



**Fleas** – The Council will treat for fleas at the standard fee. Please see notes below on what to do before the Pest Control Officer arrives.

**Description** – There are four types of flea that bite humans. The human flea, the cat flea, the dog flea and the bird flea. They are reddish brown in colour and are about 2mm long. Fleas can jump to about 15cm in height.

**Further Info** – Eggs are laid after each blood meal. They are about the size of a pinhead & pearly white in colour. When they hatch they are about 1.5mm and then grow to approximately 5mm before they pupate. The pupa turns a brownish colour before turning into a flea. & they rely on vibrations to hatch from the cocoon. Somebody walking on carpets or floorboards creates enough of a vibration for this process to happen. At normal room temperature the eggs hatch within 1 week. The full life cycle of the flea would normally be completed within 30 days in a centrally heated home but this could take up to 100 days in cold surroundings.

### Control Measures –

To assist the Pest Control Officer before your treatment you should

- Remove all toys & decorative items from the floor.
- Remove all items from underneath furniture eg under beds etc
- Hoover all floors & upholstered furniture
- Remove the hoover bags & dispose of in the bin outside or tip contents away from a bagless hoover. It is advisable to put part of a cat flea collar inside the hoover bag to kill of any remaining fleas.
- If necessary treat your pet for fleas
- If you have wooden floors, scrape all of the gaps with a knife and then hoover up.
- Fish & any other animals in water should be covered up as the pesticide we use is water soluble and will affect them.

The Officer may use a spray treatment or he may fumigate the room. If a fumigation is required do not allow pets or young children into the property for up to 3 hours later and do not hoover for at least 10 days. This gives enough time for treatment to work fully. The room should also be well ventilated.

If you wish to treat yourself use a spray designed for the treatment of furniture & fabrics. Follow the instructions on the container fully. Hoover all carpets, floors, soft furnishings and along the bottom of skirting boards. Treat your pet for fleas and hoover and wash their bedding. You must wash their bedding on a cycle of 50 degrees centigrade or more.