great source of stress.

Cliverton Protect offers 24/7, worldwide coverage, safeguarding you against the effects of injuries or illnesses lasting more than 7 days.

In the worst-case scenario, Cliverton Protect also provides a lump sum payment for permanent disability or death.

The policy is ideal for those in the pest control industry, covering a wide range of business activities.

Get in touch with Cliverton by phone or email:

**01328 857 921**  
[pestandsecurity@cliverton.co.uk](mailto:pestandsecurity@cliverton.co.uk)

Cliverton will be at PPC Live in Harrogate this March - come see them on stand 30!



BCPA member London Network for Pest Solutions is celebrating after winning the Business Growth category of the Newham Chamber of Commerce Business Awards 2024.

The award ceremony was held at the Old Town Hall in Stratford and saw businesses from the East London area competing in 12 different categories.

Paul Cooper, Managing Director of LNPS, said: "We were absolutely thrilled to win the Business Growth award and receive this recognition.

"The team has worked incredibly hard to grow the business while also maintaining customer satisfaction. In fact, we have seen our customer satisfaction rates steadily increase with nearly 70 per cent of customers in the last year rating us as 'Excellent'."

Sponsored by Enterprise4Good, the Business Growth category was open to businesses that could demonstrate business growth within the marketplace over the last 18 months.

Entrants needed to show growth achieved against their business plan, figures demonstrating growth of their business in sales, staff and profits and plans for future growth over the coming 12 months.

## SAFEGUARD PEST CONTROL APPOINTS NEW MD

Safeguard Pest Control has appointed Andrew Simpson as its new managing director.



Andrew, 55, joined the Kent-based business, which is part of Orkin UK, at the start of January and will be focussing on consolidating the company's steady expansion over recent years.

Andrew has over 30 years' experience working in facilities management and client facing roles with Cannon, ISS and Bidvest.

During Covid he was closely involved with the NHS Nightingale Hospital at the ExCel London, where he was responsible for the set-up and maintenance of cleaning operations to ensure that the risk of staff being infected was minimal.

On taking up his new role, Andrew commented: "I'm delighted to be joining Safeguard and Orkin UK at a time when the group is actively expanding. My experience in facilities management has shown me that many businesses undervalue pest control, as our work often goes unseen until there is a problem that needs urgent action. I'm keen to help ensure the importance of the service we provide to organisations is properly understood and appreciated."

Welcoming Andrew to Orkin UK, managing director Kristian Dales said: "I wish Andrew every success in his new role. His experience of facilities management gives him great insight into how our customers work and what value-added services we can provide to them."

## NEW MD APPOINTMENT FOR DEALY ENVIRONMENTAL



Stefanie Inger has been appointed Managing Director of Dealey Environmental, as Martin Cobbald steps into CEO role.

Stefanie, who has been with the company for five years as Head of Finance, brings a wealth of experience and leadership expertise to her new role.

As Managing Director, she will focus on driving operational excellence, expanding the company's reach, and fostering innovation across all service areas.

Martin Cobbald, who has served as Managing Director since 2010, will now focus on the company's long-term strategy and vision as CEO, ensuring Dealey Environmental remains at the forefront of the industry.

The leadership transition reflects Dealey Environmental's dedication to evolution and excellence, a cornerstone of its success over the last seven decades.

## BASF ANNOUNCES RELAUNCH OF FENDONA 6 SC

Pest control solutions manufacturer, BASF, has announced that its popular insecticide Fendona 6 SC will return to the market this winter.

The fast-acting pyrethroid insecticide features a unique active ingredient, alpha-cypermethrin, that eliminates a variety of insects.

A member of the synthetic pyrethroid family, Fendona's proven high-performance formulation disrupts the central nervous system of target species. This provides a rapid knockdown effect delivering results within just 30 to 60 minutes of treatment.

Suitable for use in both rural and urban environments, the reintroduction of the long-lasting \*residual spray will play a pivotal role in the rotation of insecticide treatments to slow down insecticide resistance across the country.

Laurence Barnard, Country Business Manager for BASF's Professional & Specialty Solutions, commented: "We're really pleased to reveal that Fendona 6 SC will be available this January after a number of years off the market.

"Fendona 6 SC was approved under the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR) in 2019, but the approval was restricted to use in poultry houses only, so BASF took the decision to discontinue the product pending the extension of the authorisation for use in urban pest situations.

"We are delighted that Fendona 6 SC is now authorised for use against a wide range of pests in these additional situations including domestic and large commercial buildings.

"At BASF, we're dedicated to continuously researching and developing effective solutions against a variety of troublesome target species, and we hope that the relaunch of Fendona will bring the return of this very popular product to the toolbox of every pest controller."

Fendona 6 SC will be available from 14th January 2025 from all good suppliers.

*\*Refer to product label for duration of residual activity on specific insect species.*



## MANUELA CORDEIRO ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE GLOBAL PEST MANAGEMENT COALITION

The Confederation of European Pest Management Associations (CEPA) is proud to announce the election of Manuela Cordeiro, one of its distinguished members, as President of the Global Pest Management Coalition (GPMC) for the 2025-2026 term.

CEPA is the voice of the pest management sector in Europe, actively working to promote high standards and sustainable practices within the industry.

By uniting industry professionals, CEPA fosters a responsible approach to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all.

This election, which took place at the international PestWorld 2024 event, represents a significant milestone for the European pest management industry, highlighting CEPA's leadership within this essential sector.

"This achievement would not have been possible without the unwavering support and trust of CEPA and its members," stated the new GPMC President. "As a representative of the European pest management industry, I am committed to advancing our initiatives on a global scale, emphasising the critical role of our industry in protecting public health and the environment."



## PESTGUARD'S BRIAN SOWERBY RETIRES AFTER 44 YEARS

Brian Sowerby says farewell to pest control after nearly half a century in the industry.

Brian started out catching moles for farmers in the Durham area in 1980.

"After training through MAFF (now Defra) to use strychnine for the control of moles, work really took off and farmers started spreading the word about my services," said Brian.

He continued, "It wasn't before long that the farmers were asking about rodent control, so Killgerm provided me with all the training and then work exploded after that. That was 44 years ago and I never looked back.

"I registered Pestguard with the IPO for the trade marks and other pesties followed suit, registering their businesses too.

"It's been a long 44 years in the industry, and with all the new legislation coming into force over the years its been an up and down slog. So, at the ripe old age of 69, it's time to call it a day, retire and sell up.

"I have so many people to thank for my long service to the industry, the list is so long I would be here all day typing (and I'm sure the editor would just shorten it for publication), So, with a grateful smile and gratitude to so many people, I'll say 'many thanks for the ride of a lifetime'."

Congratulations to Brian on a well-earned retirement, from all the team at BPCA!



**"...I am committed to advancing our initiatives on a global scale..."**

## PRODUCT WITHDRAWAL: PYBUTHRIN 33 TO BE REMOVED FROM THE MARKET

The COPR registration of Pybuthrin 33 (HSE 5106) expired on 1 February 2025, and Envu will no longer support this registration through GB BPR.

Therefore, the phase-out dates (corrected by Envu on 27/11/24) are as follows:

Sold by date – 31 July 2025 (product can no longer be purchased after this date)

Use by date – 27 January 2026 (product can no longer be used after this date).

Pybuthrin 33 is currently registered for use

against a variety of stored product insects, cockroaches, houseflies and mosquitoes.

As an alternative, AquaPy (HSE 5799) will remain available, and the registration defended through GB BPR process. AquaPy is a virtually odourless, non-flammable, water-based insecticide that contains natural pyrethrum and is synergised with piperonyl butoxide.

This combination gives it the flexibility in where and how it can be used. FFAST™ technology enhances the ULV application.

Therefore, less product is used, minimising product usage and pesticides entering the environment.

Envu commented, "The withdrawal of a product is something we work very hard to avoid. We continue to defend our product registrations and remain committed to constant innovation and new product development to ensure our customers have the best possible solutions to help them protect public health."



## BOOST YOUR BUSINESS WITH PESTFIX'S 'FIND A PEST CONTROLLER' TOOL

Are you looking for a simple, effective way to grow your pest control business and attract more local customers?

PestFix is excited to introduce you to the 'Find a Pest Controller' feature on our website. This game-changing tool is designed to help pest control technicians like you boost visibility and generate leads, all at no cost!

### How it works

The 'Find a Pest Controller' tool makes it easier than ever for potential customers to find your services.

With a simple postcode lookup, customers can quickly discover your business, including the services you offer, your contact details, and a direct contact button for quick communication.

### Why you should join

Rhianna Clavering, who oversees PestFix's Marketing, explains:

"The 'Find a Pest Controller' tool is all about helping pest control professionals stand out in their local areas. It boosts visibility, builds credibility as part of the PestFix network, and streamlines the process for customers looking for trusted professionals.

"And the best part? It's completely free, giving businesses the chance to grow without extra costs."

Whether working alone or part of a team, this tool is the perfect solution for staying competitive in an ever-changing market.

Getting listed is quick and easy, contact one of PestFix's account managers at **01903 538 488**.

## BJ SHERRIFF TO LAUNCH HORNETSAFE TECHNICIAN SUIT WITH SPECIAL DISCOUNT AT PPC LIVE 2025

BJ Sherriff are proud to launch the groundbreaking Hornetsafe Technician Suit at PPC Live in Harrogate this March.

Crafted with 8mm+ double-lined breathable fabric, it delivers robust defence against aggressive stinging insects while minimising the risk of overheating, even during high-intensity tasks.

The Hornetsafe Technician Suit is engineered for pest control professionals who need protection, comfort, and reliability in high-risk environments.

BJ Sherriff will also be showcasing the best-selling lined Bee Pro Suit - an industry favourite (800% increase in sales in 2024). Bee Pro Suit is designed for allergy-sensitive users and desensitisation therapy.

BJ Sherriff are thrilled to join forces with Wasp Pole Pro®, renowned for their cutting-edge telescopic applicator technology.

### Exclusive show offer

Purchase the Hornetsafe Technician Suit and Wasp Pole Pro® together at PPC Live and receive a generous show discount.

Stop by to see BJ Sherriff/Wasp Pole Pro® on stand 35 to experience the future of pest control protective gear and tools.

Let BJ Sherriff and Wasp Pole Pro® give you the edge in safety and innovation.



## STEP UP TO THE NO PEST FEST ON THE PESTFIX STAND AT PPC LIVE 2025

PestFix is back at PPC Live - bigger, better, and ready to impress, with our No Pest Fest.

Swing by stand 36 and explore the latest in proofing solutions, challenge your skills with interactive games, and enter our prize draw.

Get hands-on with the latest pest control products and discover how PestFix can help you stay ahead of the game.

Plus, don't miss our Technical Manager, Elaine, as she delivers two insightful demo sessions packed with expert tips and practical knowledge:

**10:15 to 10:45** - Master bird netting for effective bird control

**13:15 to 13:45** - PestFix's essential guide to bird proofing.

Together we can make pest control smarter, more affordable, and more effective.

See you there!



## DEFENDER BIRD SPIKES DEBUT THE DEFENDER IRRITATOR AT PPC LIVE 2025

The Defender Bird Spikes team is heading to PPC Live with an impressive lineup of over 20 high-quality bird spikes, each expertly designed to tackle bird problems in any situation.

We're thrilled to debut our latest innovation on stand 45: the Defender Irritator, engineered to prevent seagulls from nesting behind chimney stacks.

With testing underway, we'll be revealing the first exciting results at the show.

And, of course, the infamous Pigeon Ice Luge will be back by popular demand!

Whether you're up for an alcoholic shot or a refreshing soft drink, there's no excuse not to give it a try.

Don't miss out - see you there!





## PESTSCAN'S JAN SMITS TO PRESENT AI IN PEST CONTROL SEMINAR AT PPC LIVE 2025

Jan Smits, General Manager at PestScan, will present a seminar at PPC Live in Harrogate on the question of AI and its uses in pest control.

Jan will explore whether AI is reshaping the landscape of pest control. Is AI a threat to traditional methods, or an opportunity to advance our work?

For some, the fear is that automation could

reduce the need for human expertise. Is this fear realistic? Or does it just change the role of the professional?

Jan has 14 years' experience in the pest control field and 26 years in ICT.

PestScan supports pest control companies of all sizes with innovative tools tailored to their needs. Their mobile app, business software, and client portal streamline operations, from scheduling to reporting.

PestScan will also be exhibiting and can be found on stand 46 at PPC Live.



## TRUSTMARK QUALITY SCHEME TO EXHIBIT AT PPC LIVE 2025

As part of an exclusive pest control partnership, TrustMark will exhibit at BPCA's PPC Live event this March.

TrustMark is the only UK Government-Endorsed Quality Scheme for work carried out in or around the home and is one of BPCA's exclusive member benefits, as only BPCA membership will give your pest control business access to the TrustMark logo.



TrustMark works with the BPCA to demonstrate to homeowners that their members have made a commitment to doing a great job with high levels of customer service.

As a TrustMark Scheme Provider, BPCA have made a commitment to maintaining the required standards of technical competence, trading practices and customer service.

BPCA is the only TrustMark Scheme Provider for pest management businesses. Visit TrustMark on stand 44 at PPC Live this March.



## RUSSELL IPM TO HOLD RAFFLE AT PPC LIVE 2025

Russell IPM, manufacturer of pheromone-based insect control products, will hold a raffle at PPC Live this March to win a product hamper.

Visitors will be able to enter by adding their business card to a tub and Russell IPM will pick a winner at 3:45pm.

Our products range from traditional glue-based monitoring traps to rodent solutions including digital technologies.

Our steadfast commitment to research and development allows us to maintain our position at the forefront of providing cutting edge, timeless monitoring and control technology with a range of specialist systems.

Visit stand 27 at PPC Live to enter the raffle.



## METEX LAUNCH NEW UNIKEY FOR MANHOLE COVERS

Metex are launching their newly rebranded Unikey at PPC Live 2025.

The Unikey universal manhole cover key kit includes two heavy duty handles, 10 interchangeable key tips and a stopcock key, all in a carry case.

The handles have a quick release mechanism to allow quick changing of manhole key tips.

Metex will have the kit on stand 10 at the PPC Live, so come along to find out more!



## WÖHLER BRING ADVANCED PEST CONTROL INSPECTION TOOLS TO PPC LIVE

Wöhler video inspection cameras and video endoscopes are excellent tools for spotting pests lurking behind walls, inside pipes, or within built-in cabinets, even in the darkest areas.

That's why Wöhler will be bringing their VIS series inspection cameras to PPC Live 2025.

The cameras are ideal for examining sewer pipes, exhaust systems, air ducts, and industrial sites.

By delivering clear visibility in tough conditions, Wöhler's inspection tools help pest controllers gain a comprehensive view, boosting their efficiency and effectiveness on the job.

Come visit Wöhler on stand 21a at PPC Live!



## UK-BASED WASP POLE PRO WILL BE AT PPC LIVE 2025

At this year's PPC Live, come see the Wasp Pole Pro, the lightweight telescopic applicator system to treat wasp and hornet nests at height.

And Wasp Pole Pro are thrilled to join forces with BJ Sherriff, renowned for excellence in the Pest Control and Beekeeping sector, who will be launching their groundbreaking Hornetsafe Technician Suit.

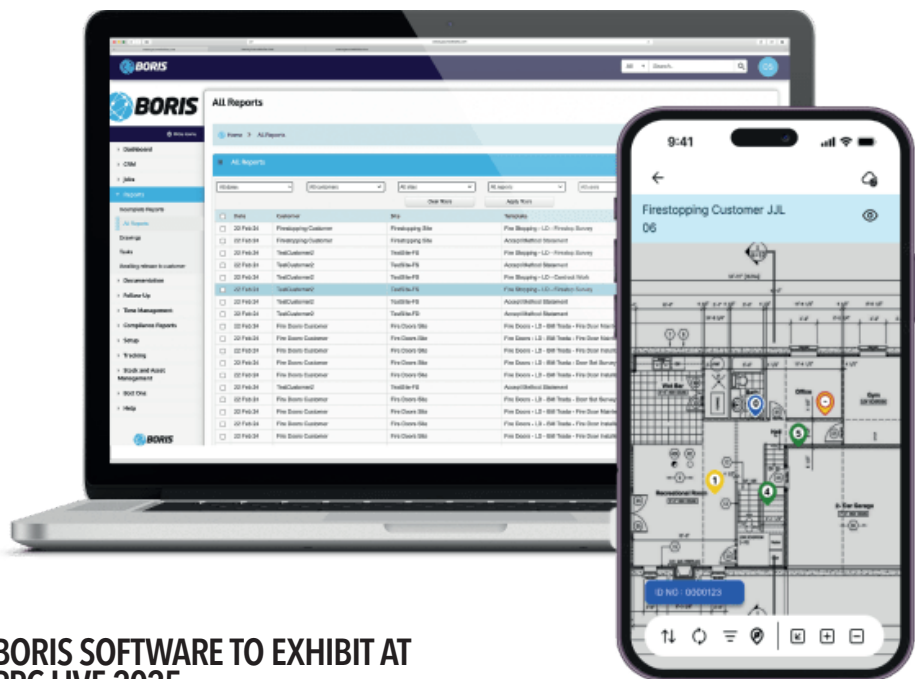
Purchase the Wasp Pole Pro and Hornetsafe Technician Suit together at PPC Live and receive a generous show discount.

Stop by the Wasp Pole Pro/BJ Sherriff stand to experience the future of pest control protective gear and tools.

Let Wasp Pole Pro and BJ Sherriff give you the edge in safety and innovation.



Visit stand 35 at PPC Live to find out more.



## BORIS SOFTWARE TO EXHIBIT AT PPC LIVE 2025

Easy to implement and simple to use, Boris is a mobile management solution designed to break the paper chain and help you take back control of your business – no more lost paperwork, no more unnecessary processes, and no more duplicated effort.

With compliance and permit modules to benefit pest control businesses, come see what the Boris Software team can do for your business.

And the icing on the cake - Boris team are offering 20GB free of charge data for any clients who sign up from the event!

Plus you'll get a chance to win some prizes with their raffle.

Stop by stand 4 to see the Boris Software team at PPC Live.

**"Representatives from all the biggest manufacturers and distributors of pest management products will be in attendance at PPC Live, with over 50 stands to keep you busy."**



## NEW MEMBERS

### Servicing members:

- Compliance Pest Control, Port Talbot
- Pro Pest Manchester Ltd, Manchester
- Vulcan Environmental Services, Essex

### Observer members:

- Al Hajry Overseas, Saudi Arabia



Logistics UK will be attending Professional Pest Controller Live and one lucky attendee will win a Garmin Sat Nav.

Logistics UK is one of the biggest business groups in the UK, supporting, shaping and standing up for efficient logistics.

We are the only business group in the UK that represents all of logistics, with members from the road, rail, sea and air industries, as well as the buyers of freight services such as retailers and manufacturers whose

businesses depend on the efficient movement of goods.

Logistics UK are also providers of a BPCA member benefit - save on over 1,500 vehicle and logistics products.

Including posters, stickers, signs, ADR kits, spill control products, safety signage and more.

Visit Stand 8 at PPC Live for more information and to enter the competition.

## NEW PEST CONTROL JOB SITE LAUNCHED IN UK

The UK pest management industry's new hiring and careers hub, [pestcontroljobs.co.uk](http://pestcontroljobs.co.uk), has launched. The site assists employers in the pest control industry with hiring staff for a range of positions directly, while also aiding industry professionals with finding the right job for their career.

It will also serve to attract new and diverse talent to a pest control career, as estimates suggest that a large percentage of the industry is due to retire in the next 5-10 years.

Pest control recruitment veterans Liam Tack and George Jolliffe, the founders of the site, commented:

"We are immensely grateful to the industry, including BPCA, for their support with [pestcontroljobs.co.uk](http://pestcontroljobs.co.uk).

"Having recruited into the pest control sector for the better part of two decades, we have noticed an increase in the costs associated with hiring the right staff.

"The site will serve to allow employers in the industry to recruit experienced hires effectively and directly, and to further the profile of the fantastic careers available in our great industry, as we seek to attract the next generation of pest control professionals.

## KILLGERM SHOW OFF NEW PRODUCT RANGE AT PPC LIVE 2025

BPCA member Killgerm is set to showcase an impressive new range of pest control products at PPC Live this March.

Killgerm will be exhibiting a selection of cutting-edge products, including the AF Trap Base, Fendona, Exhale, Goodnature Mouse Trap, Fix-a-Net, and Stixx, all designed to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in pest management.

Visit Killgerm at stand 15 to see these products up close and speak with their team of experts about how they can support your pest control needs.



**PRESSING PROBLEMS**

We received an email recently, sent by a journalist from a well known national newspaper, the content of which gave me cause for concern.

“We are mentioning your company in the context of a job you did back in June 2021...to remove nesting pigeons from residents' balconies in a block of flats. As we understand it, all nesting birds are protected – and it is against the law to remove them during spring and summer. We would just like to understand how you did the removal legally, as of yet we have no firm confirmation that it was done legally.”

Of course, I am familiar with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, and work in accordance with current legislation. And it was interesting, checking our records, to note that in fact we had not worked in the area as stated at that time.

However I felt it prudent to seek the advice of Kathryn Shaw, Public Relations and Publications Manager at BPCA, as well as the BPCA technical team, on how to deal with this media enquiry.

The advice provided was to steer the journalist by linking to the official regulation

to which we adhere. There was then a further email from the journalist: “Just one final question, do you kill the birds when you remove them?”

Once again I was advised by Kathryn and technical, by this somewhat leading question, to respond: “All work undertaken by us is completed in accordance with relevant legislation.

“If you’d like to find out more, this might be helpful: GL41: general licence to kill or take certain species of wild birds to preserve public health or public safety - GOV.UK”

It is difficult to judge the agenda of a journalist and how they might represent your company when they publish, so it is good advice to contact BPCA’s marketing team in such situations, if for nothing more than reassurance.



**David Budd, Director**  
Regional Environmental Services Ltd

# PPC responds

We were more than happy to help David navigate this media approach, particularly as the questions were quite accusatory in tone. Thankfully, David keeps meticulous records and could see that his company hadn't carried out any work in that area, so it was a relatively simple response.

Regardless of the complexity of the response, we're always here to support members with press enquiries where needed. Get in touch with our marketing team and we can guide you through a journalist's questions.

**marketing@  
bpc.org.uk or  
01332 225 115**



## Breaking Molds, Building Dreams

# Think Beyond, We Manufacture

**YOUR VISION, OUR PRECISION  
LET'S CREATE TOGETHER**



**Innovation at Every Step:** Our team is dedicated to staying at the forefront of industry trends, ensuring your products benefit from the latest advancements.

**Sustainability Matters:** By choosing Aldef Global, you're not just getting top-tier services; you're also contributing to a greener future. We prioritize the use of recycled materials and sustainable practices.

**Reliable and Efficient:** With over 20 years of experience, we've honed our processes to deliver reliable and efficient services. Your success is our priority.

**Let's Build a Sustainable Future Together:**  
Partner with Aldef Global for a collaborative journey towards innovative, sustainable, and high-quality pest control solutions. Contact us today to explore how we can bring your vision to life.

**Contact us:**

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 aldefglobal
  aldefglobal
  info@aldefglobal.com



## PESTS IN THE PRESS: OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2024

Rats and mice were the main topics of press coverage in the last quarter of 2024, with BPCA's annual advice to 'check for pests when you get down the decs' featuring across multiple news websites in December.

Rodent season hit the news early, as the Daily Star sought to maximise the 'ratflation' press release from earlier in the year, adding fresh opinions and the headline 'Super rats could be invading our homes even earlier than we think, expert fears'.

Advice on rats and mice continued to gain traction in the news in November, with an article entitled 'Have you found rats in your house or garden? What to do if you see rodents' featuring a direction to source professional pest control via BPCA's website.

Other coverage gained in the autumn and early winter included articles about fleas, spiders, silverfish and moths.

In the last three months of 2024, as well as featuring on BBC local radio, BPCA press releases, comments and advice were included in local news platforms across the UK, from Warrington to Worcester, Devon to Derbyshire and South Wales to Stirling.

BPCA also hit national titles and websites including The Daily Telegraph, The Daily Mail, The Mail on Sunday, The Mirror, Which, Yahoo! News UK, Ideal home Magazine and The Daily Star.

BPCA worked with sector-specific titles to highlight the importance of professional pest management to decision-makers in the public and private sectors.

Policy and Campaigns Officer Jordan McCay discussed BPCA's work in relation to social housing for Government Business, Niall Gallagher featured in a piece on rats for Tomorrow's Cleaning, as well as a discussion of key topics for Cleaning Matters and advice on winter pest proofing for Thames Valley Business Voice.

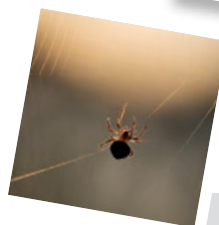
### Read all about it!

Spot something in the press? Idea for a press release? Tell us.

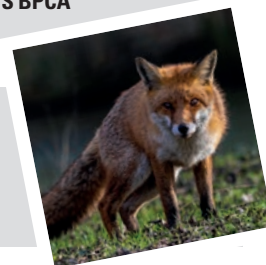
[hello@bpca.org.uk](mailto:hello@bpca.org.uk)

## TOP 3 HEADLINES

GRAB A GLASS TO DEAL WITH SPIDERS SAYS BPCA



NOCTURNAL PESTS THAT COULD BE LURKING UNDER THE SINK



GLASGOW RATS 'COULD KILL' AS ATTACKS LEAVE OVER 100 IN HOSPITAL AMID POPULATION BOOMS

TOTAL ARTICLES 2024 **2,341**

TOTAL CIRCULATION 2024  
**264,547,290**

## SPECIALIST INSURANCE FOR THE PEST CONTROL INDUSTRY

Bradshaw Bennett have been arranging specialist insurance for the pest control industry for over 40 years.

We are the insurance partner of the British Pest Control Association and can arrange tailored cover to protect you against the risks you face.

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## PESTS IN POLITICS: MARCH 2025

## CONTINUED ISSUES FOR GLUE TRAP LICENSING

BPCA has uncovered a significant gap in law enforcement's preparedness regarding the Glue Trap Act (2022). A Freedom of Information (FOI) response from the Metropolitan Police in December confirmed that no training has been provided to officers on handling illegal glue trap use.

To assess officers' and the public's awareness of the new legislation, BPCA submitted an FOI request to the Met Police, seeking information on training provided on the licensing scheme and public awareness campaigns about the ban.

The response revealed:

- The Wildlife Crime Unit has no records of glue trap reports post-legislation
- No training or briefings have been conducted on the Glue Traps Act
- No guidance documents exist for handling glue trap cases
- No public awareness campaigns have taken place
- No relevant training materials are available on the Met's Learning Management System.

Read the full story at [ppconline.org/ppc-news](http://ppconline.org/ppc-news)

### Implications for Pest Management

One of BPCA's major concerns was that the Glue Traps Act would restrict professionals from using glue traps responsibly, leading to increased amateur use. The FOI response highlights the consequences of a rushed scheme.

Despite the ban on unlicensed use in England, BPCA members continue to witness public misuse of glue boards.

A lack of public awareness and police preparedness has resulted in a failure to enforce the scheme, undermining both animal welfare and public health.

### BPCA's position on rodent glue boards

BPCA remains committed to lobbying for a functional licensing scheme that upholds animal welfare standards, minimises public health risks and does not overly restrict professional pest management.

BPCA urges policymakers to review the current system and collaborate with industry experts to create a practical and enforceable framework.

### How you can help

BPCA is calling on industry professionals to share their experiences with glue board licensing. Send your stories to [hello@bpca.org.uk](mailto:hello@bpca.org.uk) to support BPCA's lobbying efforts for a fair and effective licensing scheme.

Members-Only Resource: Listen back to BPCA's 'Life After Glue Boards' debate session for insights from industry experts. [bpca.org.uk/cpd-videos](http://bpca.org.uk/cpd-videos)



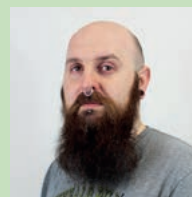
### PASSIONATE ABOUT GETTING GLUE BOARD LICENSING FIT-FOR-PURPOSE?

Send your stories and thoughts to [hello@bpca.org.uk](mailto:hello@bpca.org.uk) and be part of the fight for decent glue board licensing.

# LIFE AFTER GLUEBOARDS

New legislation in England, Scotland and Wales has severely restricted or completely banned the use of glue boards. Pest management professionals nationwide must adapt to this new hole in our toolkit.

As part of our online debate series, our panellists discussed the problems with the current state of play, tactics for rapid rat and mice infestations, and looked at what the next steps for the sector might look like.



**Niall Gallagher** NG  
BPCA (host)



**David Lodge** DL  
Beaver Pest Control



**Martin Harvey** MH  
Harvey Environmental



**Scott Johnstone** SJ  
BPCA

**NG** Have either of you applied and successfully gotten any licenses since the scheme came into effect?

**DL** We're going through the process of one at the moment. To be perfectly honest, Natural England, when we first approached them, wasn't too sure about the process itself, so that slowed us down. The class licence doesn't really fit what we actually do, so that's for hospital theatres, critical infrastructure, and aeroplanes.

We're also heavily involved in hospitality, so that will be where it would be good for us.

Where we are applying for one, it's an individual licence, and again, there are limitations as to where that can be applied – places where there are vulnerable people, laboratories and food distribution centres.

There is a fourth area where if there are problems with building work next door, you can apply for an individual licence, so it's very limited.

Then we also started looking at prices, which would be £535 per licence. You've got to create a report on why you would want to go for a licence, so that's an expenditure. There's the cost of the boards. You've then got to name and number the boards. You've got to be with the boards all night, whereas we used to go back, so there's the cost of all that night. And then you need someone to support that technician in case something goes wrong, so a contingency plan. The cost for the client, if we were going to put some profit on, we'd be talking about £2,500 per treatment. I think if the client paid that and there wasn't complete success, we'd be in trouble.

**MH** The other thing to remember about the licensing process is that you can only apply for it with one named individual. If that named individual has an accident or is sick, you must start the process again. You can't substitute that person even for somebody who's been through the proper training. But that's our business; we're agile, but the system allows no flexibility at all.

**SJ** The whole argument we had with governments, particularly in England, was that this is to quickly protect already fragile businesses. So the nonsense situation we're in now is that these tools of last resort are slower than ever and completely out of reach of the most delicate businesses in the UK.

**DL** It's been specified that it would be a 30-day turnaround. So, once you apply for an emergency glue board licence, the turnaround period is 30 days.

**MH** The legislators turned to us long ago and said, 'just use alternatives instead.' There are no alternatives that act as quickly as a well-carried-out glue board treatment.

**SJ** Again, when we were lobbying, we created this table of all the rodent control measures for any given situation. We showed why each measure wouldn't be appropriate in certain circumstances, such as high-risk environments or when speed was of the essence.

It felt as if we got through to many politicians in the conversations we were having, hence why this licensing scheme was included in the legislation, because obviously in England, there were no plans for any licenses for professional pest control – that is something that we managed to change. However, by the time it's gone through Natural England and Defra, we've ended up with an inflexible and slow licensing regime.

**MH** This is not a licensing scheme. This is a ban. They've made it so difficult for you to use these things, unless of course you're an amateur and want to buy them on Amazon. They've made it so difficult for the professional user to use them legally, it's effectively a ban.

**SJ** Absolutely. As we go through the year, we'll definitely be looking to see how many licenses have been granted and how many people have even bothered to try to apply for them, given how prescriptive the rules are.

## "The legislators turned to us long ago and said, 'just use alternatives instead.' There are no alternatives that act as quickly as a well-carried-out glue board treatment."

**NG** Have you seen illegal glue board use go up? Has it gone down? Has the legislation caused more harm by removing glue boards from professional pest controllers?

**DL** We have. And it's getting worse. I feel sorry for our technicians who are in a situation where, first of all, you're meant to deactivate the glue boards. Second, talk to the client as to why they shouldn't be using them because it's illegal. Third, if they don't comply, report them to the police. I would find that difficult, but that is the law.

**SJ** Who is policing this ban? The answer is that pest controllers are the only people who will legitimately recognise these glue boards and potentially do the right thing here.

From an animal welfare perspective, this is a failed scheme. There are amateur users still using these products, and the people that we argued should still be allowed to use them in limited circumstances are jumping through these long, expensive hoops.

**DL** And having the right legislation in place would have been so easy. That's what makes me so angry about it.

**MH** If there's going to be a licensing scheme, it should be one where professionally trained pest controllers can use glue boards on a class licence basis wherever they want. They have to provide the information to Defra, which is not a problem. Reapply for it every year, no problem. Get rid of the individual licence, and let's get on with it. The sale of glue boards to amateurs and used by amateurs should be completely banned. That will protect businesses and preserve animal welfare.

**NG** How would you like to go regarding consulting with the government? What can pest controllers do to show what customers are facing?

**MH** I would get together with voices that are louder than ours – BRC, UK Hospitality. They could give a push on this. We had a tender come through last week, and buried in the specification was a question – what are your alternatives for glue boards? It illustrates that the big boys in these industries know this is a huge problem. Strength in numbers is the approach we should take.

**SJ** That was our tactic, and we've had many individual retailers come forward and talk about their problems, although usually with an NDA attached. Anonymised stories of clients in approximate locations can help us build a picture and create a compelling case. Because these tools are controversial, it's difficult for retailers to stand up and discuss the issue.

**NG** Any final thoughts or advice for business owners and pest professionals dealing with rapid rodent infestations?

**DL** Pest controllers are resilient and innovative. I would say communicate with your clients, tell them the pressures we're under, and don't undersell your work.

**MH** Number one is IPM, back to basics. It's always been the answer. IPM, when done properly, gives a long-term result.

The other take away from me is to look into remote monitoring because that will also give a long-term result.

**SJ** If your customers are frustrated by their inability to use glue boards in their premises, share that frustration with them. Ask them to put some pressure on their trade associations like BRC or UK Hospitality or even their local environmental health department.

We need every pest control company, retailer and other trade organisation to get behind us and help us move this forward. We do have an opportunity to make changes here and improve this. This isn't lost, at least in England, and there's still some room to negotiate in Scotland.

Read the full debate at [ppconline.org/ppc-news](https://ppconline.org/ppc-news)

# FREE EVENTS AND WEBINARS

Event type **Webinar – Members only**  **Local forum** **Virtual forum**

Name When? CPD Sponsor

PPC Live 2025   Professional pest controllers LIVE - 19 March, Harrogate			
DIGITAL FORUM 30 - Social Insects	26 March	3	Pelsis
Practical ant control for pest professionals	2 April	1	
BPCA Networking - Norfolk	24 April	1	
BPCA Croydon Forum	30 April	4	PestFix
WEBINAR DEBATE: Bee-fuddled - Bee management and pest control	7 May	1	
BPCA Cardiff Forum	21 May	4	Killgerm
GUEST WEBINAR: Bed bug management	4 June	1	
DIGITAL FORUM 31 - World Pest Day	6 June	3	Pelsis
BPCA Networking - Birmingham	19 June	1	
GUEST WEBINAR: Insecticide formulations and applications	2 July	1	
DIGITAL FORUM 32	16 July	3	Purean
WEBINAR: The world of wasps: behaviour, biology and evolving control strategies	6 August	1	
DIGITAL FORUM 33 - Young pest professionals	13 August	3	
WEBINAR DEBATE: Behavioural resistance in rats and mice	3 September	1	
BPCA Medway Forum	17 September	4	Killgerm

**Pssst!** **Non-member 'open day'**  
 Special online event for pest management companies that are NOT members of BPCA. Learn about membership, meet Board members and ask questions. Learn more and book at [bpca.org.uk/secret](http://bpca.org.uk/secret)  
**5pm – 27/03/25**



**BPCA**  
**PPC LIVE**  
[bpca.org.uk/events](http://bpca.org.uk/events)

PPC Live is almost here! Taking place on Wednesday 19 March at the Great Yorkshire Event Centre in Harrogate, PPC Live 2025 is set to be the biggest ever.

Packed with expert speakers from across the sector, PPC Live is the Association's free to attend, one-day exhibition and trade show for pest management professionals.

The event is open to everyone, whether you're an experienced pest control technician, a surveyor, support staff, a specialist, or just want to learn more about the sector.

We have a packed schedule of 30+ practical sessions and technical seminars. Gain valuable knowledge and actionable skills that make a real impact on your day-to-day job.

Presentations will cover topics like behavioural resistance, life after bendiocarb withdrawal and an important CRRU-approved talk on anticoagulant resistance in rodents. With seating for 100 people, the seminars will use headphones, so attendees won't miss a single word of the presenters.

In a series of outdoor demonstrations, industry experts will also be showcasing their know-how in a range of disciplines from honey bee welfare to drone use in wildlife management.

And our indoor demonstration area will be home to bird netting, insect ID and digital monitoring talks.

Plus, for the first time at PPC Live, we're introducing Roundtable Discussions – a chance to debate the latest hot topics in the pest control industry.

All seminars, demonstrations and roundtables are completely free and open to everyone.

There will also be more than 50 exhibitors, displaying the latest pest control technology and equipment.

Book your place at [ppconline.org/register](http://ppconline.org/register) and get a free bacon roll and hot drink on arrival.

## PROVEN PROFESSIONAL PROOFING

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Are you a BPCA member with a technical question? Get in touch...

[technical@bpca.org.uk](mailto:technical@bpca.org.uk)  
01332 294 288  
[x.com/britpestcontrol](http://x.com/britpestcontrol)

INBOX

SENT

ARCHIVE

BIN

SPAM

# ASK THE TECHNICAL TEAM

## What's the difference between honey bees and feral bees?

Honey bees and feral bees are typically the same species in the UK. Feral bees are essentially managed honey bee colonies that became lost during a swarm. Originally, the term feral meant simply 'wild or untamed', but the more common use means 'animals or plants that have lapsed into a wild form from a domesticated condition'. The term wild or feral may be used interchangeably, as when do we truly decide when a colony moves from being feral to wild? Feral or wild colonies may often end up in the most unusual of places which is when we as pest management professionals may get a call from a member of the public or property owner wanting them removed.

## I have issues with rodenticide interactions with mice - How can I improve bait consumption?

Sometimes during a baiting programme, you might come across mice avoiding the rodenticide you have in place. Some things you might want to try are: switching formulations, bait monitoring stations to a different style/material, or even the use of open bait where the label permits this, inline with your risk assessment. If you get along well with other local pest professionals, considering talking to them because they may have also come up against the same issue locally. Local BPCA Forums are a great place to network with other pesties, as well as our large events like PPC Live and PestEx. Check out our events schedule for one near you: [bpca.org.uk/events](http://bpca.org.uk/events)

## I have a problem with feral pigeons on site, causing a health and safety issue - What can I do to support my clients?

First, explain the law around bird control to your clients, in that all UK birds, their eggs and nests are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. A full survey should be carried out, and all options examined before implementing a strategy. Talk them through their options, starting with proofing; things like barriers, spikes, nets and wire can be used to great effect along with the use of deterrents such as audible scarers and optical. If non-lethal options are considered and deemed impractical, or have not been effective, then you may need to utilise other lawful control measures such as dispatch in line with the appropriate general licence. Remember, general licences are updated regularly and are different depending on where in the UK your pest business is based. So read the licence thoroughly to ensure you stay on the right side of the law. Talk your client through every step of the process: communication is key. If in doubt, check out our guidance documents and codes of best practice in the BPCA Member Library (login req): [bpca.org.uk/library](http://bpca.org.uk/library)

## What does an auditor mean if they are looking for a pest risk assessment?

When looking at a pest risk assessment you should consider how you came to the conclusion that the visit frequency you chose is suitable for your client. Think about:

**Building** - risk of ingress by pests, age of building, extension work, current or planned building works.

**External factors** - Condition of exterior grounds, neighbouring properties, is it a high-risk area?

**Internally** - Site process for unloading and loading goods, does the site produce a high-risk product? Do they receive raw ingredients or product?

**Process** - Is there a good process for onsite staff for pest activity, do they inspect goods prior to entry, do they quarantine goods? Do they action recommendations accordingly? It is important to make sure you are reviewing this regularly when there is a site change, as this may fluctuate. You may even consider having more visits in the winter, and fewer in the summer. You can always reach out to a consultant member who can do a field biologist inspection, or act as an independent voice between yourself and your client.

[bpca.org.uk/consultant](http://bpca.org.uk/consultant)

## NEED A HAND?

A collection of useful documents, templates and publications are available specifically for full BPCA members. [bpca.org.uk/library](http://bpca.org.uk/library)

## WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

The members of our technical team are happy to come out to visit sites with BPCA members who are struggling with a tough infestation and need hands-on advice. Get in touch!

CASE STUDY

# BEE-FUDDLING BEE REMOVALS

THREE CASE STUDIES



Clive Stewart, owner of Westart Apiaries and Chief Operating Officer for UK Bee Removers, gives an overview of some stand-out incidents in his 16 years of carrying out bee removal.

## Can't smoke 'em out - bees in a chimney

This particular job started the way most of them do - a call came into the office with an enquiry regarding bees in a chimney. Nothing particularly odd about that, until we travelled to site to carry out our survey.

The property was situated in a little hamlet between Leicester and Northampton, and positioned on the side of a very busy trunk road running along the county borders.

An early nineteenth century cottage with three chimney stacks, two with clear asbestos issues and the third sat at the gable end which faced the road side, showing no obvious asbestos complications.

All but one of the chimneys were redundant, and it was the stack at the side of the road that was noted to have honey bees.

External observations identified that the stack was a double walled dual flue; this meant the single stack was two courses thick, and divided by a central wall creating two flues.



In this instance the flue pattern saw these flues servicing a fireplace on the ground floor and one on the first floor.

Closer external observations saw bees entering and exiting both chimney pot caps, potentially indicating two colonies or that the central wall (also known as the mid-feathers) was in poor condition and allowed the bees to move from one to the other.

It eventually transpired that it was indeed two colonies one in each flue.

The external inspection also identified that the chimney had a slight lean towards the roadside, and whilst the structure appeared sound it needed to be considered in the risk assessment.



Our company policy is that any chimney which has a lean of more than 1.5% is to be surrounded with supporting scaffold that prevents the stack going over, should the structure become unsafe.

Internal examinations to potentially inspect the chimney flues individually were hampered by fireplaces being capped off, preventing us from doing any camera work. Additionally, thermal imaging in the loft space was inconclusive due to the external height of the stack and bees not being low enough down either of the two flues to create a heat signature.



The largest hurdle in the entire complexity of this project was the scaffold. Due to the slim pavement outside and the regulatory width the scaffold had to be, meant the structure would stand just inside the road. This would require traffic management.

Timing of the work was crucial, as windows of opportunity were narrow due to other planned road works and maintenance in the local area.

Traffic management was subcontracted out and they communicated with the local authority, which gave us a number of dates to work to.

Eventually the day came and, thanks to all the planning and team management, we were able to execute the project with no serious problems. We removed and relocated both colonies from each of the flues over a period of five days.

**"Don't underestimate the importance of networking in this space, as you'll likely need that assistance."**

## Bee asbestos aware

Asbestos was mentioned in the previous case study and is found regularly in honey bee removal situations.

Having completed Cat A (awareness), Cat B, (unlicensed non-notifiable/unlicensed notifiable) and Cat C (licensed removal) training for asbestos removal operations, we have extensive experience in this type of work.

It has to be said that this sort of bee removal should not be attempted without the correct training or the correct professional support systems in place.

We have all the correct insurance and training to complete multiple types of removals, and have access to a wealth of knowledge through a network of professional supporting subcontractors. Don't underestimate the importance of networking in this space, as you'll likely need that assistance.

All asbestos removal work so far in relation to our own work has only ever been non-notifiable, unlicensed removal. This can be carried out by those who are competent and hold a Cat B certificate that is renewed annually.

We were called to an issue in the home counties which saw us attend a site with bees covering a wall at the top of a three-storey building.

Initially it could be presumed that this was a colony looking to move in. However, on closer inspection and after a very long and intensive survey, it was in fact discovered that the bees had been in place behind the building's fascia for some time - years, in fact!

And as a consequence of the warm weather that we were experiencing, the colony had actually collapsed inside the building.

In addition, there was honey running down and around the window and frame.



**"This sort of bee removal should not be attempted without the correct training or professional support."**

As part of our survey we ask to see the asbestos register: a document that should be held by commercial properties in relation to any asbestos currently within any building that was built before 2005.

This property met that criteria, but did not have an up-to-date report. However, the previous documentation did identify that the fascias between windows and the roof were likely to contain asbestos.

At the time we did not have appropriate training to take an asbestos sample or remove such an item in relation to the work involved.

As a result, we hired an asbestos removal specialist, who completed the asbestos sampling and removal with the bees in place.

All necessary PPE was worn, and disposed of in accordance with the risk assessment and method statement provided by the asbestos removal company for a non-notifiable unlicensed removal.

We were in place to assist with the management of the bees during the asbestos removal, which went very well indeed. The asbestos was removed without any fibre release or disturbance, and in one complete piece.

We then went on to remove the bees as normal and relocate the colony, taking them back to our quarantine apiary. The building was reinstated and proofed using a non-asbestos containing material and redecorated in the company colours. Job done!



### Non-notifiable and notifiable definitions

Notifiable asbestos work requires the person(s) carrying out the work to give notification to the relevant authorities, for example the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the local authority. Non-notifiable asbestos work does not have these additional requirements. The decision on whether it's notifiable or not is risk-based.

## Bees behind bars

We often get calls to some interesting places and one of my favourites is when we're asked to bust the bees out of prison. The mere thought of going along to break into the wall of a prison in order to remove the occupants, who moved in of their own free will to set up home next to some of the country's most dangerous criminals, is ironic and quite funny to me.

The processes that are in place to keep people in and others out are detailed and meticulous. Identity checks to the maximum, and permissions for every non-occupational activity are required.

Some of these jobs have taken as long as three years to plan and execute. Risk assessments and method statements going backwards and forwards, tool list approvals and vehicle checks at various stages, all form part of the process.

Yes, it can be frustrating, but the end result is very much worth it, and even more so when others tell you it's not doable.

We have now removed a number of colonies from the properties of two or three Category B HMPs up and down the country, and surveyed a number across the board all the way up to Category A.

Not everyone wants them removed and not all require removing, but those that do certainly create a challenge.

We have removed bees from office areas and once you're in place for these, it's no different to doing any other removal.

In contrast, we've also removed colonies from cell walls, which brings a unique set of complications to the project. For example, the need to protect oneself from falling debris and bodily fluids being dropped from above, if you are working directly below living quarters, can be tough! Though not a common problem, it's definitely one to be wary of.

You also have to be escorted at all times, have items checked in and out; it all adds to the variety this work brings! It's a whole different world inside the walls of a prison, and a lot more restricted than you first think it is.

As you'd expect, we have fewer photos of our prison bee removals. You'll just have to imagine what it looked like!



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY, UK BEE REMOVERS!

The entity originally known as the UK Bee Removers (UKBR), and based within a Facebook group of the same name, will celebrate its fifth birthday this March.

It was created in the first week of the original Covid-19 lockdown, and it was in response to an ever-growing problem at the time. Members of the public simply could not locate specialists to undertake bee removals, having been turned down by both pest control professionals and beekeepers alike.

Having trained a number of pest controllers and beekeepers in live honey bee removals, Clive Stewart, along with the assistance of Tim Wylie, started the Facebook group as a first point of contact. It soon became inundated with the vast number of enquiries, which led

to the group being overwhelmed. It also showed that there was a growing industry of its own in need of some management, which saw the implementation of a paid subscription outside of the social media platform, streamlining the process.

The early days saw many attempts at mediating potential clients and contractors and an automated directory service was refined.

Now commonly referred to as the UKBR, it is recommended by many pest controllers and beekeepers alike when bees have been discovered in places of inconvenience.

The subscription continues to grow and 2025 sees the implementation of a triple-tiered structure to promote both the hard work and the professionalism of the subscribers.

'Registered' is for those who are really just starting out or maybe just getting underway with their training and looking for guidance.

'Trade' is for those who can prove and show their training records and are working towards achieving accreditation.

'Accredited' is where the subscriber needs to provide strong evidence of recorded health and safety practices across the whole of their operation.

There are already plans afoot to build on the tiered system for 2026, promoting confidence in UKBR recommendations of its subscribers. [ukbr.org](http://ukbr.org)



# RELOCATION, RELOCATION, RELOCATION?



**Simon Spratley**  
Bounty Pest Control  
BPCA BeeWise

**H**oney bees are the celebrated heroes of our ecosystems, tirelessly pollinating crops and flowers.

But what happens when these industrious little insects decide to take up residence in your home, garage, or garden? The common solution is to remove and rehome them at an apiary - a practice that's gaining traction. But while it seems like a win-win, this approach comes with its own set of pros and cons.

**Pro: Saving the bees**

Let's be honest - honey bees need all the help they can get.

With colony collapse, pesticides, and habitat loss threatening them, every chance to save a hive counts.

Rehoming them to an apiary ensures that these bees can continue to pollinate plants and produce honey in a safer, controlled environment.

Bees in your attic or under the eaves of your house can become a serious problem. While honey bees are generally not aggressive, they can sting when provoked, posing a risk to children, pets, and people with allergies. Removing them lowers the chance of painful encounters and expensive medical treatments, while still preserving the hive.

By relocating honey bees to an apiary, you're not just saving the bees, but also supporting beekeepers who can use these new colonies to bolster local honey production. In some cases, beekeepers can sell the honey produced by rehomed bees, contributing to local economies and promoting sustainable practices.

**Con: House moves are stressful**

While relocation might seem like the perfect solution, it's a stressful process for the bees. Moving an entire colony can cause significant disruption. Bees are accustomed to their environment and the resources around them.

Moving them to a new location forces them to adjust to new surroundings, which can lead to a drop in their productivity or even the death of part of the colony.

Rehoming bees isn't as simple as scooping them up and driving to the nearest apiary. It often involves specialised equipment and professional services, which can come with hefty price tags.

For homeowners, these costs may seem excessive, especially if the bees have built a nest in a hard-to-reach area of the house.

**"...honey bees are invaluable to our world, and finding ways to coexist with them (whether that means rehoming or simply letting them buzz along) is a challenge worth tackling thoughtfully."**



If the bees are causing a real danger - especially for those with

allergies - removal might be the best option. But if they're simply in your garden and not harming anyone, it might be worth considering leaving them be.

At the end of the day, honey bees are invaluable to our world, and finding ways to coexist with them - whether that means rehoming or simply letting them buzz along - is a challenge worth tackling thoughtfully.

If you're interested in joining our BeeWise Special Interest Group, drop us an email to [technical@bpca.org.uk](mailto:technical@bpca.org.uk). Anyone can join a SIG!

**Striking a balance**

So, what's the solution? Honey bee removal and relocation to an apiary can be an effective way to protect both bees and people, but it's not without its downsides. Perhaps the key is to assess each situation individually.

# POLLINATION: THE FACTS

**"A third of all crops are pollination-dependent, including those used in livestock feed, covering 70 different types of crop and it is vital they are protected."**



Do you know why some bees buzz? To shake loose hidden pollen! Bees bite the anthers (part of a plant), hold tight, and buzz to get as much pollen out of the flowers as possible.

It's estimated that 1 in every 3 bites of food is dependent on bee pollination, according to the United Nations Environment Programme. That's some heavy lifting!

Pollination is a crucial part of plant reproduction, and helps maintain a strong, balanced ecosystem.

There are multiple different types of pollination, such as wind pollination, self-pollination and cross-pollination.

£690 million worth of crops are pollinated each year in the UK.

**80%**

of European wildflowers are pollinated by bees. Wild pollinator populations have declined in some areas due to habitat loss, pesticides, and climate change. However, in the UK, managed honey bee colonies have risen by 40% since 2015.

## ACCIDENTAL POLLINATORS

For some animals, pollination is not their primary role, which is why they're sometimes known as accidental pollinators. Wasps do pollinate but usually pick up less pollen (due to their smooth bodies). Some fly species (like hoverflies) are important in gardens. And even birds, bats and other creatures are pollinators.



# DRIVING FOR BETTER BUSINESS

ARE STAFF WHO DRIVE FOR WORK PUTTING YOUR BUSINESS AT RISK?



We're joined by Driving for Better Business talking about the importance of safe driving for work and their **free policy builder tool** to help organisations.



People who drive for work, and especially van drivers, are often called out by the public for poor driving. Many of these people don't think of themselves as professional drivers, but driving is a key part of their job.

Driving badly (and sometimes this means they are being managed badly) can reflect poorly, not just on their employer, but on the sector as a whole. This is why we are supporting a new free initiative from Driving for Better Business which could help all our members.

If you play the National Lottery, you may be aware that the odds of winning the jackpot are a staggering 1 in 45 million, yet, many of us think those odds are worth a go. After all, someone has to win, right?

There are almost 40,000 injuries on Britain's roads each year that involve someone who was driving for work at the time. With around 20 million vehicles thought to be used for business journeys, however infrequently, that means the odds of one of your drivers being involved in an

injury collision while driving for work are just 1 in 500 - yet we never think it will happen to us.

And we have reason to believe those injury figures are significantly under-reported which would make the odds even worse. This is an average, so if your driver safety management is below average, then your odds are starting to look very poor indeed.

If you have staff who drive cars or commercial vehicles for work, and you want to ensure your employees are not part of the problem, it's vital to set out the importance of driver safety - and the good practice standards you expect when your staff are driving for work.



Your organisation needs to do this for three reasons:

## 1 IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO

We all want our staff and other road users to get home to their families safe and well at the end of each day.

## 2 IT MAKES GOOD BUSINESS SENSE

Poorly managed drivers will increase admin time, insurance costs, maintenance and fuel use.

## 3 IT IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT

The law says all companies must have policies and procedures to minimise risk - and that includes the recognised risks around driving. In the event of a serious incident, you could be asked to prove what you do to promote driver safety.

To communicate your commitment, and the required standards to drivers, you need a driving for work policy.





**What should be included in a driving for work policy?**

A good policy needs to include specific information in a concise and easy-to-understand format. Here's a summary of what needs to be included:

- A policy statement which explains to drivers why the policy exists and why it is important they follow it at all times
- A driver management section covering licence checks, medical conditions, driver competence and fitness to drive including impairment, fatigue and wellbeing
- A vehicle management section including vehicle roadworthiness, safe loading, vehicle security, private use of vehicles and towing, if applicable
- A journey management section including driving standards, use of mobile phones, dealing with fines and penalties, and what to do in the event of a collision or breakdown
- A grey fleet drivers section – for those employees who use their own car for business journeys. It's an area often missed, but every time an employee uses their own vehicle for any work purpose, you have the same legal responsibilities for managing safety.

**Review and update**

To be legally compliant, your policy also needs to be kept up-to-date and reviewed regularly. From time to time, official legislation and guidance will change or will be updated.

This might come from the DVSA, the Health and Safety Executive, government or be reflected in the Highway Code. Many of these changes might need to be reflected in your policy and communicated to drivers.

The policy must be owned by a director or similar senior manager who has overall responsibility for creating, communicating and reviewing it, as well as monitoring compliance. This person is also responsible for keeping the policy up-to-date.

**"A well-managed driving policy is crucial for employee safety, reducing insurance costs, and ensuring legal compliance, with resources like the free Policy Builder offering essential support."**

**Driving for Work Policy Builder**

A new, free to access, Driving for Work Policy Builder has just been launched by Driving for Better Business – the free programme from National Highways. The programme is set up to raise awareness of the need to manage driver safety, share good practice, and promote the business benefits that flow from this. The new Policy Builder is an online tool which will help ensure you have a 'good practice' Driving for Work policy.

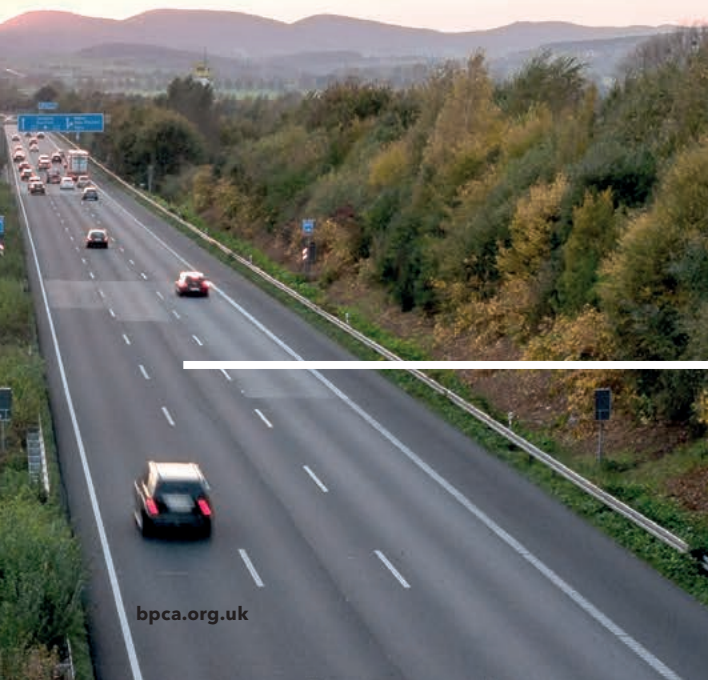
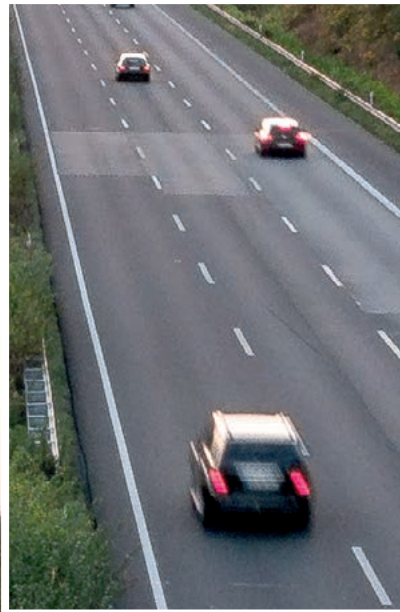
The Policy Builder is completely free to use and will enable you to:

- Access a driving for work policy template and checklist to make sure you've got everything covered
- Create a new policy document, or review an existing document, that meets legal and compliance standards
- Get email alerts for any changes in guidance or legislation that could affect your policy
- Receive an annual reminder to review your policy, along with any changes that may be required since the last review.



**Policy Builder**

Get started with this new free online tool now at [Driving for Better Business drivingforbetterbusiness.com/choose-partner-referral/](https://drivingforbetterbusiness.com/choose-partner-referral/)



# BEHAVIOUR AND ACTIVITY OF ROOF RATS AROUND BAIT STATIONS

A PATHWAY TO BETTER PEST CONTROL

Roof rats, also known as ship rats or black rats, present significant challenges to pest management professionals (PMPs).

Funded by BPCA's sister association in the US, the National Pest Management Association (NPMA), a recent study in southern California provides fresh insights into their behaviour around bait stations, offering practical lessons to enhance rodent control efforts.

**Niamh Quinn**, University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources, Irvine, California

**Miles Bosarge**, Alameda County Vector Control Services District, Alameda, California

**Paul Stapp**, California State University, Fullerton, California

Bait stations have long been a cornerstone of rodent control, providing a secure, tamper-resistant method for delivering rodenticides. However, as this study highlights, the effectiveness of these stations often depends on rat behaviour.

Surprisingly, roof rats don't always enter bait stations they encounter - a phenomenon that reduces the overall success of control programmes. In this research, only 31% of bait stations were entered during a 21-night trial, even though rats were frequently detected around the bait station.

## Implications for rodenticide restrictions

With increasing regulatory restrictions on rodenticides, including California's Assembly Bill 1788 and 2552, which limits the use of all anticoagulant rodenticides, PMPs are operating with a shrinking toolbox. In the UK, you've already seen stricter restrictions on glue trap use, with a ban in Wales and licensing in England. There's nothing to say that rodenticides aren't next.

This study underscores the need to optimise existing tools, such as bait stations, to remain effective under these constraints. Supplemental baiting and tracking tunnels represent practical adaptations that can boost success without increasing risks to non-target species.

Photo credit: Niamh Quinn

## "Observations from this study revealed multiple instances of rats hoarding significant amounts of bait, underscoring the need to account for this behaviour."

### Station design

The study evaluated three commercially available bait stations of different designs: EZ-Secured, Rodent Rock, and Big Snap-E Cover. These stations were placed in urban residential yards in southern California and monitored using game cameras.

Each design offered unique features - the Snap-E Cover, for instance, included large entrance holes that allowed rats to see through the station and view the bait from the exterior, while the EZ-Secured and Rock stations featured enclosed designs.

Despite this, the study found no significant differences in discovery or entry rates among the designs.

While station design may not drastically influence initial attraction, it can affect practical outcomes. For instance, the EZ-Secured station, weighted with a cement block, proved more resistant to disturbances by larger non-target animals like opossums, compared to lighter designs.

Additionally, the enclosed designs of the EZ-Secured and Rock stations may provide a sense of security for rats, as previous research shows that opaque or covered stations are often preferred over more open ones.

These findings suggest that PMPs should select bait stations for their suitability to the specific environment and target species, as well as their tamper-resistant features.

### Scent lures: mixed results

Another tested strategy involved adding peanut butter and chocolate-scented lures inside bait stations. While scented stations saw slightly higher entry rates than unscented ones, the difference was not significant.

This suggests that while scent lures may work in specific contexts, they are not a universal solution. PMPs might find better success using lures derived from rat pheromones or other conspecific scents, as previous studies have shown promising results with these attractants.

### Supplemental baiting:

#### A game-changer

Perhaps the most actionable insight from this study is the effectiveness of supplemental baiting. During trials, non-toxic bait placed around stations increased both the likelihood of station entry and the amount of bait consumed.

This approach mirrors pre-baiting practices commonly used in rodent trapping, which familiarise rodents with traps before they are activated.

PMPs should consider surrounding stations with non-toxic supplemental bait to enhance rodenticide efficacy and reduce time spent on prolonged control efforts.

Roof rats are notoriously neophobic, meaning they are wary of new objects in their environment. This innate caution often leads them to avoid bait stations altogether.

The research demonstrated that supplemental bait scattered around stations effectively reduced this avoidance. By familiarising rats with the bait's presence, PMPs can potentially increase the chances of station entry and bait consumption.

Non-target species, such as opossums (non-native) and woodrats (native), occasionally entered bait stations during the trials. Interestingly, juvenile opossums, small enough to fit through station entrances, were observed more frequently shortly after the species' breeding season.

While neither of these species are present in the UK, species of comparable size may behave similarly, which highlights the importance of timing in rodenticide applications to minimise risks to non-target animals.

### Bait hoarding and tracking tunnels

Observations from this study, revealed multiple instances of rats hoarding significant amounts of bait, underscoring the need to account for this behaviour in rodent control efforts.

Roof rats exhibited hoarding behaviour, often removing bait from stations and storing it in secluded locations, such as under patio furniture or other hidden areas. This behaviour can complicate pest management strategies as it reduces bait availability at the intended site and may lead to unintended rodenticide exposure in other areas.

In addition to bait stations, the study tested tracking tunnels as a method to estimate rat activity and abundance. These tunnels, paired with non-toxic bait and ink tracking pads that record rat footprints, provided activity and abundance indices

comparable to those from game cameras and traps.

For PMPs, tracking tunnels could be an economical and effective tool for pre-treatment assessments, helping to identify areas of high rat activity before deploying control measures.

### Practical recommendations

#### Deploy supplemental bait:

Scatter non-toxic bait around rodenticide stations to reduce neophobia and increase station visitation.

#### Monitor with tracking tunnels:

Use tracking tunnels to assess rat activity and prioritise high-activity areas for bait station placement.

#### Consider scent lures sparingly:

While not universally effective, scent lures may enhance station entry in certain contexts. Experiment with pheromone-based attractants for better results.

#### Account for seasonality:

Be aware of seasonal patterns in non-target species activity and adjust baiting programmes accordingly.

#### Emphasise training:

Educate clients about the importance of proper bait station placement and maintenance to maximise efficacy.

Roof rats remain a formidable challenge in many urban and suburban settings and leveraging insights from behavioural research can help PMPs fine-tune their strategies to improve management outcomes.

Incorporating practices, like supplemental baiting and tracking tunnel monitoring, can make existing tools more effective, ensuring that PMPs stay ahead of these elusive pests.

For PMPs in the UK, these findings are particularly valuable, as they offer strategies to adapt rodent management practices in light of similar regulatory pressures and urban challenges.

It may be that these insights are also adaptable to species like Norway rats, but these rats are rarely encountered in the area the study was conducted.

Given the global distribution of roof rats and their impact on human and natural environments, adopting these evidence-based approaches will enhance pest management efforts worldwide, helping PMPs maintain high standards of control and safety in diverse settings.

**The authors would like to thank the Pest Management Foundation for funding and acknowledge the support of VM products, Liphatech Inc., Kness, and J.T Eaton.**

## MEET THE MEMBER

# BEE-ING PROACTIVE:

## BUILDING A BEE-SAVING BUSINESS MODEL WITH ERADIKIL



Shane-Daniel North is the Director of Oxfordshire-based Eradikil Pest Control. He talks to PPC magazine about his passion for bees, conservation and helping those who are disadvantaged with pest control problems.

**PPC** Thanks for taking the time to speak with us today. Let's start with your journey - how did you get into the pest control industry?

**SDN** It all started when I saw a job advert for Rentokil. At the time, I was working at the BMW Mini plant for about five years, doing the same repetitive tasks every day. The monotony really set in, and I needed a change. The Rentokil role appealed to me because it was hands-on and offered training and a van. Plus, I've always been fascinated by wildlife and insects.

Growing up, I was the kid who would be out in the garden picking up worms and ants. My mum would buy me books about insects, and I was always watching David Attenborough documentaries.

**PPC** So it was a mix of professional opportunity and personal passion that led you here. What made you set out on your own to set up Eradikil?

**SDN** I wanted to earn more, simply put! I got an offer for a better salary at a smaller company, and worked there for almost two years before one of my other businesses took off. I left to focus on that, but within six weeks, I realised I missed pest control. That's when I decided to start Eradikil in December 2022.

**PPC** How was that first year in business for you?

**SDN** It was amazing! I worked on my own for the first year and managed to generate more revenue than I thought possible. I was really proud of that. By the second year, I hired my first employee, David, who I had previously worked with. We continued growing, and I also started a loft insulation company, Insulo, which integrates well with pest control since we often deal with loft spaces.



**PPC** That's a smart business move! So how has the company grown since then?

**SDN** We've expanded significantly. We now have four people on the team - David, Ryan (who handles loft insulation and proofing), Charley, who manages the office, and myself. We've got three vans on the road, and everyone is busy. This year, my goal is to double in size.

The aim is to hire a full-time content creator to handle all filming, content creation, and video production, both long-form and short-form. I've set up a YouTube channel, and we're also planning to produce podcasts. This is where the monetisation strategy comes into play.

There are quite a few ways to monetise on YouTube, 25 to be exact.

You have advertising, brand partnerships, crowdfunding, affiliate marketing, paid ads, and more. Different approaches work for different people.

**PPC** That makes sense and it also brings us nicely to your plan to crowdfund for bee removal. Is that what you're planning to use YouTube for?

**SDN** Yes, I'm utilising two revenue streams. One is crowdfunding, and the other is charging for my bee removal services. I prefer not to exterminate honey bees, but sometimes it's necessary - In all my years of doing this, I've only had to exterminate bees twice - once at a hospital entrance

and once near a school window. Every other time, we've successfully removed them.

Bee removal in the industry can cost anywhere up to £10,000, depending on the complexity of the issue. If the hive is easy to access, the cost is on the lower end. Additional costs like scaffolding, tile removal, and brickwork add to the total expense. Removing a hive from a chimney involves dismantling parts of the structure, considering gas safety, and ensuring the bees are extracted properly.

I try to keep my costs as low as possible, but there are still some instances where people won't pay unless the bees become a serious problem.

**PPC** What's your solution to make bee removal more affordable?

**SDN** My approach is to charge a standard small flat fee for treatment - an amount they'd have to pay anyway - but in return, they must allow me to film the process. This content, both long-form and short-form, generates revenue on YouTube through ad views. The GoFundMe covers costs like scaffolding and equipment, but I don't take a salary from it. My earnings come from the content itself.

**PPC** That's a really inventive idea. It reduces costs for customers while allowing you to earn sustainably. What inspired you to take this route?

**SDN** In July 2024, I invested in a business coaching programme run by Adam Stott, called Gold Circle, where he teaches us about business growth strategies, monetising social media, sales and branding. During a YouTube-focused session, a mentor named Ben suggested that I create long-form content. Initially, I thought no one would want to watch pest control videos, but after researching, I realised there's a huge audience for this type of content. I also have a strong dislike for unnecessary bee extermination, so this approach allows me to save bees while building a business.

**PPC** That makes sense. You're passionate about bees, so turning that into engaging content was a natural step.

**SDN** Exactly. I used to give rescued swarms to beekeepers. Then I thought, why not keep the bees myself? I could monetise honey and wax, create more educational content, and even offer beekeeping courses. What started as a small idea has the potential to become something bigger.

**PPC** That's fantastic. I also heard you want to help kids build beehives - is that right?

**SDN** That was initially the plan, however we've hit a snag with that so we're looking for other alternatives now. Originally we were going to work with an organisation that helps young adults with learning difficulties learn skills, so we'd still love to do something like that but we'll see what's possible.

**PPC** What else is in the works, to make all of this a reality?

**SDN** Well, this April is going to be a massive step forward. We've secured some land in Oxford on really good terms.

The owner is someone I was introduced to through a friend - a gardener who manages the land. Initially, I was there for mole control, but I mentioned the bees, and his wife, who's passionate about insects, got interested. Eventually, he emailed me saying, "I heard you need land for your bees. Come by, and we'll chat."

So, I went up, explained the whole vision, and he just said, "You can have the land." I

**"... this approach allows me to save bees while building a business..."**



asked about the cost, and he simply said, "A jar of honey."

He explained, "We don't see many bees here, and it'd be great to bring them back.

"My wife and I would love to see the garden flourish and have real local honey from our own backyard." So, for him, it was a perfect trade-off.

And it all aligns - helping the bees, improving the environment, and making it financially accessible for people who need bee removals but can't afford the high costs.

**PPC** Do you think your background plays a role in your drive to help others?

**SDN** Definitely. I grew up with my mum on a council estate. Money was tight and she sacrificed a lot. If my mum had bees in her chimney, she wouldn't have been able to afford removal. The work we do in this industry makes a real difference, and I think we don't fully appreciate that until we help someone who is struggling.

More than anything, I want this to become a community - where people can ask questions, learn, and engage with the project. We want to get to a place where we can do educational tours of the beehives for kids, do lots of conservation and education work.

**PPC** What do you think has been the key to your success?

**SDN** Hard work, definitely. I work about 18 hours a day—I just don't stop. I also think being honest with customers and providing a service that genuinely helps people has played a big role. I want to build a business that people trust, where we provide real value and don't overcharge for unnecessary services.

**PPC** It sounds like integrity is a big part of your approach. What's next for you and your business?

**SDN** Growth is the main focus. We're looking to take on more staff, expand our customer base, and continue integrating new services like the loft insulation to make our offering even stronger. I'm excited for what the future holds.

**PPC** Thank you and good luck!

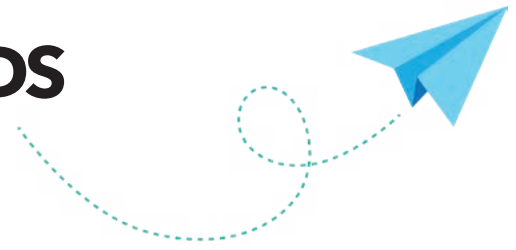
To find out more, visit [linktr.ee/eradikilpestcontrol](https://linktr.ee/eradikilpestcontrol)

**WISH YOU WERE HERE?**

Request an interview with PPC today. [hello@bpca.org.uk](mailto:hello@bpca.org.uk)

OPINION

# PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN PEST CONTROL DON'T GO FAR ENOUGH



**Warning - This article will be like Marmite!**

With the new rules being introduced for those wishing to purchase and employ professional-use rodenticides from 2026 onwards, it feels like a good time to talk about professional standards within pest control.

For those not in the know, in order to be able to purchase and use professional-use rodenticides from the beginning of 2026, you must have either:

- A CRRU-UK approved Level 2 certification issued within the last five years (from January 2026) **OR**
- A CRRU-UK approved certificate issued more than five years ago **AND**
- Proof of CRRU-UK approved CPD to the value of three points registered through a CRRU-UK approved CPD Scheme.

This has had those currently offering rodent control as part of their professional pest control services pulling in many different directions. In the one corner sits a group that thinks it an outrage.

“One licence too far!”

“More money for the suppliers!”

“Even more restrictions, yet the general public can buy what they want!”

There are those that sit in another corner, which includes myself, that think this goes nowhere near far enough. Before you spit your tea out, let me explain.

Firstly, let's look at the definition of the words “professional standards” in relation to a pest controller, not just providing rodent control but multifaceted services.

This refers to the established principles, behaviours, and practices that define the level of quality, competence, and ethical conduct expected in their trade. (see infographic to the right)

The million-dollar question is: do either of these options we're being asked to adhere to prove professional standards?

The simple answer is no!

In a world of social media where every second post is portraying poor practice, something is clearly wrong. Stopping sale of pest control products to the general public isn't the answer.

They will always be available, as are plumbing products, building materials, electrical equipment, etc.

What we must do is bring in licensing for individuals. A licence that can be gained, but that can also be lost, if the underlying principles for achieving that licence are not followed.

This would provide proper credibility to an industry that currently doesn't have a lot.

It creates a professional ethos amongst licensed individuals, It creates a clear distinction between amateur and professional.

For those who agree, there is a large but: to achieve it, we would have to rip up the current rule book. The role of our trade associations would probably change significantly. We would need a regulator, someone to implement, investigate, enforce. The suppliers would need to embrace a potential reduction in the number of professionals, leading to a drop in revenue.

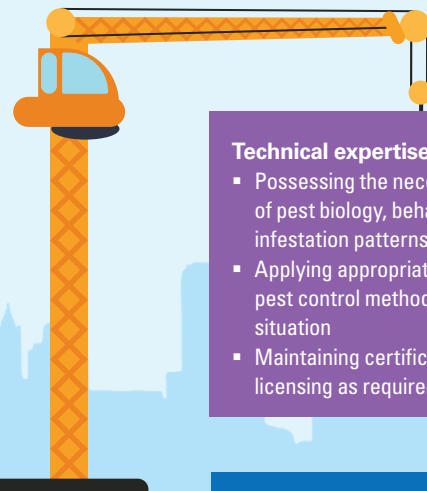
My last thought is - as an industry are we ready for it?



**Adrian Gough**  
Pest Risk Management Group Limited



## STANDARDS SPECIFIC TO PEST CONTROL



### Technical expertise

- Possessing the necessary knowledge of pest biology, behaviour, and infestation patterns
- Applying appropriate and effective pest control methods tailored to each situation
- Maintaining certifications and licensing as required by regulations.

### Ethical practices

- Providing honest assessments and recommendations for pest management
- Avoiding unnecessary treatments or upselling unneeded services
- Respecting client property and privacy while performing services.

### Communication and customer service

- Clearly explaining the treatment process, risks, and expected outcomes to clients
- Offering guidance on prevention and maintenance to minimise future infestations
- Responding promptly and professionally to customer inquiries or complaints.

### Safety compliance

- Following safety guidelines for handling chemicals, tools and equipment
- Ensuring the safety of clients, pets, and the environment during pest control treatments
- Properly storing, using, and disposing of pesticides and other materials.

### Commitment to best practice

- Staying up-to-date with advancements in pest control techniques, products and regulations
- Using environmentally friendly and humane methods wherever possible
- Conducting regular inspections to ensure thorough and effective service delivery.





## Driving excellence in pest management

BPCA is the professional association for the UK public health pest management industry. Our aim is to promote professional pest management, representing the industry, driving standards and ethics while protecting the environment.

- PRESIDENT'S REPORT
- COMMITTEE REPORTS
- TREASURER'S REPORT
- THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024



**JANUARY** Trainee pest technician job template made available for members.

PestAware presentation template is made available for members.

Pest-related diseases report sparks BPCA to call for better collaboration between pest management and public health.

**FEBRUARY** BPCA urges householders to check who they are letting into their homes after reports fake pest controllers stole from a property in Hertfordshire.

BPCA becomes an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) scheme provider through the Chartered Trading Standards Institute.

BPCA wins the Member Engagement award at the Trade Association Forum (TAF) awards.

CRRU announces CPD is now mandatory in stewardship changes. BPCA members are prepared, as CPD has long been mandatory for membership.

**MARCH** BPCA's Technical Manager features on ITV's Tonight to set out the importance of professionalism.

BPCA Servicing members now automatically become TrustMark "Government endorsed quality" as part of their membership.

BPCA's amendment to the Wildlife Management and Muirburn (Scotland) Bill passes.

PestEx returned to the London ExCeL, attracting thousands of visitors and exhibitors from around the world.

**APRIL** Defra releases an overview of the key principles for the new licensing regime for rodent glue boards. BPCA challenges the plans on behalf of members.

BPCA launches new Technical Committee.

**MAY** BPCA warns that public health in England is at risk due to the Government's 'ill-thought-out' glue board licensing scheme.

BPCA releases the Future of Pest Management Survey executive summary based on the views of 816 pest professionals.

**JUNE** As a result of BPCA's lobbying efforts, Minister Pow has asked for changes to the glue board licensing regime in England.

BPCA releases its Manifesto for Pest Management, detailing our policy demands of the next government.

**JULY** BPCA issues professional guidance for glue board users in England, ahead of the implementation of the licensing scheme.

BPCA represents UK at the Global Pest Management Coalition and Global Public Health & Food Safety Summit.

**AUGUST** BPCA collaborates with the Bumblebee Conservation Trust to produce a bee identification guide in PPC magazine.

BPCA interviews outgoing CRRU Chair Dr Alan Buckle and new Chair Nigel Cheeseright.

**SEPTEMBER** BPCA releases new member benefit: exclusive vehicle leasing offers and support.

BPCA releases Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) guidance for pest management companies.

**OCTOBER** BPCA releases a briefing on how the Autumn budget might affect pest control companies.

Consultation begins on BPCA's Pest Management Qualifications Framework.

BPCA releases guide on what the new Employment Rights Bill means for business owners, sole traders, and employees in pest control.

**NOVEMBER** BPCA system upgrades begin, securing the Association's technology for years to come.

**DECEMBER** BPCA's Best Pest Pic competition is launched ahead of PPC Live in 2025.

BPCA released briefing on the updated CRRU Code detailing the primary changes for rodent control.



Our annual report is published in PPC magazine - making it accessible to thousands of pest professionals and the entire sector.

It's BPCA's job to...



REPRESENT



SUPPORT



ASSURE

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## CHALLENGES AND PROGRESS



As President of BPCA, I proudly present my Annual Report for the Association year 2024.

The Association continues to work hard

for its members in driving forward the professionalism of the UK pest control industry, in line with our 2025 strategy to **REPRESENT, SUPPORT** and **ASSURE**.

The hard work of our dedicated Staff team and the valued time contributed by our army of over 70 volunteers from member companies has helped us to make significant progress toward our goals.

We have had much to celebrate over the last year, which has seen the Association's work deliver real benefits in regards to the needs and interests of our Members.

### Flagship industry event

In March 2024, PestEx, our showcase industry event held every two years at ExCeL London, returned. The event was our most successful yet, with great attendance and support for our seminars, and exhibitors showed great enthusiasm about the opportunities that lay ahead for our industry.

PestEx saw the launch of one of our most significant member benefits yet as we introduced TrustMark to the industry. This Government Endorsed Quality Scheme is now a benefit for all BPCA Servicing Member companies through the standards of our membership requirements and assessments.

At PestEx we also introduced our Panel Discussion format in our seminar programme, which involved more of the experts from our member companies. Attendees shared this as one of the highlights. This great format has continued inspiring more people to get involved in the discussion about professionalism.

### Culture is everything

We made continued progress as more pest controllers put trust in the BPCA Registered CPD Scheme as the vehicle for their learning and personal development. We increased the number of learning resources that are available through the CPD scheme and made it much easier to record your learning through the BPCA Registered App. All CPD collected is now CPD certified, the only pest control CPD scheme to carry this

badge, demonstrating the value of the scheme.

We continued to work towards the new qualification framework, as we concluded the industry consultation process to assure further industry professionalisation, make our qualifications more fit for purpose, demonstrate our competency, and ultimately help protect our toolkit. John Horsley was appointed to the training team to help lead this project and is making great progress.

One of the projects I am most passionate about is the BPCA Onboarding Scheme, which was launched in 2023 and started to become established in 2024. This Onboarding Scheme provides a certificated pathway for new recruits entering the industry, giving team members in our businesses confidence and competency, delivering value within our members' companies and starting people's careers the right way. The high standard of people completing the scheme has been impressive.

### In with the new

The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, one of our newest committees, produced an EDI Toolkit and some great resources for members to showcase sustainable careers and help us recruit the pest professionals of the future. This committee will continue to develop a suite of recruitment aids and resources for members, as we know this area is one of the biggest challenges for member companies.

In 2024 we made some changes to our committee structure by combining the old Servicing and Manufacturing and Distributor Committees into a new Technical Committee, along with a Regulatory Affairs Working Group. This change has been incredibly positive with both of the new groups doing great work. I would like to personally thank all the participants of our two retiring committees for their service and great contributions over the years.

### Building relationships

Your Association continued the significant impact of its work to represent members in the public affairs space, following the recruitment of our new Policy and Campaigns Officer Jordan McCay, employed as a strategic investment in

**"PestEx saw the launch of one of our most significant member benefits yet as we introduced TrustMark to the industry."**

increasing our voice and influence as we lobby for the best interests of our industry and members. This has yielded more relationships of influence that allows us to make more impact on the decisions that affect our work and professionalism.

Our Academic Relations Working Group produced some great outputs this year, with the launch of partnerships on Academic Projects for undergraduates and over ten institutions engaging with BPCA. The working group will continue to build on this success which will help make us more data rich. The industry survey results also provided great insight and data that we can act upon.

Our industry faces many challenges and opportunities. Your President, Executive Board, Committees, Working Groups, and Staff team continue to work well together to ensure the best outcome, as we strive to better support our Members.

I thank our over 50 volunteers for their commitment and hard work. BPCA would not be the same without you.

I also thank the BPCA Staff team for their dedication and hard work.

I continue to have great pride in the work of our BPCA. I encourage members to consider how you may get involved and become more engaged in 2025 as we push forward for the benefit of our Members.

I wish all of you every success in 2025.

Get involved. Engage. Read things. Join events. Volunteer.

**Chris Cagienard**

BPCA President

[president@bpc.org.uk](mailto:president@bpc.org.uk)



COMMITTEE REPORTS

# EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



As Chair of the British Pest Control Association's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee, I am

proud to reflect on an impactful year.

Our Committee is made up of passionate and committed members, and I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed their time, insights, and energy.

This year, we achieved a significant milestone with the launch of the new EDI Toolkit, which has been well received across the industry. The toolkit, designed to support member companies in recruiting and retaining talent outside the traditional pest control norm, represents a vital step toward addressing the pressing recruitment challenges we face.

With 40% of the workforce expected to retire in the next decade, there is an urgent need to tap into underrepresented talent pools—bringing in more young people,

more women, and greater diversity.

The response to the toolkit has been encouraging, with particularly strong engagement on LinkedIn.

However, this is just the beginning. Our next step is the launch of the EDI Charter, which will allow companies to demonstrate their commitment to fostering an inclusive and welcoming industry. Signing up to the charter will be a badge of honour, showing that a company is embracing change and paving the way for growth and innovation.

The role of the EDI Committee is critical as we address one of the biggest challenges facing our industry—ensuring we have the people we need to thrive. Together, we are building an industry that is diverse, resilient, and ready for the future.

Thank you to everyone who has joined us on this journey so far—we look forward to achieving even more in the year ahead.

**"This year, we achieved a significant milestone with the launch of the new EDI Toolkit, a vital step toward addressing the pressing recruitment challenges we face."**

**Julia Pittman**

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair  
[marketing@bpca.org.uk](mailto:marketing@bpca.org.uk)

## TECHNICAL



BPCA Technical Committee is responsible for overseeing pest management strategies, ensuring compliance with regulations, and advancing

best practices in pest control.

During 2024, we met four times to discuss industry trends and how we can use our resources to best support pest controllers. Much of our focus has been on rodent glue boards and the new licensing scheme.

It is clear that the Natural England scheme is having unintended consequences. BPCA will continue to push for the ban of the sale of glue boards, as well as a more workable licensing scheme for professionals. Only once a ban on the sale is achieved will the licensing scheme become worthwhile.

The Technical Committee has made significant progress on Codes of Best Practice, ensuring compliance, research advancements, and capacity building. Moving forward, a stronger emphasis on sustainable practices and technology integration will be key to addressing future challenges.

**"In 2024, BPCA Technical Committee focused on rodent glue boards, pushing for a sales ban and a more workable licensing scheme, while also advancing best practices and preparing for the PestSafe UK initiative."**

For 2025, we are excited about the PestSafe UK scheme. PestSafe is an initiative aimed at ensuring safer and pest-free accommodation across the United Kingdom. PestSafe UK seeks to establish a robust framework to prevent and manage pest infestations in rented properties.

The project will introduce mandatory pest assessments and certification processes, establish guidelines for pest technicians and management companies, and raise awareness about the importance of pest control within the rental market, ensuring safer and healthier living conditions for tenants and property owners alike.

This comprehensive scheme focuses on protecting the health and well-being of tenants, while promoting responsible landlord practices. By addressing the issue of pest infestations, we aim to mitigate the associated diseases, destruction, and misery caused by such occurrences.

**Kunal Puri**

Technical Committee Chair  
[technical@bpca.org.uk](mailto:technical@bpca.org.uk)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS



When I write my reports I am reminded just how much our dedicated group of volunteers have achieved and how lucky we are to have a diligent BPCA Staff team who work tirelessly to support us, the membership.

2024 was an exciting year for the Professional Standards Committee, with a number of strategic projects, both new and ongoing, coming under our remit. One of the largest of these is the Qualification Framework development.

Our focus in 2024 was to consult with industry, primarily around our proposal to upgrade the current Level 2 Award in Pest Management to a Level 3 qualification, through the addition of a practical assessment to test competency.

We conducted a survey, organised events, wrote articles and created video content to reach out to as much of the industry as possible and seek feedback – good, bad and indifferent. We were very encouraged by the results of the consultation, which confirmed to us that we were indeed on the right track.

The consultation also gave us some food for thought in some broader areas and we're going to spend the first part of the new year reviewing that feedback and looking to see where we can incorporate some of the ideas into the framework.

In 2024 we also focussed on encouraging people to give more thought to their own CPD; to recognise learning opportunities whenever they arose and to record that CPD throughout the year as it happens.

Changing culture is a slow and gradual process, but the Committee is happy to report that we are already seeing the difference, with more CPD being recorded throughout 2024 than in previous years.

The BPCA Onboarding programme has had incredible uptake in 2024 and the quality of technicians coming to the end of the onboarding process is notably different! It is amazing to see the opportunities some of us could have only hoped for many years ago.

Last year also saw the Committee take a proposal to the Board for the Association to focus on delivery of formal qualifications and accredited training programmes.

Going forward, we will put our weight behind delivering training that supports recruitment and continued development within the industry.

The Committee has also developed an accreditation scheme for professional trainers working within the pest management sector. Launching in 2025, the scheme recognises individuals with the qualifications, experience, and expertise to deliver high-quality training to the sector. It also offers independent accreditation for their training.

It goes without saying that none of this work is possible without fellow pest controllers volunteering to take part in committees. These are your committees and we always welcome ideas, contributions and new members. Please do get involved.

**Martin Rose-King**

Professional Standards Committee Chair  
training@bpca.org.uk

## OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS



As we leave 2024 behind us, I want to take this chance to look back at the previous year and have a quick glance at the year to come.

But to start, what does being on a group like the Outreach and Communications (O&C) Committee actually mean?

It might feel like a super-secret club that being invited onto means you have to learn a funny handshake and know a special password.

You might read these reports (mine included) and think "this is the kind of club that is made up of shadowy cabals plotting behind closed doors. After all, who ever asked my opinion on this?!". But in reality, it is nothing of the sort. It is much simpler, more transparent and infinitely more fun.

Any full BPCA member can join these committees, and any pest controller, member or not, can join the working groups that committees put together to discuss important projects.

It isn't easy, and rarely do we see change happen overnight, but we CAN make it

happen. So why not be a part of that change?

Last year we discussed how we can try and make committee meetings more accessible to smaller businesses, how we can support the BPCA Staff team by creating advocates for key projects, and we talked about how we can more effectively and openly discuss the projects we are working on.

And what projects might those be? We discussed how best to engage with Local Authorities, we've assisted with building and troubleshooting the new BPCA app, we worked with other committees on how best to find and recruit new technicians to the industry, and we've helped create the BPCA Manifesto which will plot the course of our lobbying work with Government.

This is alongside our regular tasks, such as helping page plan PPC magazine, assisting with press relations and providing expertise on digital communications (ie social media).

We end 2024 at the beginning of a new five-year plan, and for that we spent the latter part of the year looking at how best to focus our time as a committee, and deciding what our key strategic objectives should be.

What we did, and what we will continue to do, is be the voice of the industry to the Association, in turn helping the Association to support the industry.

And with that I will leave you with one thought and one challenge: if you think you can help make a difference, join the Committee and be a part of the change.

**Alex Wade**

Outreach and Communications Committee Chair  
hello@bpca.org.uk

**"If you think you can help make a difference, join the Committee and be a part of the change."**

## TREASURER'S REPORT



2024 was another good year for the Association financially, with better than planned

performances on both the top and bottom lines. BPCA Registered, the UK's leading CPD scheme for professional pest controllers, also enjoyed another record year, with subscribers topping 3,700. For the seventh consecutive year, there'll be no rate increase for this scheme, which we believe to be the best CPD scheme in the sector.

Of course, it was a PestEx year. With record floor sales, revenues were up some 3% on the plan and 24% over the 2022 event (albeit that was the first major event immediately post-covid), reconfirming PestEx as the premier pest sector trade show in Europe. Everyone had to work above and beyond the norm to make it the best, so a big thank you from the Board to the staff team for their hard work and dedication.

The Association continues to face significant financial headwinds: falling membership revenues from acquisitions (especially in our medium and larger membership categories) and falling training revenues (arising from increasingly price-competitive commercial providers).

The global pest control sector remains attractive for investors, especially here in the UK with consolidation rates approaching 6% year-on-year. Mindful of the risk, the Board commissioned the Finance Working Group back in 2023 to review the member subscriptions model, something that hasn't been addressed in over 20 years and had its largest membership category capping out at just £5M turnover.

The work was completed in 2024, and the new membership subscriptions model will be operating in 2025. The number of bands has increased, with the step-up to the next category reduced in a number of cases to make transitions less significant, and the top band has been raised to £100M. The Board believes this will be a fairer model to all. Most of the bands remain static, only being adjusted for inflation. A few of the larger members will see an increased

fee but that still represents excellent value for money.

This revision will allow the Association to continue to pursue its Mission in support of members' aims.

While our new training offers, especially those on digital platforms, are doing well, increasing price competition from commercial providers continues to challenge our traditional training revenues. The team believes our qualification-based packages are qualitatively the best on the market, so I ask you to consider taking advantage of discounts available for members when looking for training or qualifications. The Association uses all the money from its trading activities and reinvests it in strategy and other member-focused activities.

The other significant financial event of the year was the replacement of our backend systems and technology. The first phase investment budget was £170K, and the project was delivered on time and on budget. This investment in our technology will future-proof the Association and allow better member and stakeholder engagement for years to come.

Unfortunately, this will be my last annual report as BPCA's Treasurer. It's been a privilege to serve the membership and the wider sector over the past ten years, and I would like to thank all of you for your support.

As I always do, I'll finish with a plea for everyone to get involved with your Trade Association. For it to work, it needs you and your passion, so attend the Forums, join Special Interest Groups, serve on Committees, or even run for the Board. Learn more about how the Association serves its members and the wider sector.












I wish everyone success with their business in 2025 and beyond.

**Mark Williams**  
BPCA Treasurer  
[finance@bpca.org.uk](mailto:finance@bpca.org.uk)

## THEY WORK FOR YOU

The Executive Board is the governing body of the Association, and Board Members, as Directors, have a duty of care to both BPCA Members and the BPCA Staff team.

The Board's emphasis is on strategy and performance, stewardship and conformance. The Board also ensures that resources are used appropriately (money, time, staff, etc), and that relevant legislation is adhered to.

		Meetings attended
President	 <b>Chris Cagienard</b> Pest Solutions	12
Vice President	 <b>Mike Ayers</b> Precision Pest Management	9
Vice President and Professional Standards Committee Chair	 <b>Martin Rose-King</b> Bounty Pest Control	8
Treasurer	 <b>Mark Williams</b> Ecolab	10
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair	 <b>Julia Pittman</b> Beaver Pest Control	11
Outreach and Communications Committee Chair	 <b>Alex Wade</b> BASF	9
Technical Committee Chair	 <b>Kunal Puri</b> Precision PMS & Consulting	6 App. Sept 2024
	 <b>Rebekah Carral</b> Barricade Pest Control	11 App. Feb 2024
	 <b>Jason Cholerton</b> CSS Pest Services	10
Board Members	 <b>Martin Cobbald</b> Dealey Environmental Ltd	8 App. Feb 2024
	 <b>Paul Westgate</b> Veritas Pest Consultancy	8

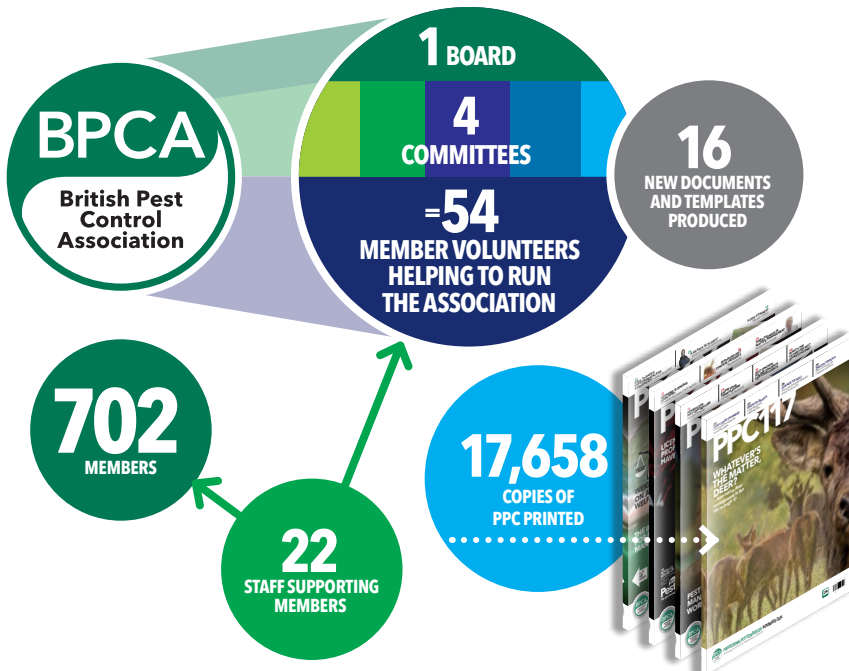
### RUN BY PEST PROFESSIONALS

All BPCA Board and committee members are volunteers from member companies. No one gets paid. They all do it for the love and service of the sector.

If you're interested in volunteering with BPCA, we'd love to hear from you.

[membership@bpca.org.uk](mailto:membership@bpca.org.uk)

# 2024 IN NUMBERS

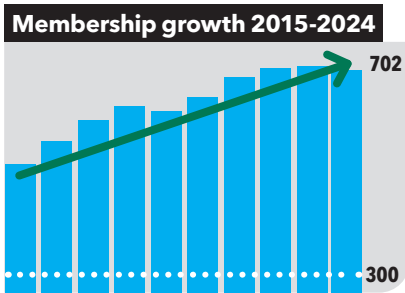


## Spreading the word

17,658 copies of PPC printed  
 PPC Now subscribers = >14,364  
 1.2M reached via Facebook and Twitter  
 123,471 followers on social media  
 BPCA releases were picked up by hundreds of news agencies with a total circulation of 573M across 2,688 news stories  
 Website visited 1.8M times (including the new PPC Online)

## Member benefits

126,971 clients searching Find a pest controller  
 54 member benefits  
 16 new member documents  
 100% of Servicing members TrustMark endorsed



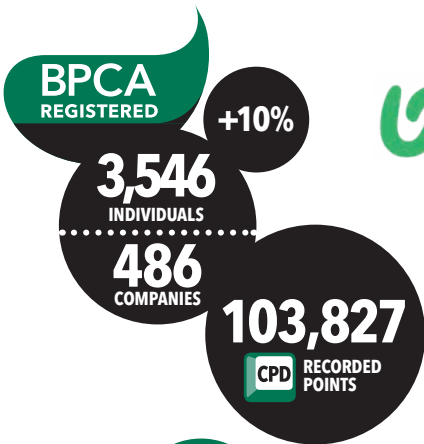
### Politics

89% of MPs agreed pest management is important for public health  
 56% of Labour MPs had met with BPCA or were aware of our work  
 (Based on a sample of 103 MPs Dec 2024)

### REWIND

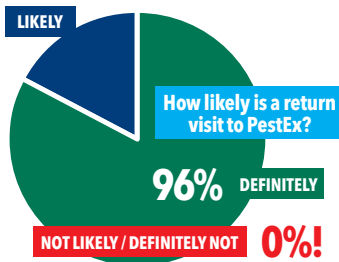
BCPA's Forums and webinars got 78,000 viewers on YouTube (9,600 hours!), with 4,419 people attending the events.

Average feedback **90%**



### Charity

**Trussell**  
 With the aid of members and the pest community at large, BPCA raised **£1,085** for Trussell Trust  
 trussell.org.uk



## Top ten PPC ONLINE articles

- 1 Defra announces key principles and dates for glue board licensing in England
- 2 New guidance issued to professional rodenticide users
- 3 Professional rodenticide users have two years to prepare for changes
- 4 Minister Pow changes mind on glue board licensing scheme (England)
- 5 TAKE PART: Consultation begins on the Pest Management Qualifications Framework
- 6 Woman sentenced for killing child with illegally obtained poison
- 7 Amendment safeguarding glue trap for professional use passes in Scotland
- 8 Bed Bugs in 2024 - what do we need to know?
- 9 Opinion: Changing your wasp management treatments
- 10 Lethal Dose 50 (LD50) - everything you need to know



# TRAINING CALENDAR

## Courses and exams

Course/exam	From (£)	Exam	Date	Location
<b>Level 2 Award in Pest Management (residential)</b>	1,165.00	✓	30/03/2025 - 04/04/2025	Stafford
			08-13/06/2025	Milton Keynes
			07-12/09/2025	Stafford
			16-21/11/2025	Milton Keynes
			07-12/12/2025	Stafford
<b>Level 2 Award in Pest Management (non-residential)</b>	930.00	✓	28/04/2025 - 02/05/2025	Northern Ireland
			21-22/05/2025	<b>Modular GPC London</b>
			28-29/05/2025	
			04-05/06/2025	
			12-17/10/2025	Scotland
<b>Hands-on practical pest management</b>			07/06/2025	Milton Keynes
			06/09/2025	Stafford
<b>Level 2 Certificate in Pest Management (residential)</b>	1,640.00	✓	06-13/09/2025	Stafford
			06-13/12/2025	Stafford
<b>Certificate in Bird Management (online learning, classroom and examination)</b>	180.00	✓	15/05/2025	Blended
			18/09/2025	Blended
			27/11/2025	Blended
<b>Level 3 Award in Safe Use of Fumigants</b>	1,081.00	✓	07-10/04/2025	Derby
<b>Becoming a Field Biologist / Technical Inspector (online classroom course)</b>	132.00		09/05/2025	Online
			22/09/2025	Online
			24/11/2025	Online
<b>Level 2 Award in the Safe use of Aluminium Phosphide</b>	358.00	✓	24-25/03/2025	Southwick
			02-03/10/2025	Southwick
<b>Starting out in Pest Management (online classroom course)</b>	132.00		10/03/2025	Online
			23/06/2025	Online
			29/09/2025	Online



### Bulk booking discounts

We now offer discounts on bulk bookings for our online Level 2 Award in Pest Management course, for both members and non-members: 0-2 licences – standard price; 3-9 licences – 20% discount; 10+ licences – 40% discount. Exam costs remain the same. Contact the training team to find out more.

### Terms and conditions

All costs are members only and exclude VAT. Non-member prices are available at [bpca.org.uk/training](https://bpca.org.uk/training)

Venue details are provisional and may change – please check the BPCA website before booking. BPCA reserves the right to cancel a programme if insufficient bookings have been received.

Delegates will be offered an alternative date or a full refund of the programme fee if a programme is cancelled. BPCA will not be liable for any costs incurred by the delegates.

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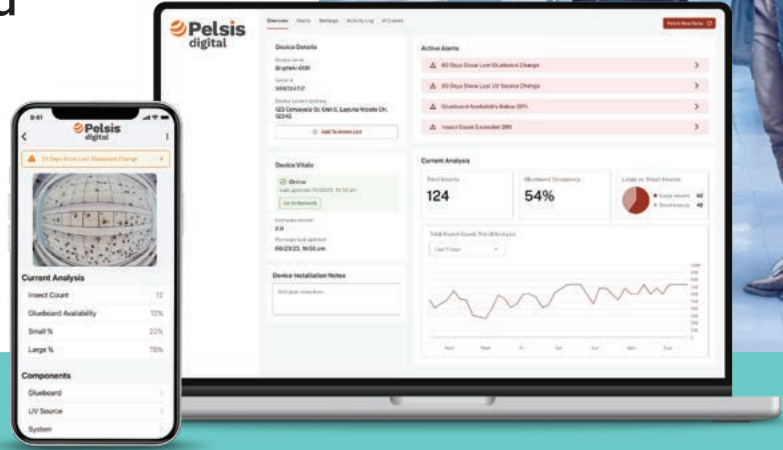


**Enquiries and bookings**

[training@bpca.org.uk](mailto:training@bpca.org.uk)  
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