

# Uphill all the way to clear eyesore

THE battle against fly-tipping is an uphill struggle — of 45 degrees.

A clean-up operation in the Dulais Valley involved volunteers having to haul dozens of fridges, cookers and freezers up a 30-metre slope.

Volunteers with the Dulais Valley Partnership teamed up with Keep Wales Tidy to clear land in Heol Heddwch, Seven Sisters.

Alan Powis, who is Keep Wales Tidy fly-tipping project officer for Neath Port Talbot, said volunteers had used ropes to haul the dumped appliances up the steep hill.

"We could not believe how many fridges, cookers and washing machines had been dumped down the hill behind Heol Heddwch. It was ridiculous," he said.

"Not only was it a terrible danger spot but it is a desperate eyesore.

"It would appear that residents in the demolished houses decided just to roll

**By Rachael Misstear**

their unwanted appliances down the hill rather than disposing of them properly.

"Ropes had to be used to winch the items up to the top and it really was a mammoth task. The rubbish had to be pulled 30 metres at an angle of 45 degrees.

"It was a foul day and it took a great deal of effort to clear the area.

"The people who dumped this rubbish were not only making the area a dangerous eyesore, but in this day and age they were totally unjustified as there is now a free service to take away household appliances.

"The clear-up was organised as part of the Pride in Our Community project organised by Neath Port Talbot Council, Environment Agency Wales and the Countryside Council for Wales."

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