

Resident defeats Council on tree chop

Rikki-Lee Arnold, City North News Quest Newspapers June 30, 2011 12:00AM

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Clayfield resident Robert Lynch has won a seven-year battle with council over dangerous trees threatening his home and family.

Mr Lynch went to the Brisbane City Council back in 2004 over the two-storey high trees which stretched into his property and loomed above the roof of his home, but became stuck in a "crazy cycle" with council who would only remove the smaller branches on the tree.

"I would complain to council, eventually they'd send someone to have a look and six months later, a contractor would take off a few small branches but the big dangerous limbs would remain," he said.

"So I'd go back to council to complain and we'd start all over again."

Mr Lynch became so worried by the trees that during storms he would even move his sons out of their bedroom to prevent possible injury.

"When the wind would pick up they'd really sway," he said.

"It was quite common for a large branch to snap off and come crashing down on the roof or the deck."

The news follows BCC's approval of an application to lift a 15-year-old protection order which allowed three Moreton Bay figs to be cut down at Windsor last week.

Mr Lynch then turned to specialist group Handle My Complaint who helped him win his long battle with council and have the dangerous limbs trimmed down.

Handle My Complaint CEO Jo Ucukalo said Mr Lynch's case was a "fair and reasonable" one and the safety of his family and property lead to her company taking immediate action.



trees rd219744 Rob Lynch (pictured with CEO of Handle My Complaint Jo Ucukalo) has won a 7 year battle with the Brisbane City Council over trees overhanging his property. Picture: Renae Droop Source: Quest Newspapers

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