



Binman rushed to hospital after being attacked by rat in the middle of his shift

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A union is now calling for hazard payments to be brought in for binmen following the horrifying attack which left the man needing hospital treatment and a tetanus jab.

A city binman was rushed to hospital after being attacked by a rat while he was working. The horrifying incident took place in Glasgow on Saturday, January 23, while the unnamed refuse worker was carrying out his duties in Kinfauns Drive.

After being scratched by the rodent, the man was taken to hospital where he received a tetanus jab and his injury was treated. The Glasgow Times reports the man is an agency employee who was working on a Glasgow City Council job when the attack took place. He is said to have reported for work on Sunday, but was sent home early after "feeling unwell".

GMB union convener Chris Mitchell said the incident is a "game-changer" for refuse workers and called for hazard payments to be implemented for binmen in the city. Mr Mitchell said: "Cleansing workers in Glasgow face this problem every day of their working lives. "More people working from home and then generating more waste is a perfect storm for rats looking for food and shelter now restaurants and food outlets are closed."

He added: "On Saturday, a cleansing worker was attacked by a rat as he was emptying the bins in Drumchapel causing him to go to the hospital. This is a game-changer for workers.

"GMB will continue to call on the council to include some kind of hazard payments for our cleansing workers." A spokesman for Glasgow City Council said: "This is an understandably upsetting incident and the worker has received appropriate medical support.

"The incident has been reported to our public health team, who will investigate and take appropriate action. "Staff are always expected to report back on any concerns about a rat infestation so pest control can look to deal with the situation.