

Catering firm caught with mouldy curry, mouse droppings and filthy pans 'begged hygiene inspector to "come back later"'

By Jacob Jarvis, 28 SEP 2017



A catering company banned from preparing food after mouse droppings and mouldy curry were found begged inspectors to "come back later" after the shock visit, authorities have revealed. Food hygiene inspectors visited Gani's Catering Service in Leicester on Monday morning and were "concerned" by what they found.

This included dirty pots, waste bins overflowing with food debris, a large pot of mouldy curry and rodent poo.

Some food was found not stored at the correct temperature.

But a man tried to stop the officer from entering the unit and asked if she could "come back later", the inspector claims.

Authorities then applied for a "hygiene emergency prohibition notice", which was approved by magistrates in Leicester on Wednesday after being shown pictures taken by the council staff.



Leicester City Council environmental health officer Elizabeth Johnson said: "On Monday I visited the business for a routine unannounced inspection.

"As soon as I arrived, I saw large catering pans stacked high.

"They were clearly dirty pots that had come from an event and there were waste bins overflowing with food debris.

"I immediately had concerns they had this dirty equipment outside."

A man then tried to dissuade the officer from entering the unit and asked if she could "come back later", the Leicester Mercury reports.

"He didn't want me to come in. They said that they wanted me to come back as they had been very busy and knew they needed to clean," Ms Johnson added.



She explained the nature of her visit and that it was standard practise to not give a warning prior to it.

Ms Johnson added that it was “very obvious as soon as I walked in that standards were very low inside the unit”.

She also discovered that there were not adequate hand washing facilities for food handlers.

Food debris was then found over the floor and splattered over the door.

Photographs were taken and a second officer was called to inspect the findings.



Ms Johnson then had suspicions of a rodent infestation and decided to investigate further.

“I had suspicions that there could be problems with rodents," she added.

“So I started looking around for evidence and I quickly found droppings.

“We also found gnawed material and shredded material in an adjacent unit.”

There was mouse faeces found on the floor and next to food containers.

In addition to this, a large pot of mouldy curry was discovered and other food was found not stored at the correct temperature.

After receiving the notice on Monday, the establishment has been said to be attempting to clean and staff have taken out equipment to carry out a “deep clean”.

However, following subsequent visits on Tuesday and Wednesday, Ms Johnson said: “There’s still an awful lot of cleaning and disinfecting they need to do”.

The business will not be able prepare food until the council deems it fit to do so.

It was also ordered by magistrates to pay £801.60 in costs.

Gani's Catering Service, which also uses the name GCS Leicester Ltd, was not represented in court.

The Leicester Mercury was unable to make contact with its owner for a comment.

Ms Johnson also stated she has “had no contact with the director”.