

**OFFICIAL MINISTERIAL OVERSEAS TRAVEL**

**Outcomes Report**

The provision of the information below is consistent with the *Guidelines for Official Ministerial Overseas Travel*. This report must be sent to the Premier within 40 working days of return, and published on the relevant department website within 60 working days of the Minister’s return. The published version of the report does not need to include the ’next steps / follow up’ section or the signature block*.*

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| **Name of Department / Agency** | Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning | | |
| **Departmental / Agency Contact** | Marlene Mifsud, Director Ministerial Services, DELWP | | |
| **Telephone Number** | 9637 8157 | | |
| **TRAVEL DETAILS** | | | |
| **Minister’s Name** | Hon Lisa Neville MP | | |
| **Portfolio/s** | Minister for Police and Minister for Water | | |
| **Did the Minister’s spouse accompany the Minister in an official capacity?**  **If Yes – please outline the role of the spouse in achieving the outcomes of the visit** | **YES** (official capacity)  **YES** (private capacity) | | **NO** |
| **Accompanying Ministerial staff** | Mr David Griffith, Chief of Staff | | |
| **Countries visited** | People’s Republic of China | | |
| **Date of travel** | 3 – 10 November 2017 | | |
| **Number of official travel days (include day of departure and day of return)** | Eight | | |
| **Funding source (list Department/s or Agency)** | Minister’s Private Office  Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning  Department of Justice and Regulation | | |
| **EXPENSES**  *Include combined expenses for Minister, accompanying staff and spouse (if accompanying in an official capacity)* | |  | |
| **Air fares (including taxes and fees)** | | $15877.48 | |
| **Accommodation (including taxes and fees)** | | $4652.24 | |
| **Other expenses (including surface travel and travel allowances)** | | 2518.09 | |
| **Travel cost for Minister and ministerial staff *(and spouse or de facto partner if applicable)*** | | $23047.81 | |
| **Are the above costs final and complete**?\* | | NO | |

\*correct at the time of publication

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| **Purpose of travel / Importance of China to Victoria**  From 3 – 10 November 2017, I travelled to the People’s Republic of China to visit Hong Kong and the Jiangsu Province.  During my time in Hong Kong I was able to witness law enforcement efforts to address cyber-crime, organised crime, street offending and public order issues, build the relationship between Victoria Police and Hong Kong law enforcement agencies.  In Jiangsu I toured new water projects that are leveraging Victorian experience and industry, and met with key officials to grow the important partnership between Chinese Government officials and Victoria’s innovative water sector. |

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| **Benefits of travel to the State of Victoria**  As a result of the visit, Victoria strengthened its relationship with Hong Long law enforcement agencies. The relationship between the Hong Kong Police, the Australian Federal Police, and Victoria Police is vital to combatting international and organised crime networks. In addition the relationship with Victoria’s sister state, the Jiangsu Province has been further strengthened. For Victoria’s water sector this relationship is already delivering outcomes for Victorian firms leading to further investment and jobs in Victoria. This visit embedded the already strong relationship and explored further opportunities for Victorian investment.  **Hong Kong Special Administrative Region**  *Organised crime and money laundering*  Accompanied by the local AFP liaison officer, and the Deputy Commissioner for Specialist Operations, I toured Macau and visited the Hong Kong Jockey Club to meet with the HKJC CEO and Director of Security and Integrity.  Both visits included briefings from the AFP about the risks of organised crime syndicates using the Macau casinos and the HKJC to launder money from their activities, particularly drug manufacture and exportation. The HKJC briefings from their security team also involved briefings on sensitive sporting integrity matters. This provided opportunity to learn from the HKJC about their approach to excluding persons of interest from all racing activities, including race days, as well as how they target harden against ‘insider vulnerabilities’. There were also confidential discussions with the HKJC in relation to potential infiltrations of criminals into the industry. Given that Victoria Police has the only Sporting Integrity Intelligence Unit (SIIU) in Australia, these meetings have already led to the Manager of their Sporting and Integrity Department communicate with Victoria Police and offer assistance regarding information exchange.  These visits and briefings will also inform any further consideration that the Victorian Government is giving to strengthening Casino and Racing Exclusion Orders, used to ban individuals suspected of being involved in organised crime from attending Victoria’s casino and racing tracks.  *Meeting with the Hong Kong Commissioner of Police*  I met with the Hong Kong Commissioner of Police, Mr Lo Wai-Chung and his executive command to discuss his operational priorities for Hong Kong. These priorities include tackling violent crime, organised crime, family violence, drug related harm, cyber crime, terrorism and public safety. Accompanied by the AFP liaison officer and the Deputy Commissioner, this meeting afforded an opportunity to share Victoria’s experience on these matters and to explore opportunities for collaboration.  One specific outcome from the meeting was for Victoria Police to demonstrate to Hong Kong the efficacy of our drug driving testing regime. The Hong Kong Police Force does not currently have a roadside traffic drug testing capability. As a result of the visit, Victoria Police has since hosted a Chief Inspector from the Hong Kong Traffic Department, who visited Victoria Police for five days from 8/1/18 – 12/1/18. He was shown the workings of our drug testing model, drug and booze buses and the technology sitting behind it. He has since taken the learnings from this back to the Hong Kong Police Force and Victoria Police is currently assisting them in their progression of a capability that they previously did not have.  There was also discussion regarding the use of Body Worn Cameras (BWCs). Given Victoria is going to introduce BWCs across Victoria Police, Hong Kong Police have offered to provide guidelines on how they use BWCs, allowing consideration of their policy and procedures as Victoria consider its own policy implementation. These discussions are ongoing.  *Specialist police operations*  Hong Kong Police provided a specialist operations brief to myself, the AFP Hong Kong liaison officer and the Deputy Commissioner on how they manage their operational activity and deploy police resources. This briefing covered counter-terrorism activities, capability and training and public order responses. It also involved meeting with members of Hong Kong’s Counter Terrorism Response Unit, the equivalent of Victoria’s Specialist Operations Group (SOG).  These discussions provided an insight into Hong Kong specialist policing capability and planning, and provided opportunity for further collaboration and learnings between Victoria and Hong Kong on emerging public safety challenges.  *Cyber crime*  The Hong Kong Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau (CSTCB) briefed myself, the Hong Kong AFP liaison officer and the Deputy Commissioner on cyber security issues, technology enabled crime, computer forensic capability, and cyber crime prevention initiatives. Given the use of technology by transnational and organised crime syndicates is a global law enforcement challenge, the briefing provided an opportunity to share information and explore opportunity for collaboration between Victoria and Hong Kong on cyber crime capability. This is particularly important for international cities like Melbourne and Hong Kong with increasingly digital economies.  Of particular interest was the focus of the CSTCB is their very ‘outward public focus’ on cyber-crime prevention and education. This unique approach is now being considered by Victoria Police in its approach to enforcement and investigations.  *Drug related crime*  Hong Kong Police’s Narcotics Division briefed myself, the Hong Kong AFP liaison officer and the Deputy Commissioner on efforts that Hong Kong police are taking to tackle drug related harm and the organised crime syndicates, including transnational crime syndicates operating across South East Asia and Europe, involved in the global distribution of illicit drugs. Experiences related to identifying and closing down crop houses were shared across both jurisdictions. The continuing challenge in dealing with the significant issue of ‘encryption’ when used by offenders in communications was also discussed. As a result of this meeting ongoing discussions are occurring between Victoria Police and the Hong Kong Police Force. This has further entrenched the strong relationship between Hong Kong and Australian law enforcement agencies on matters of vital importance to both jurisdictions.  *Community policing in high density urban populations*  I had the privilege of being taken on a tour across the Yau Tsim Mong District in Kowloon. Along with the Hong Kong AFP liaison officer and the Deputy Commissioner, I was briefed by district commanders on policing challenges in the district at the Tsim Sha Tsui Police Station, before being taken on foot through various sites across the district to discuss community policing initiatives in the area. It also included a tour of the Chungking Towers to observe security measures and policing methods for a high density and traditionally high crime area of Hong Kong. The tour concluded with a briefing on site of Hong Kong’s cultural and entertainment precinct about Hong Kong Police public safety measures for places of mass gathering.  The tour provided an opportunity to observe Hong Kong Police priorities and methods in action and identify opportunities for further learnings and collaboration between the two jurisdictions. This includes how Victoria Police could enhance its capability to address policing challenges in high density communities, including the: use of mobile and ‘pop-up’ facilities; application of biometric recognition through CCTV in offender identification, coordination of efforts between police and private security to achieve public safety outcomes; development of emergency management responses to high rise living towers; use of community engagement efforts to encourage young people in culturally and linguistically diverse communities to consider joining the police force. Materials on these projects are already being shared between the two police forces.  *Anti-corruption initiatives*  I met with Mr Simon Peh, Commissioner of Hong Kong’s Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) to discuss corruption challenges that Hong Kong has faced. The meeting and covered policy and practice that ICAC has implemented to identify and investigate corrupt activity within Hong Kong’s public and private sectors, including efforts initiated by organised crime syndicates. The meeting followed up on an earlier engagement that Victoria’s Chief Commissioner of Police had with ICAC and further strengthened the profile and relationship of Victoria Police with Hong Kong law enforcement agencies.  **Jiangsu Province**  *Water use and planning*  In Nanjing I met with the Director General and senior officials from the Jiangsu Department of Housing and Urban Rural Development (DHURD), and the Deputy Director and senior officials from the Jiangsu Department of Water Resources (DWR).  The meeting with DHURD provided an opportunity to share learnings about Jiangsu’s Sponge City program. Victoria’s water sector, through Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities (CRCWSC) is assisting and advising the Jiangsu Government on water sensitive urban design including water scarcity, pollution management, urban drainage and aquatic ecosystem protection. An MOU between the Governments of Victoria and Jiangsu regarding the implementation of the Sponge City Program was signed in March 2017. This meeting allowed for reflection on achievements to date but also explored further opportunity for Victorian firms and expertise to contribute to the Sponge City program of works.  The meeting with DWR provided an opportunity to discuss water administration, allocation and planning across the entire province. The Jiangsu province encloses the Yangtze and Huai Rivers and is one of the most critical areas in the Yangtze River Delta. The discussion covered water resource planning , soil and water conservation, catchment management, flood control, drought prevention, water supply, sewage management and irrigation.    *Sponge City project site visits*  In Kunshan I visited a number of sponge city projects underway. This included touring Kunshan’s Culture Plaza constructed wetlands, housing estates designed with water sensitive features, the Forest Park Ecological Wetland, and the Victoria-Jiangsu Innovation Park. All of these projects have involved collaboration with the CRCWSC and Victorian businesses involved in Victoria’s water sector. Kunshan’s Sponge City projects showcase the contribution of Victorian firms specialising in water modelling, landscape architects, environmental engineers and companies with products that treat water quality. In turn the work of the Jiangsu Government in implementing the Sponge City projects provide learnings for Victorian agencies in bringing water sensitive projects to scale. Further opportunity for Victorian firms to contribute to the Jiangsu’s Sponge City program were also explored. |