

# Mum-of-three 'forced to live upstairs after rodents infested her Birkenhead home'

By Jacob Furedi, 12 NOV 2017



"I have four traps in the kitchen. I caught five in one night.

"There was a stage when we had to live upstairs. My daughter was so scared; she wouldn't eat anything for two whole days."

Ms Adams said, when she contacted Wirral Council and her housing association, Riverside, she was told she would have to pay for pest control herself.

The Birkenhead resident said she feels helpless. She said: "I'm stressed to death. I feel like jumping in the Mersey. It's a completely different matter when there are kids involved. It feels like there's no way out."

But Ms Adams said, while the rodents have been in the house for five months, she was still in shock about it. She said they are also leaving large droppings.

She said: "I started having heart palpitations when I was making a bottle for my two-year-old in the kitchen. I have to sit on the counter whenever I go in there."

Wirral councillor Pat Cleary has condemned Ms Adams' dire living conditions. He said: "There is no public assistance in place for people in this situation. There needs to be some form of funding when a house is not habitable. It's not acceptable."

Ian Gregg, executive director of Asset Services at Riverside, said: "We are sorry that Ms Adams is unhappy and we understand this has been a really difficult time for her family."





"We inspected the property in October and could find no defaults with the house that would allow rodents to get in.

"We advised Ms Adams that dealing with vermin requires specialist assistance, which we do not provide, and she needed to contact her local council.