

Member	David Hodgett	Electorate	Croydon
Period	1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024		

Regulation 6 - Expense allowance and electorate allowance	
Total amount paid to member for electorate allowance	\$12,079.83
Total amount paid to member for expense allowance	\$3,340.96

Regulation 7 - Motor vehicle allowance	
Total amount paid to member for motor vehicle allowance	\$0.00
Member did not receive the motor vehicle allowance in the previous quarter and member has elected to receive the motor vehicle allowance for this quarter	No

Regulation 9 - Parliamentary accommodation sitting allowance	
Total amount paid to member for parliamentary accommodation sitting allowance	\$0.00
Suburb in which the member's parliamentary accommodation is located	n/a

Regulation 10 - Travel allowance claims					
Date from	Date until	Reason for travel	Total amount paid	Town or city in which accommodation was located	Value of the accommodation
18-Mar-24	20-Mar-24	Parliamentary Sitings	\$1,182.00	Melbourne	\$1,182.00
29-Apr-24	02-May-24	Parliamentary Sitings	\$1,182.00	Melbourne	\$1,182.00
13-May-24	15-May-24	Parliamentary Sitings	\$788.00	Melbourne	\$788.00
15-May-24	17-May-24	Electorate business meetings and research	\$866.00	Brisbane	\$866.00
21-May-24	22-May-24	Public Hearings for the Environment and Planning Committee's inquiry into securing the Victorian Food Supply.	\$155.00	Ballarat	\$155.00
22-May-24	23-May-24	Public Hearings for the Environment and Planning Committee's inquiry into securing the Victorian Food Supply.	\$269.45	Bendigo	\$269.45
27-May-24	30-May-24	Parliamentary Sitings	\$1,182.00	Melbourne	\$1,182.00
17-Jun-24	20-Jun-24	Parliamentary Sitings	\$1,182.00	Melbourne	\$1,182.00
Total number of nights for travel allowance claims			18		
Total amount paid to member for travel allowance			\$6,806.45		

Regulation 11 - Commercial transport allowance claims					
Date from	Date until	Reason for travel	Total amount paid	Mode of transport	Value of transport
15-May-24	17-May-24	Return Flights to Brisbane for electorate business	\$1,362.23	Flights	\$1,362.23
Total number of nights for commercial transport allowance claims			2		
Total amount paid to member for commercial transport allowance			\$1,362.23		

Regulation 12 - International travel allowance claims			
Date from	Date until	Reason for travel	Total amount paid
30-May-24	07-Jun-24	Return Flights to Taipei, Taiwan to investigate, research and explore political, business and economic issues and opportunities as Electorate business	\$6,108.33
30-May-24	07-Jun-24	Accommodation at the Palais de CHINE Hotel Taipei, Taiwan to investigate, research and explore political, business and economic issues and opportunities as Electorate business.	\$1,655.88
Total number of nights for international travel allowance claims			8
Total amount paid to member for international travel allowance			\$7,764.21

See attached travel report for further details



David Hodgett MP
Member for Croydon
Shadow Special Minister for State
Shadow Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations

Visit to Taiwan

May/June 2024

Overview

Visited Taipei, Taiwan and met with senior representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan) and senior representatives of the Ministry of Transportation and Communication, the Queensland Trade and Investment Commissioner – Taiwan, the Deputy Mayor and senior representatives at Hsinchu City Government, representatives of the Hsinchu Science Park Bureau, The Head of the Taiwan Office of the European Values Center for Security Policy, representatives of the Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation, and business representatives, and discussed technology, healthcare, biotech, energy and green energy, public transport, infrastructure, planning, decentralisation, housing, industry parks, trade and the economy.

Participated in briefings and discussions and held meetings where we exchanged ideas on the health system and preventative healthcare, trade, including minerals and resources, planning and industry parks, green energy and energy supply, public transport and transportation cards, high speed rail, housing, infrastructure projects and tunnels, and funding modes for transport infrastructure. Investigated and considered the application of a range of ideas and approaches for Victoria, across the areas of healthcare, transport, planning and housing.

Visited the National Palace Museum and visited Taipei 101 where I was briefed on the tuned mass damper system, which stabilises the building in extreme weather. Visited Lungshan Temple, Xia-Hai City of God Temple, and Hsinchu Chenghuang Temple and provided information on the religious and cultural importance of these Temples. Visited Hua Shan Park, the Huashan 1914 Creative Park and briefed how Huashan is the competitive stage of creative minds and their measures of success.

Met with Juna Ferrett, Queensland Trade and Investment Commissioner – Taiwan, Trade and Investment Queensland and discussed energy, technology, trade, minerals, and resources, and briefed on business and economic issues and opportunities. Participated in a discussion on the Public Health system in Taiwan, including preventative healthcare in Taiwan. Briefed on the structure and operations of the Queensland Trade and Investment Office.

Met with representatives of the LotRich Information company and provided a briefing of their operations in Taiwan. I learned about the welfare fund in the Taiwan lottery system, and how the fund supports employment services and social welfare programs for those in need.

Met with Deputy Director-General Mr. Hsu, Department of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan) and with Deputy Director-General on Home Assignment Mr. Wang, Department of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan). I was provided with an update of Trade figures and informed about the Economic Cooperation Agreement, a free trade agreement between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China (Taiwan). This agreement aims to reduce tariffs and commercial barriers and improve cross-strait relations. We discussed a range of topics including transport, energy, health, and biotech, and I was briefed on the key issues and opportunities in Taiwan.

Met with Deputy Director Ti-Chi Hu, Department of Public Transportation and Supervision, Ministry of Transportation and Communications and for an extensive briefing and discussion on Taiwan's High Speed Rail, including planning, decentralisation, population and passenger numbers, land use, housing, and industry parks.

Meeting with Assistant Vice President Mr. Chiu, Business Strategy Planning Department, Corporate Planning Division, Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation for a further discussion on Taiwan High Speed Rail. Provided information on station selection and models for generation of economic activity around stations. Discussed costs associated with infrastructure projects and tunnels. Briefed on rolling stock, and the TPass Transportation Card.

Meeting with Chief Secretary Ms. Chen, and Executive Officer Ms. Li, Railway Bureau, Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC). Briefing on the organisation structure and operations of the High Speed Rail (HSR). Exchange of ideas on funding models for transport infrastructure. Discussion on station development and industry parks. Updated on future plans for extension of the HSR lines.

Meeting with Mr. Wu, Senior Specialist, Public Service Section, Public Relations Department, Public Affairs Division, Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation. Guided Tour of the Taiwan High Speed Rail Museum, history, and construction.

Visited Taoyuan Station and discussed the transport network, passenger volumes and management, ticketing and Smart Card, the Mass Rapid Transport System (MRT), and the Airport MRT.

Travelled on Taiwan High Speed Rail (THSR) from Taoyuan to Hsinchu, where we had an expanded discussion on the construction and operations of the THSR. Briefing on the systems technology. Overview of the management by the Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation.

Toured Hsinchu Railway Station and provided a history of the Taiwan Railways Administration, which became a state-owned corporation, Taiwan Railway Administration on 1 January 2024.

Meeting with Deputy Mayor Chiu, Hsinchu City Government, and with Director General of Civil Affairs Ms. Shih, Hsinchu City Government. Formal welcome and discussions on Hsinchu City being Taiwan's science and technology hub. Overview of the City demographics. Discussion on business and economic opportunities; the importance of research institutions; and the training of IT graduates. Further discussions on IT, Science and Technology and opportunities for further communication and cooperation between the two cities.

Meeting with Director Lee, Hsinchu Science Park Bureau, National Science and Technology Council, Investment Division, and meeting with Associate Researcher Mr Huang, Hsinchu Science Park Bureau, National Science and Technology Council, Investment Division. Presentation and briefing on the Hsinchu Science Park, including Industry outlook, Operation and strategy, Business model, and Future prospects. In depth briefing and discussion on the semiconductor industry; Biotech; AI; and Business Incubation at the Science Park.

Met with Marcin Jerzewski, Head of Taiwan Office, European Values Center for Security Policy. Briefing and discussion on the European Values Center for Security Policy activities and the work of the Center. Exchange of ideas on energy and renewable technologies, Transport initiatives, Share services, electric cars and hybrids, and Housing affordability. Discussion on Public Policy Issues and briefed on Disaster Response and Recovery.

Met with Meeting with Dr. Hsiao, Chairman and Senior Advisor to the President of Taiwan, meeting with Dr. Yang, Executive Director, Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation, and meeting with Ms. Hashmi, Postdoctoral Fellow TAEF. Presentation on the Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation work and achievements, followed by a discussion on opportunities to further develop relationships and partnerships.

Visited Dadaocheng District and received information on this historic district. Discussed the areas business mix, commercial importance, the use of night markets and festivals to generate economic activity.

Key Learnings

The visit to the Queensland Trade and Investment Office at the Australia Office in Taipei, Taiwan, and meeting with the Commissioner, provided an opportunity to compare and contrast the structure and operations of this office with Global Victoria Offices. When looking to partner with and support Victorian businesses, who are looking to expand their export capabilities, Global Victoria provides a range of professional and valuable programs and services. We can learn from other states and when considering trade missions, Taiwan could be included as an opportunity for Victorian businesses, who may wish to consider the opportunities to export.

The meeting with representatives from the LotRich Information Company provided the opening to learn about the welfare fund in the Taiwan lottery system.

Background:

The Public Welfare Lottery in Taiwan includes a Welfare Fund that serves specific purposes. Its scope includes employment services for vulnerable groups and social welfare. Specifically, the fund supports employment services and social welfare programs for those in need.

The management of the Welfare Fund in Taiwan's lottery system involves careful oversight and allocation. The key points are:

1. Allocation: The fund is allocated to specific purposes, such as employment services for vulnerable groups and social welfare programs.
2. Monitoring: Government agencies and relevant organizations monitor the fund's usage to ensure it aligns with its intended goals.
3. Transparency: Transparency is crucial. Reports on fund utilization are made public periodically, allowing citizens to track how the money is used.
4. Accountability: The issuing institute responsible for the lottery system ensures that the fund is managed responsibly and efficiently.

The Public Welfare Lottery in Taiwan allocates its funds to support both social welfare and employment services for vulnerable groups. The key points are:

1. Social Welfare: The lottery's net revenues (total sales minus prizes and administration expenses) are used for social welfare expenses, accounting for 50% of the funds.
2. Employment Services: The Feedback Fund generated by the lottery accompanies the selection criteria for the issuing institute. It supports employment services for vulnerable groups and social welfare programs.

This initiative could be adopted to create a fund from the lottery system here, to similarly support employment services and social welfare programs in Victoria. Further research and investigation are required to explore the application of this initiative and the benefits to Victoria.

The various briefings and discussions on Healthcare, and in particular preventative healthcare provided opportunities to further explore and adopt preventative healthcare measures.

Taiwan's healthcare system is renowned for its emphasis on preventative care, making it a model for other countries. Specifically in relation to preventative measures, Taiwan actively promotes preventative care, including regular health check-ups, screenings, and vaccinations. By detecting and addressing health issues early, they improve overall health and wellbeing. An example is employers providing an annual financial amount for employees to have monthly health checkups, and other checkups. Taiwanese people are very health conscious.

A focus on disease prevention and treatment, and interventions that help people lead healthier lives would enhance Victoria's health care system. Further research and analysis here could strengthen our existing public health programs and /or introduce innovative programs, with proven results.

Further study and a better understanding of preventative healthcare can be used to inform more effective policies, practices, programs, and interventions.

The briefings and discussions on the Taiwan High Speed Rail, the MRT Transport system, and the TPass Transportation card, provided an opportunity to examine the application of these ideas and systems and their benefits to Victoria. This briefing and information were timely and significant, given the direction and challenges facing Victoria in these areas.

This warrants further examination, analysis, discussion, and debate.

Furthermore, the dialogue, information, data, and knowledge shared on the costs associated with infrastructure projects and tunnels, was extremely helpful, valued, and important given the debate about infrastructure project priorities in Victoria and their associated costs.

There is an opportunity to learn more about funding models for transport infrastructure, to ensure Victorians are getting value for money, and oversight on major projects to make sure projects are delivered on time and on budget. A reference to a joint parliamentary committee for an inquiry to further explore these areas would be of benefit to the Victorian Parliament.

The meetings, discussions, and briefings on the Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport MRT (Mass Rapid Transit), commonly known as the Airport MRT, were important, useful, and constructive. The learnings and application will be useful in further exploring an airport rail link for Victoria, and the best solution with regards to route, stations, and connections.

The presentation, briefing, and in-depth discussion on the Hsinchu Science Park provided information and opportunities for innovation, research and development, and collaboration. The discussion on incubation and entrepreneurship provided ideas to further explore and examine, to foster and support venture startups and young entrepreneurs.

In addition, the science park industry-academia collaboration model is worthy of further study, to compare with our own industry-academia models, and where we might be able to learn and improve our practices and outcomes.

The meeting and discussion with senior representatives of The Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation (TAEF) provided the opportunity to further develop relationships and partnerships.

The discussion and information on The Taiwan-Asia Young Leaders Engagement, one of TAEF's Flagship Programs, could be further evaluated for use as a young leader's program in Victoria.

I am grateful for the time and insights shared with me by Prof. H.H. Michael Hsiao, Chairman and Senior Advisor to the President of Taiwan, and by Dr. Alan H. Yang, Executive Director, Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation. Their knowledge, experience, and willingness to share ideas was greatly appreciated, and gave me new perspective across a range of issues.

Attachment 1

Overview of the meetings and briefings held during this visit.

Attachment 2

Presentation of the Hsinchu Science Park.

I stayed 6 nights in Taipei at a cost of \$1,655.88 AUD.

I thank The Director General and Deputy Director, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office Melbourne; The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of China (Taiwan); and The Ministry of Transportation and Communication (Taiwan) for their assistance in arranging the itinerary and for their support during my visit. I also want to thank all those who made time to meet with me during my visit.

David Hodgett MP
Member for Croydon
Shadow Special Minister for State
Shadow Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations

12 June 2024

Overview of Meetings

<p>Meeting with Juna Ferrett Queensland Trade and Investment Commissioner – Taiwan Trade and Investment Queensland</p> <p>Queensland Trade and Investment Office at the Australia Office Xinyi District, Taipei 11073, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 31 May 2024</p> <p>Discussed Energy, Technology, Trade, Minerals, strategic industries, and business opportunities</p> <p>Briefing on the structure and operations of the Queensland Trade and Investment Office.</p> <p>Further discussion on the Public Health system and Preventative Healthcare in Taiwan</p>
<p>Meeting with Thomas Yang, General Manager – Taiwan and Representatives of LotRich Information Co. Ltd</p> <p>Jhongshan District, Taipei</p>	<p>Date: 31 May 2024</p> <p>Overview and information about LotRich operations in Taiwan</p> <p>Briefing on the welfare fund in the Taiwan lottery system, and how the fund supports employment services and social welfare programs for those in need</p>
<p>Visit to National Palace Museum</p> <p>Shilin District, Taipei City, Taiwan (R.O.C.)</p>	<p>Date: 01 June 2024</p> <p>Visited the National Palace Museum and learned about the use of multimedia and interactive content tools to actively engage youth to learn about Chinese history</p>

<p>Visit to Lungshan Temple</p> <p>Wanhua District, Taipei</p>	<p>Date: 01 June 2024</p> <p>Visited Lungshan Temple and learned about traditional Chinese architecture. Informed how this well-established Buddhist temple, has become a centre of people's religious life and a heritage of local culture</p>
<p>Visit to Taipei 101</p> <p>Xinyi District, Taipei City, Taiwan (R.O.C.)</p>	<p>Date: 01 June 2024</p> <p>Briefed on the Tuned Mass Damper system, used to protect Taipei 101. The system reduces the sway of the tower, maintaining Taipei 101's stability in extreme weather, such as typhoons and earthquakes</p>
<p>Visit to Hua Shan Park</p> <p>Zhong Zhen District, Taipei</p>	<p>Date: 02 June 2024</p> <p>Visit to Huashan 1914 – Creative Park, an energetic cultural hub that celebrates local and international creative talents through talks, readings, exhibits, and performances</p> <p>Briefed on how Huashan is the competitive stage of creative minds, and their measures of success</p>

<p>Meeting with Deputy Director-General Mr. Hsu, Department of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan)</p> <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2 Ketagalan Blvd, Taipei, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 03 June 2024</p> <p>Briefing on the key issues and opportunities in Taiwan. Discussed technology, healthcare, biotech, green energy, and public transport. Updated on Trade figures and informed about the Economic Cooperation Agreement</p>
<p>Meeting with Deputy Director-General on Home Assignment Mr. Wang, Department of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan)</p> <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2 Ketagalan Blvd, Taipei, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 03 June 2024</p> <p>Briefing and discussion on a range of topics, including transport, energy, health, and business and economic opportunities</p>
<p>Meeting with Deputy Director Ti-Chi Hu, Department of Public Transportation and Supervision, Ministry of Transportation and Communications</p> <p>Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Zhongzheng District, Taipei City</p>	<p>Date: 03 June 2024</p> <p>Extensive briefing and discussion on Taiwan's High Speed Rail, including planning, decentralisation, population and passenger numbers, land use, housing, and industry parks</p>

<p>Meeting with Assistant Vice President Mr. Chiu, Business Strategy Planning Department, Corporate Planning Division, Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation</p> <p>Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Zhongzheng District, Taipei City</p>	<p>Date: 03 June 2024</p> <p>Further discussion on Taiwan High Speed Rail. Provided information on station selection and models for generation of economic activity around stations. Discussed costs associated with infrastructure projects and tunnels. Briefed on rolling stock, and the TPass Transportation Card</p>
<p>Meeting with Chief Secretary Ms. Chen, and Executive Officer Ms. Li, Railway Bureau, MOTC</p> <p>Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Zhongzheng District, Taipei City</p>	<p>Date: 03 June 2024</p> <p>Briefing on the organisation structure and operations of the High Speed Rail (HSR). Exchange of ideas on funding models for transport infrastructure. Discussion on station development and industry parks. Updated on future plans for extension of the HSR lines</p>
<p>Visit to Dadaocheng District</p> <p>Visited Taipei Xia-Hai City God Temple</p>	<p>Date: 03 June 2024</p> <p>Guided walk and information on this historic district with MoFA Case Officer Mr. Liu.</p> <p>Discussed the areas business mix, commercial importance, the use of night markets and festivals to generate economic activity</p>

<p>Meeting with Mr. Wu, Senior Specialist, Public Service Section, Public Relations Department, Public Affairs Division, Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation</p> <p>Zhongli District, Taoyuan City, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 04 June 2024</p> <p>Guided Tour of the Taiwan High Speed Rail Museum, history, and construction</p>
<p>Visit Taoyuan Station</p> <p>Taoyuan District, Taoyuan, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 04 June 2024</p> <p>Discussed the transport network; passenger volumes and management; ticketing and Smart Card; the Mass Rapid Transport System (MRT); and the Airport MRT</p>
<p>Travelled on Taiwan High Speed Rail</p> <p>Taoyuan to Hsinchu</p>	<p>Date: 04 June 2024</p> <p>Expanded discussion on the construction and operations of the THSR. Briefing on the systems technology. Overview of the management by the Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation</p>
<p>Toured Hsinchu Railway Station</p> <p>East District, Hsinchu City, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 04 June 2024</p> <p>Provided a history of the Taiwan Railways Administration, which became a state-owned corporation, Taiwan Railway Administration on 1 January 2024</p>

<p>Meeting with Deputy Mayor Chiu, Hsinchu City Government</p> <p>Hsinchu City Government Offices, Hsinchu City, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 04 June 2024</p> <p>Formal welcome and discussions on Hsinchu City being Taiwan's science and technology hub. Overview of the City demographics. Discussion on business and economic opportunities; the importance of research institutions; and the training of IT graduates</p>
<p>Meeting with Director General of Civil Affairs Ms. Shih, Hsinchu City Government</p> <p>Hsinchu City Government Offices, Hsinchu City, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 04 June 2024</p> <p>Further discussions on IT, Science and Technology and opportunities for further communication and cooperation between the two cities</p>
<p>Visit and tour of Hsinchu Chenghuang Temple</p> <p>North District, Hsinchu, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 04 June 2024</p> <p>Introduction to the Hsinchu Cheng Huang Temple (Hsinchu City God Temple) and Chuchang Zhongyuan City God Festival</p>
<p>Meeting with Director Lee, Hsinchu Science Park Bureau, National Science and Technology Council, Investment Division</p> <p>Hsinchu Science Park Bureau NSTC, Hsinchu, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 04 June 2024</p> <p>Presentation and briefing on the Hsinchu Science Park, including Industry outlook, Operation and strategy, Business model, and Future prospects</p>

<p>Meeting with Associate Researcher Mr Huang, Hsinchu Science Park Bureau, National Science and Technology Council, Investment Division</p> <p>Hsinchu Science Park Bureau NSTC, Hsinchu, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 04 June 2024</p> <p>In depth briefing and discussion on the semiconductor industry; Biotech; AI; and Business Incubation at the Science Park</p>
<p>Meeting with Marcin Jerzewski Head of Taiwan Office European Values Center for Security Policy</p> <p>Office at the Czech Hub in Taiwan Da'an District, Taipei City, Taiwan</p>	<p>Date: 05 June 2024</p> <p>Briefing and discussion on the European Values Center for Security Policy activities and the work of the Center</p> <p>Exchange of ideas on energy and renewable technologies, Transport initiatives, Share services, electric cars and hybrids, and Housing affordability</p> <p>Discussion on Public Policy Issues and briefed on Disaster Response and Recovery</p>
<p>Meeting with Dr. Hsiao Chairman and Senior Advisor to the President of Taiwan</p> <p>Meeting with Dr. Yang Executive Director Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation</p> <p>Meeting with Ms. Hashmi Postdoctoral Fellow TAEF</p>	<p>Date: 05 June 2024</p> <p>Presentation on the Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation work and achievements, followed by a discussion on opportunities to further develop relationships and partnerships</p>

Attachment 2

Presentation of the Hsinchu Science Park.