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## MBSA: Pay your arrears or face stern action

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BEGINNING Jan 1 next year, individuals or companies that do not settle their arrears would not have their applications approved by the Shah Alam City Council (MBSA).

This applies to licences, leases, planning permission and unpaid compound notices.

Shah Alam mayor Datuk Ahmad Zaharin Mohd Saad told the council's full board meeting that the integrated system allowed all staff from various departments to cross-check any arrears before giving approval to an application.

"In the current system, each department can only see the

arrears owed to the department and not other sections. By doing this, we cut down on arrears owed," he said.

Ahmad Zaharin said another way the council is encouraging individuals and companies to pay their arrears is to introduce a compound reduction campaign, which offers up to a 50% discount.

He said two campaigns held this year had so far enabled the council to obtain returns of about RM1mil, adding that the campaign applied to selected compound notices only.

During the full board meeting, councillor Muhammad Shakir B. Ameer Mohideen proposed that the council keep councillors in the

loop when there are new developments in their zones.

He said a checklist should be ticked off before the handover of keys to residents and infrastructure to the council so that they could determine the responsibility for upgrading works between developers and council.

This, he said, would also help residents to identify who to turn to when issues arise.

In a separate matter, contractors hired to collect rubbish from Taman Sri Muda, Section 25, have started work this month, after they were suspended last month.

The contractors, who began service in July and worked without problems until September, failed

to collect rubbish according to schedule because of a breakdown in their compactors, resulting in the lack of service.

The mayor said MBSA took over responsibility during this period.

"They were also given compound notices 59 times and RM23,000 from their monthly payment contract was deducted," he said.

However, he said the contractors were given a second chance and began collecting rubbish from landed properties this month, while MBSA continues servicing the flats.

The contractors will service the entire Taman Sri Muda in December.