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Just whose responsibility is it?

Maggie Le Long was absolutely disgusted at the sight of the piles of rubbish outside the recycle bins near the Museum. Passers by commented and visitors to town were asking how could we be the best small town in New Zealand with this very public display of litter?

The overflowing bins have been in this state of disarray for a number of days. Maggie herself has been in touch with TDC both the Motueka and Nelson offices, as well as the Mayor's office to get some action and on each occasion she was informed that the office in question would look into the matter but they would need to find out whose responsibility it was to empty the bins.

Tuesday evening last week Maggie received a call to say the bins would be emptied lunch time on the Wednesday. The mess at the bins could be a health risk as well as being unsightly and Maggie is upset at being passed from hand to hand with no one wishing to be held responsible for making a decision on how to solve this messy problem.

Another waste management problem is the fact that recycling takes place on a Wednesday



The rubbish that so upset Maggie Le Long last week. Holding the hand of her grandson who was on a visit to Motueka.

each week and businesses have been requested to have their bins out on the street by 8 am. However, the recycling material is generally picked up between 10 am and 2.30 pm.

Customers outside cafes and eateries can hardly be expected to enjoy a 'cuppa' using the outside seating whilst facing a large quantity of recycling on the pavement. Apart from appearances, the recycling obstructs car park users on High Street who are getting out of and into their cars and, at the same time, it narrows the footpaths.

Not a good look for our town and we need to get the recycling off High Street.

Litter in Motueka a big concern

Sir, Last week I had a couple of English tourists staying in my B&B during their third visit to New Zealand and to the Motueka area. They stayed three nights so they had the time to enjoy the circuit of walkways around the estuary and sandspit as well as spending some time in our town centre.

I found out that they had been very disappointed in finding a lot more litter in Motueka compared to when they came here some years ago. In particular they noticed several doggy do bags, regularly used by the dog-owners and filled up with dogs' poo, but unfortunately left somewhere

beside the track or thrown in the nearby edges.

In the town centre itself they noticed a lot of empty containers from McDonald's, Subway and similar, left on the kerbs or squeezed and thrown around.

My partner and I already found similar litter both here and along the coastal walkway in Richmond/Stoke. Both us and the tourists had to agree that New Zealand is unfortunately following the same sad track of the rest of the world instead of keeping high its 'clean, green image'.

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