

**Update on the Investigation into the
Postponement of the Commissioning of East Rail Line New Signalling System**

The MTR Corporation announced today (10 December 2020) that it has received the Report from the Investigation Panel looking into the postponement of the commissioning of East Rail Line new signalling system. The Report will be submitted in due course to the Government for review, pending further testing of the new signalling system by the Corporation during non-traffic hours.

On 13 September 2020, the Corporation announced the setting up of the Investigation Panel. The Panel is chaired by Ir Edmund Leung, former President of the Hong Kong Institute of Engineers.

The Investigation Panel has been briefed on the initial findings of the technical investigation conducted in parallel by the Corporation. The main tasks of the technical investigation are to confirm the root cause of the issue leading to the postponement, and to identify the technical solution. It is noted by both the Investigation Panel and the technical investigation team that the issue has not affected railway safety. In consultation with the Government departments involved, the Corporation is continuing to test the new signalling system to ensure the effectiveness of the technical solution and smooth train operations.

“The additional tests will be conducted during non-traffic hours. We believe they will ensure the effectiveness of the technical solution to the issue identified in the complex new signalling system. East Rail Line train service will continue to run normally using existing trains under the existing signalling system,” said the spokesperson.

The Corporation has sought the agreement of Ir Leung to wait for the test results before submitting the Investigation Panel report, together with the technical investigation findings, to the Government.

The formal submission of the investigation report is expected to take place in early 2021. The Corporation will inform the public of the submission in due course.

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About MTR Corporation

Every day, MTR connects people and communities. 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 more than 40 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 40,000 dedicated staff*, MTR carries over 13 million passenger journeys worldwide every weekday in Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Australia and the Mainland of China. MTR strives to grow and connect communities for a better future.

For more information about MTR Corporation, please visit www.mtr.com.hk.

*includes our subsidiaries and associates in Hong Kong and worldwide