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SMC to take action against operators of swiftlet farms

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THE Sibü Municipal Council (SMC) will take action immediately if it receives public complaints against swiftlet farms operating in residential areas. SMC chairman Datuk Tiong Thai King said the council would not permit any more of such operations in residential areas and would now not hesitate to take action.

“I urge the industry players to respect the neighbourhood, in particular the residential neighbourhood. Noise generated electronically to attract swiftlets has proven to be unbearable especially at night and during early hours of the day,” he said at SMC’s full council meeting yesterday.

“Besides that, the bird droppings could also cause unnecessary health hazards if not properly taken care of.”

Tiong hoped those who still operated in residential houses would stop or vacate the residential units before the council move in to compound and dismantle them.

He told the public who found these illegal businesses to report them to the council immediately through 084-333411.

On vacant houses and private land which could become breeding grounds for Aedes mosquitoes, he said the council would serve notices under the relevant regulations to require the owners to mitigate the hazard by proper maintenance of their abandoned properties.

Meanwhile, in its move to encourage property owners to pay their assessment rates in one-go, the council will give an umbrella to those whose total bill exceeded RM1,000 and two pens to those with bills below RM1,000.

For the whole of last year, the council managed to collect 94% of the total assessment rates.

Tiong also before the meeting yesterday, presented retiring staff Kong Chang Gek with a bank premium certificate of RM500 and a certificate of appreciation for his long service.

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