

The **Tip** of the **Iceberg**

Whilst reading the National Rodent Survey Report one important fact should be brought to your attention.

Throughout the nine years of the Rodent Survey Reports this Association has pointed out an alarming increase in those local authorities charging for rodent control because of budgetary concessions imposed on them by Central Government.

What was a very **small minority** in the first published report has now become the **majority** with **over two thirds** of authorities now making some charge for rodent treatments, but what is more alarming is that when a charge is imposed those authorities tell us that call-outs drop by as much as **eighty per-cent**, meaning that those unreported infestations either go unchecked or the occupiers try the DIY approach with little if any effect to population while presenting risks of accidental poisoning incidents or possible risk to non-target species.

Taking that two thirds of our responding councils now make some charge and call-outs have dropped accordingly, our figures we feel, fall well short of the true picture regarding rodent populations throughout the UK.

The NPTA feel it's time that Central Government wake up to the serious Public Health Implications involved and support to Local Government Pest Control be increased to continue to protect the welfare and health of our Nation.