

PERAK

## Rubbish collection lacking efficiency, Ipoh council told

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PERAK MCA wants Ipoh City Council to improve its rubbish collection services, especially in the Old Town area.

Its public service and complaints bureau chief Low Guo Nan said they have received several complaints on uncollected rubbish near Lorong Panglima or better known as Concubine Lane, and it has become an eyesore.

Low said the area was a popular tourist spot and the uncollected rubbish marred the image of the city.

“Not only is this a concern to all Ipoh folk, state assemblymen and MPs too need to address this matter seriously.

“We were told that Kepayang assemblyman Dr Ko Chung Sen had distributed 700 rubbish bins and some orange coloured bins with a capacity of between 120 litres and 240 litres to schools, shophots and houses in October last year.

“How many were distributed to shop owners in Old Town?

“Where are they?” asked Low.



Overflowing rubbish bins near Concubine Lane, a tourist hotspot in Ipoh's Old Town. The rubbish has since been cleared by the city council.

— RONNIE CHIN/The Star

He also questioned the purpose of having closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras in the area.

“Dr Ko said the CCTV cameras could help to monitor the area and deter people from littering but I would like to know is whether they

are working?” he said.

Based on the bureau's monitoring, the rubbish at the Old Town area had been left uncollected for many days.

“Instead of providing more rubbish bins, what we need is for the

city council to clear the rubbish every day,” added Low.

Personal assistant Siti Raihana Asyikin Bahanudin, 25, said she hoped the city council would fine irresponsible hawkers as well as place “No littering” signs around the area.

“Perhaps stricter enforcement and higher fines should be implemented to ensure shopowners and hawkers take this matter seriously.

“As a local, I do believe the rubbish gives a disturbing and unhealthy impression of the city,” she added.

A check by *StarMetro* revealed that the city council has since cleared the rubbish from the area.

A tourist, who only wished to be known as Malika, 37, said the community should also be responsible towards the cleanliness of their city.

“If a rubbish bin is full, then find another one or just keep it until the bins have been emptied.

“The city council may have done its part but it is also up to us to help them.

“It is our collective responsibility to keep our environment clean,” she added.