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Residents 'neglected'

By **ESHMAEL MPABANGA**

MELVILLE residents presented a petition to the City expressing their disgust at the continued lack of consideration shown by the council over the Regional Resource Recovery Centre.

They also requested the City provide residents with air-filtration systems and assist with landscaping to reduce pollution.

Melville Action Group spokeswoman Mandy Clarke said families had not been able to enjoy their homes or back yards because of the bad odours produced by the waste facility.

Plans to develop a resource facility at Rockingham or Kwinana

were postponed recently due to the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council's (SMRC) decision to rebuild the fire-ravaged plant in Canning Vale.

The fire took the focus off controversial plans for a second facility to cater for the area, with Rockingham landfill one of the preferred sites.

Ms Clarke, a Leeming resident, said she was outraged at the lack of action, saying families, children and pets had to put

up with the odour at considerable risk to their health.

"These councillors are supposed to be representing their ratepayers, not neglecting them," she said.

Ms Clarke said the City continued to turn its back on suffering residents and it needed to "wake up" and take responsibility for the problem.

Kwinana Progress Association president Steve Hesse said he did not blame the action group

for taking that stand, as the City had been "all talk and no action thus far".

"Politicians are beginning to realise that the residents mean business," he said.

Mr Hesse said the Melville Action Group would eventually be successful in its bid if members maintained a hard line.

Melville chief executive Shayne Silcox said he was aware of concerns from local residents.

"The City of Melville will continue to work collaboratively with its residents, the SMRC and all the relevant authorities regarding any odour complaints from the Canning Vale industrial area, which impact on the City's residents," he said.

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