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Big stink over smell

THE recent surge in odour complaints generated debate at council's most recent meeting, with Councillors Mary Daly and Graham Barry saying they were called to witness the "putrid smell" in the early hours last month.

The *Canning Times* reported last week the Department for Environment and Conservation was investigating the 60-plus complaints lodged over the March 19 to April 1 period from residents claiming the odour was coming from a nearby Canning Vale waste-composting facility.

The facility's operator, the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council, said there was no evidence to suggest that all the reported smells came from the facility.

But on Tuesday night, Cr Daly said she received calls from Willetton and Leeming residents during the last weekend of March, and going out to their residences at 2.30am, she suffered burning in her

eyes and nose and was sick the following day.

Cr Barry also attended, along with a representative from the DEC, and said the smell was nauseating and his family commented on the "stench permeating from my clothing" when he returned home.

Both believed the smell was coming from the waste facility.

Former councillor Norm Snell asked a variety of questions from the public chambers.

He wanted to know why certain councillors had not declared an interest and asked who had attended the SMRC meetings on behalf of council.

Most of his questions were taken on notice.

Residents who smell a bad odour should lodge their complaint immediately to the DEC at natasha.maio@dec.wa.gov.au, the SMRC on 1300 556 726, or with the CMCOAG at www.cmcoag.com