



LIVERPOOL

Council unlikely to control mozzie plague via spraying

RESIDENTS may be feeling the sting – but it looks unlikely that Liverpool Council will consider spraying the mosquitoes that are plaguing our area.

Last week, the *Liverpool Leader* reported on the warning from health auth-

orities after mosquitoes carrying the debilitating Ross River and Barmah Forest viruses were found along the Georges River.

Westmead Hospital's leading entomologist Stephen Doggett pointed to the success of the mosquito control program at Sydney Olympic Park

“Homebush can conduct up to six treatments per year by spraying from a helicopter and by hand — but it is expensive, about \$60,000 a year,” he said.

Mr Doggett said the deci-

sion to spray in that area came in the 1990s, when mosquito numbers were so bad schools closed and residents could not go outside.

Liverpool Council chief executive Carl Wulff did not answer the *Leader's* questions about the cost of spraying. Instead, he said the council would raise awareness on “social media and other communication channels”.

“The council does not have any recorded complaints about mosquitos in relation to the Georges River,” he said.

WHO TO CALL

Liverpool Council chief executive Carl Wulff said residents who were concerned about mosquito numbers in the area could phone the council's customer contact centre: 1300 362 170