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# Residents to pay for brothel expose

VALIDATING claims that an illegal brothel is operating in Gordon is no job for staff at Ku-ring-gai Council - but ratepayers will still foot the bill for a private investigator's sexual adventures.

Council has lodged Land and Environment Court proceedings against the operators of a therapeutic massage centre in Gordon. This required evidence of illicit activities taking place at the

by **JANE McMILLAN**

residence. Enter Lyonswood Investigations.

The private eyes were instructed by council's solicitors Abbot Tout to visit the massage parlour undercover and determine the extent of illegal activities taking place.

"Council instructs our solicitors to take whatever

action is necessary to ensure we have a case in court," director of development control Ian Glendinning said.

That included the investigator making several visits to the massage centre, paying for and receiving oral sex and submitting a four-page report to council. Total cost was \$1078.

Lyonswood Investigations director Warren Mallard said he was "an-

noyed" the confidential report to council was leaked. "This investigation is not only the confidential business of council but of Lyonswood," he said.

He said it was not possible to use hidden cameras due to workplace legislation and his firm had conducted similar investigations for other councils.

Mr Glendinning said the matter was being

trivialised through the focus on sex. "It is not simply about engaging in an activity at ratepayer's expense, we are taking action to stop an illegal act," he said.