

Court refuses council appeal

Days before a TV exposé about leaseholder over-charging featuring Islington Council, a group of residents hope their battle is at an end after the town hall was refused permission to appeal a ruling that it blew £1million on housing improvements.

Monday's edition of investigative Channel Four show *Dispatches* features the Tremlett Grove Estate, in Archway, which was the subject of a Leaseholder Valuation Tribunal (LVT) in April. It found the council paid over the odds for work on two blocks.

The ruling meant the coun-

cil will have to refund around £16,000 to each of the 14 leaseholders affected.

The LVT refused the council the right to appeal but it took the matter to the Land Tribunal, a higher body which also refused the right of appeal on August 2.

The council is however considering taking the case to the Administrative Court, a division of the High Court, on a point of law.

A spokesman for the council said: "The tribunal is not saying that this work was unnecessary, but rather they wanted more evidence to prove it was necessary."