

Press Release

25 March 2025

## **MTR Launches “Cat/Dog Carrying Trial Scheme” on Light Rail Pilot Implementation During Weekends and Public Holidays Starting from May**

MTR Corporation is committed to providing safe and reliable railway services for passengers, while also paying attention to social changes and making corresponding service adjustments to better meet the diverse travel needs of passengers and foster community development. After careful evaluation and planning, the Corporation announces today (25 March 2025) the launch of a two-month “Cat/Dog Carrying Trial Scheme” on Light Rail, allowing owners to bring their cats and dogs to ride on the Light Rail during weekends and public holidays. The Corporation has partnered with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong), also known as the SPCA, which is providing advice for the scheme and relevant training to MTR frontline staff.

### **Gaining Experience from the Pilot Implementation of Light Rail**

The two-month “Cat/Dog Carrying Trial Scheme” on Light Rail will commence on 1 May 2025. To ensure railway operational safety, hygiene and well-being of travelling cats and dogs while minimising the impact on other passengers, the Corporation has established specific rules for the trial scheme, including:

- Passengers wishing to bring their cats/dogs on the Light Rail must purchase a “Cat/Dog Carrying Pass”. Each pass-holder can only carry one cat/dog per ride, and this pass is valid only on weekends and public holidays; Pets other than cats and dogs are not allowed on Light Rail platforms nor in Light Rail vehicles;
- Before entering the Light Rail platform area, passengers must place their pet cat/dog in a pet-specific carrier or backpack and ensure it is fully closed. Opening the carrier during the journey is prohibited until they leave the Light Rail vehicle and Light Rail platform area. The size of the carrier must comply with the permitted luggage requirements stated in current MTR’s Conditions of Carriage of Luggage;
- Passengers with their pet cat/dog can only board and alight from the last door of Light Rail vehicles (for coupled-set vehicles, either the last door of the first or second car can be used) and must remain at the rear throughout the duration of the journey;
- Passengers must ensure their pet cat/dog remains completely enclosed in the carrier during the journey with no body parts of the cat/dog exposed;
- Passengers are required to pay their fare as usual.

Please refer to the annex for details and the notice for passengers regarding the “Cat/Dog Carrying Trial Scheme”.

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"MTR is a busy railway system, and ensuring safety and smooth service is essential when implementing any new measures. We recognise the growing public demand for facilitating cat/dog travel and hope to contribute to promoting an inclusive community. Therefore, we are conducting a trial on the Light Rail network and have established relevant regulations to balance and cater to the needs of different passengers. We will get prepared for operational support and closely monitor the situation during the trial period," said Ms Cheri Lee, Chief of Operating & Metro Segment of MTR Corporation.

The SPCA supports the launch of the trial scheme and provides travel tips for pet owners, such as preparing a well-ventilated and spacious carrier in which their pet cat/dog can move around inside and make themselves comfortable, familiarising them with the carrier in advance; being aware of the sudden airflow and sound of a passing train; and taking dogs out for a bathroom break before boarding. This will help ensure a more comfortable and relaxing journey for their cat/dog on the Light Rail. Pet owners are advised to add absorbent liner in the carriers and should ensure that the carrier is securely closed while inside Light Rail premises to prevent their cat/dog from escaping.

"The trial on Light Rail marks an important first step toward greater inclusivity in Hong Kong. We are delighted to see our discussion with MTR in the past two years on how they could move forward and facilitate owners in transporting their pet cats and dogs coming to fruition, one step at a time. We look forward to continuing to work closely with MTR on their cat/dog-friendly policies and training their staff to ensure the safety and welfare of cats and dogs. By making this trial a success, we hope the initiative can be expanded further in the near future," said Dr Fiona Woodhouse, Deputy Director (Welfare) of the SPCA.

"For close to two decades, the SPCA has been advocating for increased pet access and has made progress in a wide range of areas, including public open spaces, housing, offices, and transportation. However, the key to a lasting breakthrough lies in responsible pet ownership and the embrace of a pet-friendly city by non-pet owners. Together, we can create a harmonious living environment for all."

### **Mutual Respect and Inclusion for Building a Friendly Travel Environment**

Starting from 11 April, coinciding with the International Pet Day, MTR Mobile members can purchase the Light Rail "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass" (Price: HK\$99) for May through the MTR Mobile app. This monthly pass allows holders to take unlimited rides on Light Rail with one cat/dog per ride during weekends and public holidays in May. Each owner may purchase one "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass" per month and is required to pay their fare as usual. Passengers should display their valid electronic Light Rail "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass" in the MTR Mobile app when requested by MTR staff. Other forms of display, such as screenshots, will not be accepted.

MTR appeals to all passengers to show respect and consideration towards one another. Cat/dog owners should also adhere to relevant rules, be considerate of other passengers, and manage their cat/dog responsibly to foster a harmonious travel environment. In support of the "Cat/Dog Carrying Trial Scheme", the Corporation has invited local creative brand "Chocolate Rain" to design a variety of vibrant and cute posters and promotional materials, which will be disseminated through multiple channels to enhance public understanding of the relevant arrangements.

In addition, as a token of appreciation for the service and care provided to the community by Dr Dogs from the Animals Asia Foundation and their guardians over the years, MTR will sponsor their rides on the Light Rail during the trial period. Starting from 1 April, the public can also donate MTR Points to the SPCA via MTR Mobile to support their efforts in animal welfare.

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#### About MTR Corporation

To Keep Cities Moving, MTR makes encounters happen and rendezvous for a more connected tomorrow. As a recognised world-class operator of sustainable rail transport services, we are a leader in safety, reliability, customer service and efficiency.

MTR has extensive end-to-end railway expertise with over 45 years of railway projects experience from design to planning and construction through to commissioning, maintenance and operations. Going beyond railway delivery and operation, MTR also creates and manages dynamic communities around its network through seamless integration of rail, commercial and property development.

With more than 50,000 dedicated staff\*, MTR carries over 10 million passenger journeys worldwide every weekday in Hong Kong, Mainland China, Australia, the United Kingdom and Sweden. Together, we Go Smart and Go Beyond.

For more information about MTR Corporation, please visit [www.mtr.com.hk](http://www.mtr.com.hk).

\*includes our subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures in Hong Kong and worldwide

#### About The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (HK)

Officially registered in 1921, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) is the region's longest standing and Hong Kong's largest independent animal welfare charity. The organisation's mission is to end animal cruelty, alleviate suffering, and protect the health and welfare of all animals across Hong Kong through actions, advocacy and education. With continuous support from the public, we hope to create a harmonious Hong Kong where all animals are treated with compassion and respect.

Despite limited resources, we continue to launch new initiatives to improve and enhance animal welfare, including managing well-run rehabilitation and rehoming centres throughout the territory where our rescued animals await adoption. We are also active in controlling animal population by operating programmes that allow owned, loosely owned, and stray animals to be de-sexed at an affordable price or even for free. In addition, the SPCA (HK) comprises eight veterinary clinics, and a spay-neuter animal welfare vehicle which are all equipped with surgical facilities to provide care for companion animals throughout Hong Kong, especially in more remote areas. The new SPCA Jockey Club Centennial Centre in Tsing Yi, constructed with funds donated by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, focuses on education and animal welfare which will allow us to diversify and better support existing services.

Photo Captions:

1. MTR Corporation will launch a two-month "Cat/Dog Carrying Trial Scheme" for Light Rail starting from 1 May, allowing owners to travel with their cat/dog on Light Rail during weekends and public holidays.



2. Ms Cheris Lee, Chief of Operating & Metro Segment of MTR Corporation introduces the "Cat/Dog Carrying Trial Scheme" for Light Rail and appeals to all passengers to be considerate towards one another to foster a friendly travel environment.



- Ms Lily Leung, Senior Behavioural Support Technician of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong), a partner in the trial scheme, shares some tips for the owners to ensure a more comfortable and relaxing journey when traveling with their cat/dog on the Light Rail.



- Passengers are required to keep their cat/dog entirely in a designated pet-specific carrier or backpack before entering the Light Rail platform area and ensure it is fully closed. The size of the carrier must comply with the permitted luggage requirements stated in MTR's Conditions of Carriage of Luggage. Passengers with their cat/dog can only board and alight from the last door of Light Rail vehicles.



5. To help passengers familiarise themselves with the "Cat/Dog Carrying Trial Scheme" for Light Rail, the Corporation has prepared a lazy pack to explain how to purchase the Light Rail electronic "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass" and to provide important reminders for bringing cats and dogs on board.

### 5月1日起 周末假日 貓狗搭輕鐵!

**四大注意事項**

**預先購買「貓狗同行證」**

● 有效期為登上顯示之當月  
● 每人每程只可攜帶一隻貓/狗

**周末及公眾假期限定**

**貓/狗須放入寵物袋並關好**

● 記得不可使用任何寵物車啊

**輕鐵  
於每卡尾門上落  
並留在當卡車尾位置**

了解更多活動詳情

受條款及細則約束。  
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### 5月1日起 周末假日 貓狗搭輕鐵!

**如何購買「貓狗同行證」**

**1**

登入MTR Mobile，  
再點選「網上商店」

**2**

點選「貓狗同行證」  
並加入購物車

**3**

選擇付款類型  
及提交訂單後付款

**4**

成功付款後，  
會即時收到確認電郵

謝謝您！您的訂單已經成立！

訂單確認電郵已經發送給您的電子郵箱：  
\*\*\*\*\*@gmail.com

**5**

到MTR Mobile「我的收藏」  
就可以見到  
你的「貓狗同行證」

**注意事項：**  
 • 「貓狗同行證」於4月11日起在MTR e-Store發售。每人最多可購買兩張分別為當月及下個月的「貓狗同行證」。  
 • 「貓狗同行證」僅以電子形式發行，並不發轉讓予其他會員，亦不接受任何更改、退換或退款。  
 • 成功付款後「貓狗同行證」將於30分鐘內發送至MTR Mobile「我的收藏」內。  
 • 「貓狗同行證」並不能代替乘客的有效車票，乘客須如常付費乘車。

(Chinese version only)

## Annex

### **MTR "Cat/Dog Carrying Trial Scheme" for Light Rail**

MTR Corporation will launch a two-month "Cat/Dog Carrying Trial Scheme" on the Light Rail network starting from 1 May 2025, allowing passengers to bring one cat/dog (excluding "large dogs", "fighting dogs" or other "known dangerous dogs" defined under current legislation) on Light Rail after purchasing a "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass".

To ensure railway operational safety, hygiene and well-being of travelling cats and dogs while minimising the impact on other passengers, passengers are required to follow the rules and regulations for the trial scheme.

#### **Purchase of "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass"**

- "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass" will be available for sale starting from 11 April 2025. Passengers can log into their MTR Mobile app to purchase the electronic pass for May (Price: HK\$99).
- Only electronic "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass" is available, no physical version will be provided. It is valid for the calendar month shown on each pass and does not renew automatically.
- "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass" holders can bring one cat/dog for unlimited rides on Saturdays, Sundays, or public holidays within the calendar month in accordance with the terms and conditions.
- Each passenger can only purchase one "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass" for the current calendar month and one for the next calendar month.

#### **Travel and Boarding Guideline**

- Before entering Light Rail platforms, passengers must place their cat/dog completely inside a pet-specific carrier and ensure it is fully closed or covered, with no body parts of the cat/dog exposed.
- Passengers cannot use any pet strollers or carriers with wheels (e.g. shopping carts) to transport any animals to Light Rail premises.

Travel Area	All Light Rail routes (excluding "Tuen Mun Voyager")  With the exception of guide dogs and police dogs, no animals are allowed to enter railway premises or ride on lines not covered by the trial programme.
Boarding and Alighting Locations	Passengers can only board and alight from designated car doors.  Single-set Light Rail vehicles: Last door at the rear of the car; Coupled-set Light Rail vehicles: Last door of the first or second car.
During journey	Passengers and their cat/dog must remain at the rear of the compartment throughout the journey.
Specification of cat/dog carrier	The combined dimensions of the carrier (length, width, and height) must not exceed 170 cm; No single side should exceed 130 cm.

### **Important Notice**

- Passengers should assess the physical and mental condition of their cat/dog before traveling and throughout the journey.
- The "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass" does not replace a valid fare ticket for passengers and is not included in the Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme. Passengers must pay for their fare as usual.
- During the journey, passengers should keep the Light Rail premises clean and hygienic and bring their own cleaning tools to properly handle any waste from their cat/dog.
- MTR staff reserve the right to request Light Rail passengers to present a valid "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass", inspect the specifications of the carrier, or deny entry to those who do not comply with the requirements.
- Passengers should display their valid electronic "Cat/Dog Carrying Pass" in the MTR Mobile app when requested by MTR staff. Screenshots and printed version are not accepted.
- If passengers fail to comply with the requirements listed in the Terms and Conditions, they may be asked to terminate their journey and leave Light Rail premises or may be prosecuted and fined.