

SELANGOR MAY REVIEW PLASTIC BAG CHARGE

Study needed to determine if it's effective, says exco member

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THE state government may review the 20 sen charge for each plastic bag supplied to customers at shopping centres. State Environment, Green Technology, Consumerism and Non-Muslim Affairs Committee chairman Hee Loy Sian said a study was needed to determine the effectiveness of the ruling, which was imposed statewide since 2016.

“We want to know whether the move had reduced plastic use by consumers. We learnt that business operators did not abide by the ruling as there was no enforcement carried out by the authorities.

“Many consumers are willing to pay for plastic bags. We have received many complaints from the public, who questioned the effectiveness of the move and whether we have achieved the desired results,” he said after launching the Klang Municipal Council’s Sustainable Ramadan Bazaar programme at GM Klang Wholesale City on Sunday.

About 1,000 recyclable bags were distributed to GM Klang customers during the event.

Hee said the state government had no plans to increase the charge for plastic bags.

“Instead, we want the awareness to be instilled in the people at a young age.

“Previously, we could not carry out awareness campaigns in schools as there were limitations (imposed on the state government).

“We want to educate the children so that they will understand the negative effects of plastic bags on the environment and will work with the Federal Government so that such programmes can be organised.”

Present was MPK president, Datuk Mohamad Yasid Bidin.