

# Butcher's shop shut down after remains of a rat and droppings found

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The manager of a shop has been banned from running any food businesses after the remains of a rat were found in a trap at his butchers.

Droppings, the remains of a rat and a host of other issues were discovered during an inspection of the butcher's in Coalville, in Leicestershire

North West Leicestershire District Council Environmental Health Officers shut down Summerfield Butchers at Coalville Market in March following the inspection.



The owner, Gerald Spadaccini, of Leicester Road, Mountsorrel, pleaded guilty to five offences at Leicester Magistrates' Court.

The Leicester Mercury reported that the court made a Hygiene Prohibition Order meaning that Mr Spadaccini is prohibited from participating in the management of any food business until further order of the court.

Mr Spadaccini was also fined £162, ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £30, and a proportion of the council's investigative costs.

The court heard during the inspection in March, inspectors found:

- Cross contamination when preparing cooked and uncooked food.
- Unsafe food preparation practices, including failing to check that meats were adequately cooked and incorrect use of equipment
- Evidence of vermin, including rat droppings and the remains of a rat caught in a trap
- Contaminated hand washing facilities.



Deputy leader of Leicester city council, Alison Smith, said: "The enforced closure and court action was very much a last resort for the council, but absolutely necessary in this case to protect the public.

"The offences committed were very serious and followed a prolonged period of support from the council to try and help lift food hygiene standards at the butcher's.

"Coalville Market now has a new butcher who is proving very popular with shoppers, alongside the many other excellent traders."