

Media Release

Minister for Transport Instructs POFMA Office to Issue Targeted Correction Direction

Singapore – 28 January 2020: The Minister for Transport has instructed POFMA Office to issue a Targeted Correction Direction¹ to Facebook.

2. A falsehood was made by two Facebook users who alleged that Woodlands MRT station was closed for disinfection because there was a suspect case of the Wuhan Coronavirus. Woodlands MRT was not closed on 28 January 2020; it was fully operational. Facebook is required to carry a Correction Notice on the two Facebook posts which contained the falsehood.

3. For facts of the case, please refer to the Factually article, “Corrections and Clarifications Regarding Falsehood that Woodlands MRT Closed for Disinfection” (www.gov.sg/article/factually-clarifications-on-falsehoods-on-woodlands-mrt-closure).

4. We strongly advise members of the public not to speculate and/or spread unfounded rumours. They should rely on formal Government channels such as the Ministry of Health’s official website (www.moh.gov.sg) and Gov.sg WhatsApp (<http://go.gov.sg/whatsapp>) to get accurate and up-to-date information on the Wuhan Coronavirus situation in Singapore. Any suspected falsehoods can be reported to info@pofmaoffice.gov.sg.

¹ A **Targeted Correction Direction** is a Direction issued to an Internet Intermediary (“II”), whose service was used to communicate a falsehood that affects the public interest. The Direction requires the II to communicate a correction notice by means of its service to all users in Singapore who access the falsehood through its service. This is so that users who see the falsehood on a platform also see the correction notice on that platform.

About the POFMA Office

The POFMA Office, situated within the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA), is responsible for the administration of the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act (POFMA). For more information about POFMA Office, visit www.pofmaoffice.gov.sg.

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