

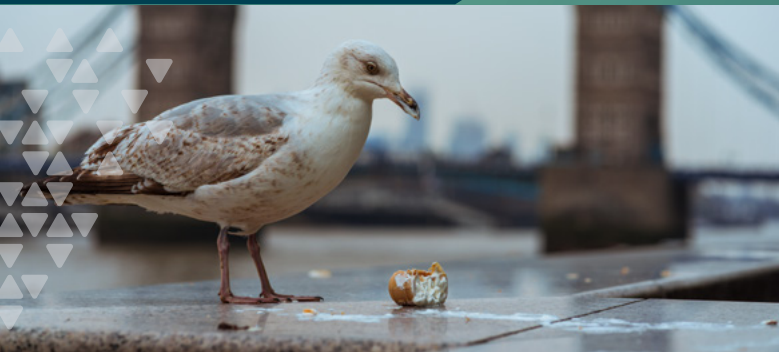
vergo

Gulls Help sheet

Gulls are a common challenge for businesses, particularly those in urban or coastal areas. Their presence can lead to property damage, health risks, and disruption to operations, especially during the breeding season when they become more aggressive and territorial. Proactively managing gull activity can help protect your business, staff, and customers from these issues.

Did you know...

Breeding season typically runs from April to August, **with peak activity during May and June** when they are raising chicks. Gulls are intelligent birds capable of using tools, remembering food sources, and recognising individual humans who pose a threat.



SIGNS THAT GULLS MIGHT BE PRESENT

- ▶ **Droppings:**
Large amounts of acidic droppings (guano) can damage property, vehicles, and outdoor furniture, as well as create hygiene issues.
- ▶ **Breeding Activity:**
Nest-building typically begins in spring (April), and gulls will return to the same nesting sites each year. Their activity increases significantly during this period.
- ▶ **Excessive Noise:**
During the breeding season, gulls can be extremely loud, disrupting homes and businesses with their constant calls.
- ▶ **Visible Nests:**
Gulls often build nests in high locations like rooftops, chimneys, and ledges, using twigs, grass, and debris.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP PREVENT GULLS

- ▶ **Reduce Food Sources:** Avoid feeding gulls, secure bins with tight-fitting lids, and promptly clear away external food waste.
- ▶ **Secure Outdoor Spaces:** Cover chimneys and block entry points to loft spaces to avoid nesting inside buildings.
- ▶ **Manage Waste Properly:** Ensure rubbish is kept in sealed containers and not left in bags where it can be torn open by gulls.
- ▶ **Deter Nesting:** Install deterrents like bird spikes, netting, or wires to stop gulls from nesting on roofs or ledges. Scan the QR code below for more details.

SAFETY TIPS

- ▶ **Avoid Feeding:** Feeding gulls encourages them to associate humans with food, leading to bolder behaviour.
- ▶ **Do Not Approach:** Gulls are highly protective of their nests and chicks and may swoop or attack if they feel threatened. Keep a safe distance to avoid provoking aggressive behaviour.
- ▶ **Stay Calm:** If approached or swooped by a gull, remain calm and move away slowly.

Interesting Fact:

Gulls are protected by UK law under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, making it illegal to harm them or their nests without a licence.

At Vergo, we will tailor our solution to meet your needs



If you have an issue with gulls, call **0344 335 0330** or visit **vergo.uk**

The future of pest management

Scan me
to learn more

or visit vergo.uk/pest-control/bird-control/gulls/