



Wilson (centre) with MPS members during the anti-corruption pledge at the programme.

Sandakan Municipal Council staff committed to fighting graft

Mardinah Jikur

SANDAKAN: Employees of the Sandakan Municipal Council (MPS) expressed their commitment to continue fighting corruption and activities that violate integrity and work ethics.

MPS Deputy President I, Wilson Thomas, said that MPS had also just received the ISO37001:2016 Anti-Bribery Management System (ABMS) accreditation last March.

"A programme like this will also become an annual programme of MPS in an effort to inculcate the spirit and attitude to cultivate the values of integrity and trust in performing daily tasks," he said.

In parallel with this ABMS ISO 37001:2016 certification, the MPS integrity unit has also been established and headed by Irene Johnny.

He added that the role and responsibility of this unit is also large and heavy in realising zero tolerance for corruption in MPS.

He said, ABMS ISO 37001 is an international anti-corruption standard that helps organizations prevent, detect, and deal with corruption by taking steps such as implementing an anti-corruption policy, appointing people to oversee anti-corruption compliance, conducting training, assessing risks, performing financial controls, and establishing reporting procedures and investigation.

"The MPS has a framework available to deal with

any symptoms of corruption that comply with international standards," he added.

However, there is still a lot of room for improvement that needs to be taken continuously and in the early stages of this ABMS certification.

MPS will focus more on providing education and guidance to all staff in order to better understand each other's duties and roles in complying with the set standards.

He said this when officiating the MPS (Law Enforcement) Anti-Corruption Program organised by the MPS Integrity Unit in collaboration with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Sandakan Branch at the Sandakan Community Hall, here, on Tuesday.

Also present, MPS Municipal Secretary, Irman Tajuddin Edy and MPS Director of Finance and Investment, Chin Sook Vun as well as guest speakers, MACC Sandakan Branch Assistant Commissioner, Geoffrey Tawayan and MACC Sandakan Branch Superintendent, Azman Indus.

Wilson said, in line with this ABMS certification, MPS also produced and launched an anti-corruption plan obtained from the discussion of all department heads which would further strengthen MPS's corruption prevention framework.

"However, all of this certainly cannot be achieved without commitment and continuous effort," he added.