

Newham Recorder

Newham receives five rodent complaints every day

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Rats nibble on discarded food. Picture: Kirsty Wigglesworth/PA Images

Newham received five complaints about rodents on average each day over the last five years, figures reveal.

The borough logged 9,331 reports of rats and mice since 2012, according to figures obtained by Freedom of Information request.

Around 186,000 complaints were recorded in the capital's boroughs over the period.

“London’s crawling – and the problem is getting worse,” said London Assembly member Susan Hall, who compiled a report.

Tower Hamlets was the worst borough for rodent complaints, with 30,000 logged, followed by Brent (19,978) and Camden (13,558).

Complaints rose by 10 per cent between 2015/16 and the last financial year.

Ms Hall said a “co-ordinated approach” led by the Mayor was needed to avoid “our city being overrun by rats like Paris and Harrow”.

She began researching London’s rodents after a video of scavenging rats in Harrow went viral earlier this year.