

# Noisy corellas culled in secret

**More than 600 corellas have been killed in the western suburbs, but Claremont council won't say where.**

Bay View Terrace residents say the noisy birds make their lives almost unbearable.

They have been pressuring Claremont to do something about them.

At Tuesday night's meeting, mayor Jock Barker pointed to answers in the council meeting agenda to resident Kevin Maitland's questions from two weeks ago.

"It's a bit like putting your finger in the dyke," Mr Barker said about the corellas.

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

The answers said more than 650 corellas had been "controlled" on two western suburb sites.

"These sites will not be made public to avoid problems with community conflict," one answer read.

Two weeks ago, Claremont CEO Stephen Goode told Mr Maitland: "Even if you killed every bird today, they'd be back tomorrow."

Mr Maitland and neighbour Rikki Gardiner say they will campaign about the noise until something is done.

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

"The numbers in Claremont are unbelievable and the racket goes 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 *ménages à trois*."

Mr Maitland asked when the

corella faeces on the pavement outside the library in Stirling Highway would be cleared up.

An answer this week said the best way to deal with it was to scrape it off when it was dry.

"The material is deposited daily, making the clean-up more challenging," the answer said.

"Much of this build-up washes away during rainfall events."

Earlier this month, Mr Goode said the WA Local Government Association had been able to get only western suburb councils, Armadale, and Stirling to spend money on the problem.

"WALGA can't compel any councils [to take part]," Mr Goode said.

WALGA president Lynne Craigie would not say where the cull was happening.

"Two species of introduced corella inhabiting the Perth metro area have been identified by the Department of Parks and Wildlife as having a negative impact on biodiversity across Perth," she said.

"These species can damage local trees and food production as well as infrastructure such as sporting fields, street trees and lights and irrigation.

"In addition, they compete with native species for hollows and food resources.

"WALGA is working with local governments and the Department of Parks and Wildlife to develop a coordinated approach to corella management in the Perth metropolitan area and surrounds where they have become established, and has received grant funding from DPaw to assist with this work."