



## PRESS RELEASE

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### TEAM FOR ANIMALS IN LAUNTAU SOUTH (TAILS) IS FULL UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Mui Wo, Hong Kong: On 11 May, TAILS announced it will no longer be able to accept any cats or dogs for foster and adoption until it can rehome at least one-third of the animals currently under its care.

In an [update on the website](#) from TAILS founder, Dr. Esslin Terrighena, she expresses the frustrations of being over capacity and the financial realities of animal welfare with the current situation in Hong Kong. “It is unbelievably hard for us to turn away any animal in need, but right now, we are beyond our limits, and we are full.”

“Now we have over 75 animals in our care, which is far more than we can support financially or practically. In part, we have come to so many animals because it breaks our hearts to turn away animals in need. In part, we have so many animals because people do not respect the boundary we set when we say that we are full, and simply drop off cats and dogs at our doorstep without our agreement.”

Terrighena continues “Most of the animals we take in come with multiple health issues, and together with a recent sharp increase in veterinary fees, we have ever-mounting medical bills we are trying to cover. When you have a budget that barely covers 50 animals, suddenly having 50% more animals to look after than you have allocated creates significant financial distress.”

TAILS has made the decision to concentrate solely on the 75 animals in its care, believing that every animal helped is a life saved, and that a positive impact cannot be sustained if resources are stretched further than possible. As Terrighena explains “We have no shelter premises and are all unpaid volunteers who have other full-time commitments, so perhaps it is possible to imagine the panic and stress created when we merely have nowhere to put the animal. We have a significant lack of fosters now that travel has started again, and fewer suitable adopters than ever before. There is no other way to put it: we cannot find homes.”

Terrighena calls for action by suggesting ways to help, “You can help TAILS and our animals, and all the animals and animal rescues in Hong Kong. Open your home to an animal in need as a foster or adopter. Come on board and volunteer your time and skills. We need more people who can take the initiative and put in the legwork in many different areas, including social media, marketing, events, foster and adoption coordination, transport, logistics and more. Donate toward our medical bills or operational costs. It costs money to run a charity and rescue animals. Veterinary bills and animal care are our biggest expenses.”

For more info on TAILS and how you can help to make a difference visit [www.tailslantau.org](http://www.tailslantau.org).

***TAILS, founded in 2018, is a registered animal welfare charity that depends on the dedication and passion of volunteers, and the kindness and generosity of donors and sponsors to continue to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome animals in need.***

***Charity Reg. 91/16904; Organizational Exemption: ORG-0011***

For media enquiries please contact Ashleigh Tamblin / [info@tailslantau.org](mailto:info@tailslantau.org) / +852 6713 0485