

PE1671/C

The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland submission of 14 November 2017

The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland recognises the need for control of use of glue boards in pest control. We consider that they are open to misuse, can entrap non-target species if used incorrectly and cause unnecessary suffering to target species. There are, however, cases of last resort, where other control measures have failed and there is no alternative to the use of glue boards. We would support the removal of glue boards for sale to the amateur sector and their restriction for use to the professional pest control sector. In addition, their use within the professional sector needs to be controlled so that only trained and competent personnel can use these products in accordance with a strict set of guidelines.

The Pest Management Alliance has recently updated a Code of Practice for the Humane Use of Glue Boards in consultation with DEFRA which could provide the basis of either a Statutory Code of Practice or a licensing scheme similar to the bird control licensing scheme operated by Scottish National Heritage to preserve public health, public safety and prevent the spread of disease.

<http://www.pmalliance.org.uk/website/downloads/Pest%20Management%20Alliance%20Humane%20Rodent%20Glue%20Boards%20Leaflet%20JAN%202017.pdf>

https://www.snh.scot/sites/default/files/2017-07/A2171942%20-%202017%20-%20GL03_2017%20-%20To%20kill%20or%20take%20certain%20birds%20for%20the%20preservation%20of%20public%20health%2C%20public%20safety%20and%20preventing%20spread%20of%20disease.pdf

The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (the Institute) has been in existence for over 140 years and has around 1,000 members, the majority of whom are Environmental Health Officers working in that capacity for Scottish local authorities.

The Institute is incorporated by Royal Charter, is an independent self-financing organisation, is an independent awarding body for the profession and for a wide range of community training qualifications, and is a registered Scottish charity (No. SC009406). The Institute neither seeks nor receives grant aid and its charitable activities are funded significantly by the subscriptions received from its members.

The objects for which the Institute is established are for the benefit of the community to promote the advancement of Environmental Health by:

- stimulating interest in and disseminating knowledge concerning Environmental Health;
- promoting education and training in matters relating to Environmental Health; and
- maintaining, by examination or otherwise, high standards of professional practice and conduct on the part of Environmental Health Officers in Scotland. Environmental Health Officers in Scotland are part of a graduate only profession and by virtue of their under-pinning academic education,

professional practical training, professional qualifications and experience are well placed to apply a holistic public health approach to the education of the public and to the enforcement of a wide range of environmental and public health legislation. The Institute is an independent awarding body for the profession and currently accredits the BSc (Hons) Environmental Health degree course delivered at the University of the West of Scotland as well as the MSc Environmental Health degree course delivered at the University of Derby (distance learning option). Environmental Health students, graduate and under-graduate, who wish to pursue a career as an Environmental Health Officer require to undertake a period of professional practical training and to successfully complete the Institute's Professional Examination which determines their professional competence to practice.

In terms of EU Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of Professional Qualifications within Member States and under the European Communities (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) Regulations 2007 the Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland is a UK Competent Authority for the Profession titles Environmental Health Officer and Chartered Environmental Health Officer.