

Dead rats scattered and left to rot on Town Street

By Abby Bolter, 10 NOV 2017

The horrified man who filmed this footage also stepped on one of the decaying rodents

A horrified pedestrian stepped on a dead rat in the dark and then realised there were several others scattered around his feet.

The gruesome find was made by Darren Williams, who filmed what was around him.

Eight dead rats could be seen strewn across the pavement in the light from his phone.

It happened in Bridgend , which was affected through the summer by delayed collections which left waste bins full of maggots .

In July, Bridgend was also named as the rat capital of the UK . Data from the British Pest Control Association showed the authority dealt with more call outs to rats per head of population than any other authority in the UK.

In a tweet to Bridgend council , Darren asked: “Is this your work? I stepped on one and could draw disease to dogs!”

The following day the authority asked for clarification on the location and said its cleaner streets team would be removing the dead rats.

But two days later Darren tweeted the council again saying: “I’m reliably informed they are still there. Rats lying dead in the street! Disgusting!”

A Bridgend council spokesman said: “It would seem that the rats were caught and killed elsewhere, then dumped on the road at this location.

“Rats do not typically die in such large numbers on open or exposed ground, even if they have been poisoned with bait.

“The council arranged for the carcasses to be removed once the incident had been reported.”

The dead rats were found near junction 36 of the M4 on a small road which leads to a bridge over the motorway.

In June, private company Kier began a new contract providing Bridgend council’s waste services, but collection delays were widely criticised. Improvements to the scheme have since been made.

The council described the survey placing it as the UK's rat capital as “hugely unfair” stating that call outs were high as their service remains free and they record every report made even though there may be multiple calls about a single incident.