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Pigeons Help sheet

Pigeons are one of the most common urban bird pests, often found in towns and cities. Their presence can lead to property damage, hygiene concerns, and health risks due to their droppings and nesting materials. Managing pigeon activity proactively can help protect your business, staff, and customers from these issues.

Did you know...

Pigeons (*Columbia livia*) can breed all year round, but their peak breeding season typically occurs in spring and summer. They are highly adaptable and have excellent memory, allowing them to recognise specific locations and return to favourable feeding and nesting sites repeatedly.



SIGNS THAT PIGEONS MIGHT BE PRESENT

- ▶ **Droppings:** Large amounts of pigeon droppings (guano) accumulate quickly, damaging buildings, vehicles, and outdoor structures. Droppings pose health risks from bacteria and fungal spores.
- ▶ **Nesting Materials:** Pigeons build nests in sheltered spots like rooftops, ledges, and crevices, using twigs and debris. Their nests can block gutters and drains, causing water damage, and they often nest under solar panels for protection.
- ▶ **Persistent Presence:** Pigeons tend to gather in flocks and frequently return to the same locations. They are often seen roosting on rooftops, beams, and balconies.
- ▶ **Excessive Noise:** Pigeons produce constant cooing sounds, which can be disruptive, especially in large numbers.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP PREVENT PIGEONS

- ▶ **Reduce Food Sources:** Avoid feeding pigeons and ensure all food waste is disposed of in sealed bins.
- ▶ **Block Access Points:** Install mesh, netting, or bird-proofing measures to prevent pigeons from roosting and nesting in building crevices and sheltered areas, including underneath solar panels.
- ▶ **Use Bird Deterrents:** Bird spikes, netting, and lasers can help prevent pigeons from settling on ledges and rooftops.
- ▶ **Maintain Cleanliness:** Regularly clean areas where pigeons may gather to remove attractants such as spilled food or standing water.



SAFETY TIPS

- ▶ Avoid Direct Contact
- ▶ Do Not Disturb Nests
- ▶ Be Cautious Around Roosting Areas



INTERESTING FACTS

Unlike many other birds, pigeons **do not have waterproof feathers** so they seek dry, sheltered areas.

Pigeons have **excellent colour vision** helping them to identify food and familiar locations.

Each pigeon can produce **up to 12kg of droppings annually**, this can cause structural damage, health risks, and costly cleaning and repairs for businesses.

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



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

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