

# 2000 sex-crazed corellas culled

By DAVID COHEN

**More than 2000 corellas have been netted and killed by the state government at sites including Claremont's Showgrounds.**

The WA Local Government Association says the pilot program was a success and it has been given \$50,000 by the parks and wildlife department to continue the cull.

WALGA will ask western suburb councils to chip in to the next stage of the cull.

A report to WALGA's state council meeting on July 5 said: "Control activity was carried out by deploying feeding stations and when sufficient corella numbers were reached, a net trap was deployed and the birds humanely euthanised."

A contractor culled the birds over 13 weeks between January and April and disposed of the bodies at a landfill site.

Stirling and Rockingham councils also had cull sites.

The report said 4000 corellas were killed in a cull four years ago, leaving an estimated 5000 birds.

"Since that time corella numbers have increased dramatically," it said.

"Public frustration regarding the noise and other impacts has increased significantly."

WALGA said conservative estimates of corella numbers in Perth were 10,000 birds.

In April neither WALGA nor Claremont council would say where the cull was happening, after Bay View Terrace residents said the birds were making their lives almost unbearable (*Corellas culled in secret*, POST, April 22).

"It's a bit like putting your finger in the dyke," mayor Jock Barker said at the time about the corellas.

"We're not acting alone, but we're acting."

Two weeks ago then-council CEO Stephen Goode told Terrace resident Kevin Maitland: "Even if



*Part of a big corella flock this week.*

you killed every bird today they'd be back tomorrow,"

Mr Maitland and neighbour Rikki Gardiner had said they would campaign about the noise until something was done.

"We are totally sleep-deprived," Ms Gardiner said.

"The numbers in Claremont are unbelievable and the racket goes on for 18 hours a day.

"It's not unusual to be woken by the screeching at 3am.

"These birds screw twice as much as the birds in Venice's St Mark's Square. They really like menage a trois."