



## POLPERRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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# Living in Polperro

## Living with our Seagulls

Seagulls, their eggs and nests are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Find out more at [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk)



Gulls are a protected wild bird and we all know that Polperro wouldn't be the same without them. However, they can also be a nuisance to residents and, in some cases, affect people's health and safety.

There are simple steps we can all take to reduce the impact of gulls and live alongside them.

## BE RESPONSIBLE WITH RUBBISH

Gulls are natural scavengers  
Don't allow them to access your food waste :

- Use seagull proof sacks or bins
- Always close lids on rubbish containers
- Don't put your household waste out too early
- Don't drop litter



## FEEDING GULLS IS NOT GOOD FOR THEM (OR FOR US).

### WHY?

- It fills them up with the wrong type of food
- It stops them being able to, or wanting to, hunt for their natural diet
- It causes them to rip rubbish bags looking for more food in the area
- It brings greater numbers of gulls into public spaces
- It increases the fouling and noise nuisance for the community
- It makes them more aggressive towards people



**Prevent nesting on your roof with anti-bird spikes; parallel wires; bird netting; bird gel; decoy kites; lasers;**

Seagulls nest on any structure, returning to nesting sites over and over. Remove any nesting material from your roof after nesting season (usually September) Nesting on roofs causes problems for your neighbours as well as those living/staying in a property.

## LICENCED CONTROL

Individuals can apply to Natural England for a licence to control the population of gulls where a specific health or safety risk has been identified.

You must be able to evidence this and explain why non-lethal measures are not appropriate. Generic applications, e.g. for the whole town, are not issued.