

PRESS STATEMENT

22 January 2020

**High Speed Rail Service**

The MTR Corporation received notification from the Centre for Health Protection in the late afternoon today (22 January 2020) that a man from Mainland China was suspected to have pneumonia caused by the novel coronavirus. As the man had recently taken a high speed rail train to Hong Kong, after receiving the notification, Hong Kong West Kowloon Station (WEK) immediately enhanced cleaning and disinfection of places in the station where passengers frequently come into contact with every hour by using 1:49 bleach water solution. All public areas of WEK will be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly tonight.

The man concerned took a mainland-operated high speed rail train, G5607, from Shenzhenbei Station and arrived at WEK at 7:54pm last night. He was found to be having fever when passing through the Port Health Office and he claimed he had visited Wuhan. He was subsequently taken to the hospital.

WEK staff followed established procedures drawn up based on the guidelines of the Centre for Health Protection and immediately arranged for the cleaning and disinfection of areas of the station where the passenger had passed through or stayed by using 1:49 bleach water solution. As the high speed rail train concerned had already departed from WEK with passengers before MTR were notified by the Port Health Office, the Corporation immediately informed its mainland counterpart to request staff on board the high speed rail train to clean and disinfect the seat in car No. 2 that had once been occupied by the passenger concerned, as well as the surrounding area.

The Corporation reminds travellers that should they feel unwell, they should seek medical advice as soon as possible. WEK, Lo Wu, Lok Ma Chau, Hung Hom and Airport stations have requested all staff members to wear surgical masks and check their temperature daily before going to work. WEK and the stations have also reminded staff members to maintain good health and personal hygiene, and to report to their senior colleague and see a doctor if they feel unwell.

The MTR Corporation will continue to closely monitor the development of pneumonia cases caused by the novel coronavirus. It will also stay in close contact and collaborate with relevant Government departments on infection preventive and hygiene measures. The Corporation will further step up disinfection measures when necessary.

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