



City of Westminster

Pest Information

**FREE PHONE:
0800 3580514**

BEES



The most common species in this country are the honeybee, bumblebee, and masonry bee. Bees have important benefits, acting as pollinators of many fruit trees and other plants, and are not considered as pests.

Colonies of bees consist of a queen, a small number of males or drones and a large number of worker bees. The workers feed the queen who produces up to 2,000 eggs per day. A queen bee will leave a colony when a new one emerges. A number of the colony's workers accompany her, forming what is known as a swarm, which then forms a new colony. Bumblebees are close relatives of the honeybee but are larger. A bumblebee colony will only last for a single season. Only a few young mated queens survive and spend the winter in hibernation. Bees will sting people if they are strongly provoked.

Please note: the council does not provide a control service for bees but can offer advice and Beekeeper contact numbers to assist the public.

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