UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, UNITED KINGDOM AND EUROPE TRADE MISSION

REPORT TO PARLIAMENT

21 September to 3 October 2025

The Honourable Ros Bates MP
Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training

Contents

Official Party

The Honourable Ros Bates MP	**Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training, Queensland Government**
Mr Michael Negerevich	Chief of Staff, Office of the Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training, Queensland Government
Mr Justin McGowan	Chief Executive Officer, Trade and Investment Queensland

Trade and Investment Queensland

Mr Kassem Younes PSM	Queensland Trade and Investment Commissioner – Middle East
Mr Ross Buchanan	Agent-General for Queensland and Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner, Europe
Mr Stefan Augustin	Trade and Investment Director, Frankfurt
Ms Henriette Pook	Director Research Partnerships, Frankfurt

Program

Sunday 21 September 2025 – Brisbane | Dubai	
Depart Brisbane and travel to Dubai, United Arab Emirates	
1.30pm – 2.30pm	**Meeting with Head of Mission to the UAE and Consul-General to Dubai** – Mr Ridwaan Jadwat, Australian Ambassador to UAE – Ms Bryony Hilless, Consul-General and General Manager, Middle East and Africa, DFAT and Austrade Venue: Jumeirah Emirates Towers
5.30pm – 7.30pm	**Meeting with Azizi Developments** – Mr Mirwais Azizi, Chairman and Founder, Azizi Group and Azizi Developments – Mr Farhad Azizi, Group Chief Executive Officer, Azizi Developments Venue: Jumeirah Emirates Towers Hotel

Monday 22 September 2025 – Dubai	
8.45am – 10.00am	**Meeting and site visit with Australian International School Sharjah** – Mr Othman Al Sharif, Vice Chairman of Al Sharif Investment Trading Group and Owner of Australian International School, Sharjah – Mr Steve McLuckie, Executive Principal, Australian International School Sharjah Venue: Australian International School, Sharjah
11.45am – 12.10pm	**Site visit with Dubai Future Foundation initiatives** – Mr Hamad Alawari, Dubai Future Foundation Protocol Team Venue: Emirates Towers
12.15pm – 12.45pm	**Meeting with Dubai Future Foundation** – HE Mr Abdulaziz AlJaziri, Deputy Chief Executive Officer – Mr Mohammed Al Hai, Associate Project Manager Venue: Emirates Towers

Monday 22 September 2025 – Dubai	
2.45pm – 3.30pm	**Meeting with Sobha Realty** – Mr Francis Alfred, Managing Director – Mr Vaibhav Setia, Chief Development Strategy Officer Venue: Sobha Realty Offices
5.00pm – 6.30pm	**Queensland Exporter Roundtable** – Dr Naim Maadad, Chief Executive Officer and Founder Gates Hospitality, Chairman of the Australian Business Council Dubai – Mr John Tuxworth, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, BEC Studio, Board member of the Australian Business Group Abu Dhabi – Queensland exporters and stakeholders Venue: Jumeirah Emirates Towers
6.30pm – 7.15pm	**Meeting and briefing with TIQ UAE** – Justin McGowan, Chief Executive Officer, Trade and Investment QLD – Kassem Younes, Commissioner – Middle East, Trade and Investment QLD – David Hackett, Senior Business Development Manager, Trade and Investment QLD – TIQ UAE team Venue: Jumeirah Emirates Towers

Tuesday 23 September 2025 – Dubai | London	
9.00am – 9.25am	**Meeting with Vice President's Office for Political Affairs** – His Excellency Khalid Al Mannaei, Chief Executive Officer – Dr Salwa Hammami, Strategic Planning Advisor, Studies and Strategic Research – Mr Adriano Konialidis, Director Business Engagement Venue: Jumeirah Emirates Towers
10.00am – 10.45am	**Meeting with Dubai Chamber of Commerce** – HE Yahya Saeed Ahmad Lootah, Vice-Chairman – Mr Khalid Al Jarwan, Vice President - Commercial and Corporate Services – Mr Abdulla Al Gaoud, Director - Digital Operations – Mr Tariq Al Hashimi, Investment Manager - Asia Region

Tuesday 23 September 2025 – Dubai | London	
	Venue: Dubai Chambers headquarters
11.15am – 12.15pm	**Meeting with Dubai Health and Mohammed Bin Rashid University for Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU)** – Dr Amer Ahmed Sharif, President, MBRU and Chief Executive Officer, Dubai Health – Dr Hanan Al Suwaidi, Chief Business Officer, Dubai Health – Ms Isabel Jennings, Senior Advisor – Strategy and Transformation, Dubai Health – Ms Isra Al Bastaki, Administrative Director, Dubai Health – Ms Abiola Senok, Professor of Microbiology, MBRU/Dubai Health – Ms Rasha Sadek, Dubai Health Venue: Dubai Health Offices
Depart Dubai, travel to London	

Wednesday 24 September 2025 – London	
9.15am – 10.00am	**Meeting with Arup** – Mr Richard de Cani, Director and Chief Operating Officer for Global Business and Markets – Ms Penny Hall, Principal Markets and Business – Queensland Leader, ANZ (online) – Ms Katie Randall, Associate Director for City Economics Venue: Queensland House, London
10.00am – 10.45am	**Meeting with TIQ London team and market briefing with Queensland Agent-General** – Mr Ross Buchanan, Agent-General for Queensland and Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner Europe – TIQ London team Venue: Queensland House, London
11.00am – 11.45am	**Meeting with BMD** – Mr Graeme Fenemore, Managing Director, UK – Ms Jessica Middleton, Project Manager, London UK – Mr Taylar Cuthbert, Project Engineer, London UK Venue: Queensland House, London

Wednesday 24 September 2025 – London	
1.30pm – 2.15pm	**Meeting with Quinbrook Infrastructure Partners** – Mr Keith Gains, Managing Director, Regional Leader, Quinbrook, United Kingdom – Ms Liv Miller, Director – Quinbrook Venue: Quinbrook
3.00pm – 5.00pm	**Queensland Trade and Investment Exporter and Friends Reception** – Lord Hugo Swire, Lord at House of Lords; Deputy Chair of Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council – Ms Elisabeth Bowes PSM, Australian Deputy High Commissioner to the UK, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – Clients and stakeholders Venue: Queensland House, London

Thursday 25 September 2025 – London	
10.00am – 12.00pm	**Site visit and meeting with KLM UK Engineering** – Mr Wayne Easlea, Managing Director – Mr Paul Conway, Business Development and Sales Director – Ms Claire Oliff, Head of Technical College Venue: KLM UK International Aviation Academy Norwich
3.15pm – 4.30pm	**Opening of and site visit to ABI Interiors, United Kingdom** – Mr Doug Bewley, General Manager – Ms Megan Fletcher, Operations Manager – Ms Tess Lovell, Head of Marketing – Global – Mr Tony Russell, Warehouse Manager Venue: ABI Interiors Warehouse and Distribution Centre

Friday 26 September 2025 – London	
9.00am – 11.00am	**Meeting and site visit to Pinewood Studios** – Mr David Conway, Chief Executive Officer – Mr Andrew Smith OBE, Corporate Affairs Director – Ms Amanda Halliday, Special Projects Venue: Pinewood Studios

Friday 26 September 2025 – London	
1.30pm – 2.15pm	**Meeting with Octopus Group** – Mr Chris Hulatt, Co-Founder, Octopus Group Venue: Queensland House, London
2.30pm – 3.30pm	**Meeting with System C** – Mr Nick Wilson, Chief Executive Officer Venue: Queensland House, London
3.45pm – 4.45pm	**Debrief on UK mission** – Mr Justin McGowan, Chief Executive Officer, Trade and Investment Queensland – Mr Ross Buchanan, Agent-General for Queensland and Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner Europe

Saturday 27 September 2025 – London	
9:30am – 10:15am	**Meeting with Dr Georgia Richards** – Dr Georgia Richards, King's Prize Fellow, King's College London, Founder and Director, Preventable Deaths Tracker Venue: The Royal Horseguards Hotel

Sunday 28 September 2025 – London | Madrid
Depart London, travel to Madrid

Monday 29 September 2025 – Madrid	
9.00am – 9.30am	**Meeting with Ms Rosemary Morris-Castico, Australian Ambassador to Spain** – Rosemary Morris-Castico, Australian Ambassador to Spain – Mr Peter Kakogiannis, Deputy Head of Mission – Mr Miguel Ríos, Investment Director, Austrade – Mr Manuel Barbera, Senior Business Development Manager, Austrade – Ms Elena Laburu, Investment Director, Austrade Venue: Australian Embassy

Monday 29 September 2025 – Madrid	
10.00am – 10.45am	**Meeting with Acciona Group** – Mr Rafael Esteban, Global Chief Business Development Officer, Acciona – Mr Fernando Fajardo, Chief Operations, Innovation and Technology Officer – Infrastructure, Acciona – Ms Emma Reiners, Director – Global Marketing and Communications, Acciona Venue: Acciona Campus
11.30am – 12.15pm	**Meeting with Gransolar Group** – Mr Carlos Lopez, Chief Operating Officer – Mr Ivan Higueras, Chief Executive Officer – Mr Luis Marquina, Public Affairs Director Venue: Gransolar Group
1.00pm – 2.30pm	**Meeting with EDP Renewables** – Mr Miguel Fonseca, APAC Lead – Mr Pedro Neves Ferreira, Head of Global Energy Management – Ms Rocío Garcia Alvarez, Regulation and Markets Director – Ms Carlota Santiago Dias Da Silva, Chief of Staff to Chief Executive Officer Venue: EDP Renewables
3.15pm – 4.00pm	**Meeting with X-Elio** – Mr Lluís Noguera, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer – Mr Nicholas Pentreath, Deputy Chief Executive Officer – Ms Elina Molina, Chief Business Development Officer Venue: Poeta Joan Maragall 1

Tuesday 30 September 2025 – Madrid | Frankfurt	
9.00am – 9.45am	**Meeting with Grupo Cobra** – Mr José Antonio Fernández García Director General, (Managing Director), Cobra Energía y Plantas Industriales – Mr Miguel Ángel Fernández López-Guevara, Asset Management Director, Zero-E Cobra Energy Venue: Grupo Cobra

Tuesday 30 September 2025 – Madrid | Frankfurt	
10.30am – 11.15am	**Meeting with EPSA** – Mr José Llorens, President – Ms Mercedes Llorens, Director Venue: EPSA Office
12.00pm – 2.30pm	**Meeting and site visit with Iberdrola Group** – Ms Rosemary Morris-Castico, Australian Ambassador to Spain – Mr José Oriol Hoyos, Chairman, Iberdrola Renovables Internacional S.A.U. – Mr Carlos Lozano, Iberdrola Campus Manager – Ms Celia Roldán Santías, Public Affairs Chairman's Office – Mr Guillermo de Echevarria, Public Affairs Chairman's Office Venue: Campus Iberdrola
Depart Madrid, travel to Frankfurt, Germany	

Wednesday 1 October 2025 – Frankfurt	
9.15am – 9.45am	**Meeting with Ms Natasha Smith, Australian Ambassador to Germany (online)** – Ms Natasha Smith, Australian Ambassador to Germany Venue: Frankfurt TIQ office
9.45am – 10.00am	**Meeting and market briefing with TIQ Germany team** – Mr Stefan Augustin, Investment Director – Ms Henriette Pook, Director Research Partnerships Venue: Frankfurt TIQ office
10.00am – 10.45am	**Meeting with Fraunhofer ICT and UQ** – Dr Jens Noack, Project leader – Ms Claire Green, Associate Director, Global Strategy and Partnerships (UQ) – Natalie Percsy, HQ Liaison Officer for Australia and New Zealand, Fraunhofer Venue: Frankfurt TIQ office

Wednesday 1 October 2025 – Frankfurt	
11.00am – 11.45am	**Meeting with RWE Renewables Europe and Australia** – Ms Katja Wünschel, Chief Executive Officer – Mr Fredrik Andren Sandberg, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs for Europe and APAC Venue: Frankfurt TIQ office
12.00pm – 1.30pm	**Meeting with Deutsche Bank AG** – Mr David Lynne, Global Head Corporate Bank – Mr Michael Volkermann, Managing Director Venue: Deutsche Bank AG
1.45pm – 2.45pm	**Meeting with KfW IPEX-Bank** – Ms Belgin Rudack, Chief Executive Officer – Mr Alexander Schober, Department Head Infrastructure – Mr Thomas Alberghina, Team Head, Infrastructure – Mr Michael Waitz, Director, Origination and Structuring Resources and Recycling Co-Head Metals and Mining Venue: KfW IPEX Bank
3.15pm – 4.00pm	**Meeting with Merck KGaA** – Mr Matthias Simnacher, Director, Merck Digital – Mr Philipp Harbach, Global Head of Group Digital Innovation, Merck Venue: Frankfurt TIQ office
4.15pm – 4.55pm	**Meeting with Justus Liebig University Giessen** – Prof Dr Katharina Lorenz, President – Ms Julia Volz, Head of International Affairs Venue: Frankfurt TIQ office
5.05pm – 5.45pm	**Meeting with TeleMedC** – Mr Para Segaram, Chief Executive Officer – Ms Anna Brandt, Director of Business Development and Marketing, Germany – Mr Dominik Schindler, Product Manager, Germany Venue: Frankfurt TIQ office
Depart Frankfurt, Travel to Brisbane via Dubai	

Friday 3 October 2025 – Brisbane
Arrive Brisbane

Meeting with Head of Mission to the UAE and Consul-General to Dubai

Date: Sunday, 21 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Ridwaan Jadwat, Australian Ambassador to the UAE
- Ms Bryony Hilless, Consul-General and General Manager, Middle East and Africa, DFAT and Austrade

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with the Australian Ambassador to the UAE and the Consul-General and General Manager, Middle East and Africa of DFAT and Austrade who provided a briefing on the current priorities of the region and outlined key sectors with the potential to support Queensland and grow the relationship between Australia and the UAE further.

The Minister promoted Queensland as a premier trade and investment destination with opportunities for the UAE across many different sectors such as sports, food and agriculture, education and research collaboration, AI and robotics infrastructure and health, and encouraged the Ambassador and Consul-General to keep Queensland at the forefront of their minds when promoting trade and investment opportunities in the region.

The Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) was discussed, noting the new opportunities it brings to deepen trade and investment engagement with the UAE and the wider region.

With the CEPA now in effect, TIQ will continue to work with their Austrade and DFAT colleagues with a focus on the benefits the CEPA delivers, to facilitate greater opportunities for Queensland and UAE businesses.

Meeting with Azizi Developments

Date: Sunday, 21 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Mirwais Azizi, Chairman and Founder, Azizi Group and Azizi Developments
- Mr Farhad Azizi, Group CEO, Azizi Developments

Meeting Summary

Founded in 2007 in Dubai by Mr Mirwais Azizi, Azizi Developments is a leading Dubai-based real estate developer of luxury residential and commercial real estate.

At the meeting with the Minister, the Chairman of Azizi Developments reaffirmed their interest in future development in Brisbane and outlined their current project plan and investment concept design with the intention to be well-connected and integrated into the wider Brisbane cityscape.

Mr Azizi confirmed that this project is a one-of-a-kind initiative in the Southern Hemisphere, designed to elevate the Brisbane brand on the global stage with the potential for further investment development opportunities particularly in low-rise, mixed-use developments.

The Minister encouraged Azizi to continue with their application process and discussed other areas of mutual interest for future engagement, such as healthcare.

TIQ will continue to engage with Azizi Developments and the relevant government departments to provide support for this development.

Meeting and site visit with Australian International School Sharjah

Date: Monday, 22 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Othman Al Sharif, Vice Chairman of Al Sharif Investment Trading Group and Owner of Australian International School, Sharjah
- Mr Steve McLuckie, Executive Principal, Australian International School Sharjah

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with the Australian International School Sharjah's (AISS) owner and Executive Principal and participated in a site visit of the Early Childhood Centre, Primary School, and Secondary School.

The Minister congratulated AISS on their successes achieved at the school and confirmed that international education, training and research collaboration is a priority for the Queensland Government.

The Australian International School in Sharjah has 250 staff and 1800 students. During the visit, the Minister engaged with students and observed several classes in action, gaining firsthand insight into the school's learning environment.

The Executive Principal of the school commended the strong partnership with the Department of Education International (DEi), which has enabled the successful delivery of the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) to offshore students in Years 11 and 12.

To continue and further develop this partnership TIQ will work closely with Education Queensland International.

Site visit with Dubai Future Foundation initiatives

Date: Monday, 22 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Hamad Alawari, Dubai Future Foundation Protocol Team

Meeting Summary

During the visit to Dubai Future Labs (DFL), the Minister reviewed Dubai's cutting-edge initiatives in artificial intelligence and robotics, gaining insights into the region's dynamic research and development ecosystem.

DFL is a research hub advancing robotics and AI through the development of autonomous systems that address key economic and global challenges with commercially viable solutions.

The visit also served as a platform to explore potential synergies with Queensland's Advanced AI and Robotics ecosystem.

As a key outcome of the discussions, Queensland startup and scaleup companies can have access to Dubai Future Foundation's Labs Program, opening doors for collaboration, innovation exchange, and market expansion.

Meeting with Dubai Future Foundation

Date: Monday, 22 September 2025

Attendees

- HE Mr Abdulaziz AlJaziri, Deputy CEO, Dubai Future Foundation
- Mr Mohammed Al Hai, Associate Project Manager, Dubai Future Foundation

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with the Dubai Future Foundation Deputy CEO who provided an overview of the Foundation, established a decade ago to shape Dubai's future policy and strategy.

The Dubai Future Foundation aims to build a cohesive innovation ecosystem that includes, accelerator programs, incubators, labs, regulatory sandboxes, and knowledge platforms to advance Dubai's role as a future-ready city.

Its mission is to position Dubai among the world's leading cities in embracing industry disruption and investing in emerging technologies.

Key focus areas include:

- Integrating advanced technologies into existing industries
- Diversifying the economy through innovation
- Promoting R&D in artificial intelligence and robotics
- Advancing digital health and medtech within the healthcare sector

During the meeting, Dubai Future Foundation (DFF) expressed a strong interest in exploring collaboration opportunities with Queensland's advanced technology ecosystem—particularly in AI, quantum computing, and leveraging the capabilities of world-class universities and research institutions.

The Minister invited DFF to visit Queensland to have discussions with our universities, research centres and companies, and to see firsthand the AI robotic advancements being made here.

Meeting with Sobha Realty

Date: Monday, 22 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Francis Alfred, Managing Director, Sobha Realty
- Mr Vaibhav Setia, Chief Development Strategy Officer, Sobha Realty

Meeting Summary

Sobha is one of the UAE's largest real estate developers, headquartered in Dubai, with fully integrated premium developments such as Sobha Hartland and Sobha One.

During discussions with Sobha Group, the Minister encouraged Sobha to consider establishing its regional headquarters in Brisbane. As part of the Queensland Advance program, the Minister discussed the distinct advantages Brisbane and Queensland has to offer both now and in the future.

The Minister also reaffirmed that TIQ and Economic Development Queensland (EDQ) will continue to support Sobha's investment journey in the state, including in additional housing for Queenslanders, and into the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Queensland remains open to public-private partnerships across key sectors including urban development, healthcare, and infrastructure, particularly in the lead-up to the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The 2032 Delivery Plan ensures a clear roadmap for infrastructure, transport connectivity and tourism for the Games and beyond.

Sobha expressed their interest in exploring investment opportunities across Queensland, namely Brisbane, the Gold Coast, and the Sunshine Coast. TIQ will continue to support the progress of their plans and will coordinate with EDQ as part of this investment.

Queensland Exporter Roundtable

Date: Monday, 22 September 2025

Attendees

- Dr Naim Maadad, Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Gates Hospitality, Chairman of the Australian Business Council Dubai
- Mr John Tuxworth, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, BEC Studio, Board member of the Australian Business Group Abu Dhabi
- Mr Steve McLukie, Executive Principal, Australian International School Sharjah
- Mr Pasquale Paone, Sales Manager (MENA), Frosty Boy Australia
- Mr Mike Drummond, Development Manager – Middle East, Vald Performance
- Mr Basil Macklai, Managing Director EMEA, GRABBA
- Mr Rizwan Taj, Airways Aviation Licensee Manager, Airways Aviation
- Ms Alison Atia, Chief Executive Officer, Skin O2
- Ms Amanda Hodges, Trade and Market Access Manager (MENA), Meat & Livestock Australia

Meeting Summary

Minister Bates met with representatives from 10 Queensland companies to gain first-hand insights into their operations across the UAE and the broader Middle East.

The companies shared their experiences, market prospects, and the challenges they face in expanding their footprint in the region. One topic discussed was the attraction of global talent to support innovation and growth.

The Minister welcomed the delegation, acknowledged their contributions, and reaffirmed that TIQ will continue to support Queensland companies in-market.

The Minister noted that she is keen to hear the benefits and opportunities the Australia–UAE CEPA can bring to Queensland.

Many attendees expressed their appreciation for the support provided by TIQ team on the ground and highlighted that their strategic introductions have facilitated practical solutions and partnerships. This will continue, to assist Queensland businesses to take advantage of the increased opportunities available now that CEPA has come into force.


Queensland Exporter
Roundtable
TIQ


QUEENSLAND
of OPPORTUNITY
TIQ

Meet and greet TIQ UAE team

Date: Monday, 22 September 2025

<u>Attendees</u>

- Mr Justin McGowan, Chief Executive Officer, Trade and Investment Queensland
- Mr Kassem Younes, Commissioner – Middle East, Trade and Investment Queensland
- Mr David Hackett, Senior Business Development Manager, Trade and Investment Queensland
- Ms Emma Page, Senior Business Development Manager, Trade and Investment Queensland
- Ms Amber Abrahams, Office and Marketing Manager, Trade and Investment Queensland

<u>Meeting Summary</u>

Minister Bates met with the UAE TIQ staff and acknowledged their roles, commitment and contributions to Queensland's trade and investment outcomes in the market.

The TIQ UAE office was established in 2009, fostering commercial relations between Queensland and the Middle East region with a strong focus on the UAE and Saudi Arabia trade and investment opportunities.

Minister Bates presented a certificate to David Hackett in recognition of his dedicated service as a valued member of the Trade and Investment Queensland team for over five years.


TIQ
TRADE +
INVESTMENT
QUEENSLAND
RECOGNITION OF SERVICE
5+ YEARS
TIQ.QLD.GOV.AU

Meeting with the Vice President’s Office for Political Affairs

Date: Tuesday, 23 September 2025

Attendees

- HE Khalid Al Mannaei, Chief Executive Officer
- Dr Salwa Hammami, Strategic Planning Advisor, Studies and Strategic Research
- Mr Adriano Konialidis, Director Business Engagement

Meeting Summary

The Minister praised the strong and enduring relationship between Queensland and the UAE, congratulating both sides on the 50th anniversary of diplomatic ties and reiterated that Queensland’s longstanding presence in the UAE reflects the depth and strength of this partnership.

Discussions included how to leverage global and regional exhibitions and major events that take place in Dubai, to deepen commercial engagement and explore both trade and investment prospects. The Vice President’s Office for Political Affairs expressed strong support for further bilateral missions aimed at exploring opportunities for Queensland companies in the UAE.

The Australia–UAE CEPA was discussed as a significant milestone in the Queensland–UAE bilateral relationship, allowing further expansion of trade and investment collaboration between Queensland and the UAE.

The Brisbane City Council-led Asia Pacific Cities Summit (APCS) 2025 was also discussed as an opportunity for future engagement. TIQ will continue to engage on details of this event and will continue to advise on other opportunities for collaboration and partnerships, and provide requisite support.

Meeting with Dubai Chambers

Date: Tuesday, 23 September 2025

Attendees

- HE Yahya Saeed Ahmad Lootah, Vice-Chairman - Dubai Chamber of Commerce
- Mr Khalid Al Jarwan, Vice President – Commercial and Corporate Services, Dubai Chambers
- Mr Abdulla Al Gaoud, Director – Digital Operations, Dubai Chambers
- Mr Tariq Al Hashimi, Investment Manager – Asia Region, Dubai Chambers

Meeting Summary

The Dubai Chamber of Commerce supports business growth by providing services, advocating for businesses and fostering international partnerships to strengthen Dubai's economy.

During the meeting, the Minister shared the key priorities of the Queensland Government and encouraged the Dubai Chamber of Commerce to consider a visit to Queensland in the near future to further explore bilateral trade and the diverse range of investment opportunities available.

The Brisbane City Council-led mission to the Asia Pacific Cities Summit (APCS) 2025 and future opportunities for engagement were discussed.

The Dubai Chambers noted the growing presence of Australian companies in Dubai, as an encouraging sign of growth and development between the two regions. Further discussions included Queensland's potential rapid growth in the lead up to and beyond the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and offering strong opportunities for Dubai in many sectors including infrastructure, tech innovation and sustainable energy.

TIQ will facilitate follow-up meetings with the Dubai Chamber of Commerce to continue discussions on mutual trade and investment opportunities and a visit to Queensland.


غرف دبي
DUBAI CHAMBERS

Meeting with Dubai Health and Mohammed Bin Rashid University (MBRU) for Medicine and Health Sciences

Date: Tuesday, 23 September 2025

Attendees

- Dr Amer Ahmed Sharif, President, MBRU and Chief Executive Officer, Dubai Health
- Dr Hanan Al Suwaidi, Chief Business Officer, Dubai Health
- Ms Isabel Jennings, Senior Advisor – Strategy and Transformation, Dubai Health
- Ms Isra Al Bastaki, Administrative Director, Dubai Health
- Ms Rasha Sadek, Dubai Health
- Dr Abiola Senok, Professor of Microbiology, MBRU/Dubai Health

Meeting Summary

Dubai Health encompasses six hospitals, 26 ambulatory care centres, 21 medical fitness centres, Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU), and the Al Jalila Foundation. With a workforce of 11,000 professionals, the system operates through multidisciplinary collaboration, placing patients at the centre of care while advancing learning, discovery, and philanthropy.

MBRU, established in 2014, is a leading academic institution and specialised medical university offering accredited undergraduate and postgraduate programs through its three colleges. MBRU is a core entity within Dubai Health, with an integrated academic health system created to enhance the quality of care through a unified approach to education, research, and clinical practice.

At this meeting with the Minister, Dubai Health outlined the newly restructured framework of the Dubai Health Authority and Dubai Health, highlighting its transformation into an academic health sector. They encouraged Queensland universities to consider establishing campuses in Dubai and to engage in discussions around mutual research collaboration.

Key areas of mutual interest for collaboration include biosciences, biotechnology, alternative medicine, and sports medicine.

Further opportunities for collaboration between Queensland and Dubai were discussed, including student exchange programs, nursing education pathways, joint research initiatives, and cooperation in community and health services. The Minister noted that this could be achieved through deeper university-to-university dialogue between institutions to foster academic and research partnerships, and a potential visit to explore and advance these opportunities. Through TIQ, the Government will facilitate those connections.

Areas for partnership include scope of practice development, establishing centres of excellence, and sharing policy frameworks. TIQ will arrange a meeting between Dubai Health and relevant universities to discuss areas of collaboration.

دبي الصحية
DUBAI HEALTH
WELCOME أهلاً وسهلاً
Honourable Ros Bates MP
Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training

Meeting with Arup

Date: Wednesday, 24 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Richard de Cani, Director and Chief Operating Officer for Global Business and Markets
- Ms Penny Hall, Principal Markets and Business – Queensland Leader, ANZ (online)
- Ms Katie Randall, Associate Director for City Economics

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with Arup who have been appointed as the principal contractor for the Victoria Park Precinct (VPP) Master Plan as part of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The project includes planning for the Brisbane Stadium, National Aquatic Centre, and Brisbane Athlete Village.

The Master Plan for the development of Victoria Park Precinct includes the Brisbane Showgrounds and the National Aquatic Centre. The Precinct Plan has world-class and iconic public and green spaces, for local and international visitors to enjoy as a hub for recreation, events, entertainment.

During the 2032 Games, the precinct and stadium will host the opening and closing ceremonies within walking distance of the Brisbane Athletes Village, accommodating more than 10,000 athletes and officials during the Olympic Games and over 5,000 during the Paralympic Games.

Arup has delivered strategic master planning, design, engineering, and infrastructure for multiple Olympic Games, including London 2012. Arup is a British multinational professional services firm headquartered in London, providing master planning, design, engineering, architecture, and advisory services across all aspects of the built environment. The firm employs over 17,000 people across more than 90 offices in 35 countries.

During the meeting, the Minister raised the importance of providing the required accommodation for athletes, guests and Queenslanders ahead of the Games, and noted the willingness to work with Arup to facilitate this infrastructure. Through her Employment and Training portfolios, the Minister also noted the need to secure the skilled workers required to deliver the Master Plan and the Games more broadly and undertook to work with Arup to support the delivery of those workers.

TIQ will continue to liaise with Arup to discuss potential collaborations with Queensland companies that may be able to participate as part of the supply chain for projects leading up to the Games.

Meeting with TIQ London team and market briefing with Queensland Agent-General

Date: Wednesday, 24 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Ross Buchanan, Agent-General for Queensland and Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner Europe
- Mr Warren Bartlett, Deputy Commissioner, UK
- TIQ London team

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with staff from TIQ's UK team and acknowledged their dedication and achievements as well as their contribution to TIQ's trade and investment outcomes. A certificate was presented by the Minister to the UK's Deputy Commissioner to recognise his commitment and work for over ten years of service.

The Minister received a market briefing from the Agent-General on TIQ's focus of activities in Europe, including their priorities as part of the *Queensland–Europe & UK Trade and Investment Strategy 2025–2028*. The Minister also received a briefing on the mission's planned meetings and activities.

The Office of the Queensland Agent-General was established in 1861, focused on promoting immigration from the UK to Queensland to support population growth and economic development. Over time, responsibilities of the office have expanded to now strongly focus on fostering commercial relations and business projects between Queensland and Europe, supporting exports of Queensland products, and attracting productive foreign investment into Queensland.


TIQ
TRADE + INVESTMENT QUEENSLAND
10+ YEARS

Meeting with BMD

Date: Wednesday, 24 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Graeme Fenemore, Managing Director, UK
- Ms Jessica Middleton, Project Manager, London UK
- Mr Taylar Cuthbert, Project Engineer, London UK

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with BMD, who provided an overview of their company's plans for the UK and Europe.

BMD is an integrated engineering, construction and urban development business headquartered in Brisbane, with international offices in the Philippines and the UK. They own several subsidiary businesses including BMD Constructions, BMD Urban, BMD Empower, JMac, Urbex, and Niepe.

The Minister reinforced that infrastructure is one of the five strategic priorities identified in the *Queensland–Europe & UK Trade and Investment Strategy 2025–2028*.

BMD provided insights into opportunities for partnerships with UK firms in relation to the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, as well as other projects. In 2024, BMD was awarded a contract by the Queensland Government to deliver first phase early works for the 2032 Olympic Games Athlete Village and the Northshore Brisbane Street Renewal Program.

BMD entered the UK market in 2023 and since then have been awarded significant projects in the UK, some supported by the Australia-UK Free Trade Agreement (A-UK FTA). Utilising the A-UK FTA, BMD outlined their facilitation of staff mobility, supporting temporary UK placements to develop internal talent, which enables the opportunity to gain unique experience and elevate their delivery of service when returning to Queensland.

TIQ will continue to work with BMD, providing strategic introductions and guidance to support ongoing growth in the region, and delivery of the 2032 Olympics.

Meeting with Quinbrook Infrastructure Partners

Date: Wednesday, 24 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Keith Gains, Managing Director/Regional Leader, Quinbrook
- Ms Liv Miller, Director, Quinbrook

Meeting Summary

Quinbrook Infrastructure Partners discussed with the Minister the significance and value of Quinbrook's investments in new energy infrastructure in Queensland.

Quinbrook provided an update on their renewable energy projects and future expansion plans.

During the meeting, the Minister reaffirmed the Queensland Government's commitment to new energy investments and infrastructure to ensure Queensland has access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy, something that the previous government struggled with.

The Minister noted that the Queensland Government's Energy Roadmap would be released imminently, which would provide certainty for investors and partners.

Founded in 2015, Quinbrook Infrastructure Partners is an investment fund and developer with solar, storage and data centre projects in the UK, US and Australia. They have head offices located in Brisbane and London.

TIQ will continue to support Quinbrook with its existing investments in Queensland's energy sector and promote further investment in new project opportunities, particularly following the release of the Energy Roadmap.

Queensland Trade and Investment Exporter and Friends Reception

Date: Wednesday, 24 September 2025

Attendees

Title	First name	Last name	Position	Organisation
Ms	Anna	van Harwegen den Breems	Chief of Staff to the Chief Executive Officer	Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council
Lord	Hugo	Swire	Lord and Deputy Chair	House of Lords; and Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council
Ms	Elisabeth	Bowes PSM	Deputy High Commissioner for Australia to the United Kingdom	DFAT – London
Mr	David	Camerlengo	Economic Counsellor – Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner	Austrade – London
Mr	Shane	Teunissen	Head of UK & Europe Institutional Distribution	Queensland Investment Corporation
Mr	Peter	Williams	Partner	Aria Commodities
Ms	Eizabeth	Dinh	Founder and Partner	Malka APAC
Mr	Nick	Wilson	Chief Executive Officer	System C
Mr	Pavvi	Singh	Regional Sales Director – EMEA	EventsAir
Mr	Thomas	Key	Director of Environmental Markets	Earthtrade
Mr	Paul	Foster	Founder	OnePlan
Ms	Lauren	Mercer	Sales Executive – UK and EU	JBS Australia
Ms	Elisabeth	Lewis-Jones	Chief Executive Officer	Liquid PR
Mr	Damian	Walsh	Chair	Britain Australia Society
Mr	Richard	Basil-Jones	Chief Executive Officer	Australia – UK Chamber of Commerce
Dr	Georgia	Richards	King’s Prize Research Fellow; and Founder	King's College London; and Preventable Deaths Tracker
Ms	Emma	Boughen	Business Development Manager	Meat and Livestock Australia

Mr	Joshua	Philpot	Director of Strategic Projects	2CL Communications Ltd
Mr	Wayne	Rodgers	Executive General Manager	PWR
Ms	Hayley	Thompson	Sales and Marketing Manager – UK	Nuvho
Mr	Alexander	Jeffs	Head of Business Development	Nightlife Music
Mr	Doug	Bewley	General Manager – UK	ABI Interiors
Mr	Matthew	Blair	Principal	BVN Architecture
Mr	Russell	McCartney	Investment Delivery Manager	Office for Investment (UK Government)
Mr	Ed	Carden	Senior Desk Officer for Australia and New Zealand	Ministry of Defence (UK Government)
Mr	Paul	Kelly	Chair; and Global Head of Next Generation	UQ Alumni Network; and HSBC Private Bank
Mr	Michael	Tomlinson	UK Market Director	Diviners Distillery
Ms	Alison	Watson MBE	Founder and MBE	Class of Your Own
Ms	Katie	Randall	Associate Director for City Economics	Arup
Mr	Andy	Newcombe	Founder	NEAT Collective
Ms	Rachel	Anderson	Global Head of Corporate Communications and Government Affairs	RES Group

Meeting Summary

The Queensland Exporter and Friends Reception provided an occasion for Queensland delegates to network with local business partners and stakeholders and to discuss their experiences and future trade and investment opportunities.

At the Reception the Minister acknowledged that Queensland is now open for business, open for learning, and that the new Queensland Government is committed to delivering stability, certainty and enabling growth, to creates jobs and facilitate investment opportunities.

The Minister highlighted the Government's recently launched *Queensland–Europe & UK Trade and Investment Strategy 2025–2028* as a pathway for continued focus and support for business and investment, to complement mutual strengths over the next three years. It promotes partnerships in many sectors including defence, digital and enabling technologies, infrastructure, research and innovation, and energy and resources.

The Minister acknowledged the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, along with opportunities for collaboration to grow and seek Olympic learnings from the London experience in 2012.

The Minister also promoted Queensland’s first ever global business brand, recently launched by the Queensland Premier and herself, emphasising the *QueensLand of Opportunity* banner which is available to promote the many benefits of Queensland.

TIQ’s Europe office is a strategic trading hub enabling Queensland businesses to foster commercial partnerships and gain access to European and broader global markets. TIQ Europe regularly host clients at Queensland House and clients can also independently access these facilities to support their trade and investment promotion activities in Europe.

TIQ will continue to work with attendees at the reception and more broadly to promote opportunities for partnerships and collaboration across many sectors to advance trade and investment projects.

Site visit and meeting with KLM UK Engineering

Date: Thursday, 25 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Wayne Easlea, Managing Director
- Mr Paul Conway, Business Development and Sales Director
- Ms Claire Oliff, Head of Technical College

Meeting Summary

The Minister travelled to Norwich to meet with KLM UK Engineering and participate in a site visit of their extensive operations, facilities, and aviation academy.

During the visit, KLM UK Engineering provided an overview of their current and upcoming investment projects and outlined the next steps in these proposals.

KLM UK Engineering is a subsidiary of Air France Industries–KLM Engineering and Maintenance, which oversees more than 30 repair facilities, service centres and sales offices around the world. Air France Industries–KLM Engineering and Maintenance is one of three portfolio businesses under the Air France–KLM Group.

Noting the Minister's Employment and Training portfolio responsibilities, KLM UK Engineering also provided a briefing on their International Aviation Academy in Norwich, which provides a three-year MRO apprentice program.

TIQ, as well as Queensland Treasury, will continue to assist KLM UK Engineering with their proposed expansion project and potential investment in Queensland, including supporting coordination with the relevant councils and Queensland Government departments.

Opening of and site visit to ABI Interiors UK

Date: Thursday, 25 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Doug Bewley, General Manager
- Ms Megan Fletcher, Operations Manager
- Ms Tess Lovell, Head of Marketing – Global
- Mr Tony Russell, Warehouse Manager
- ABI Interiors staff team

Meeting Summary

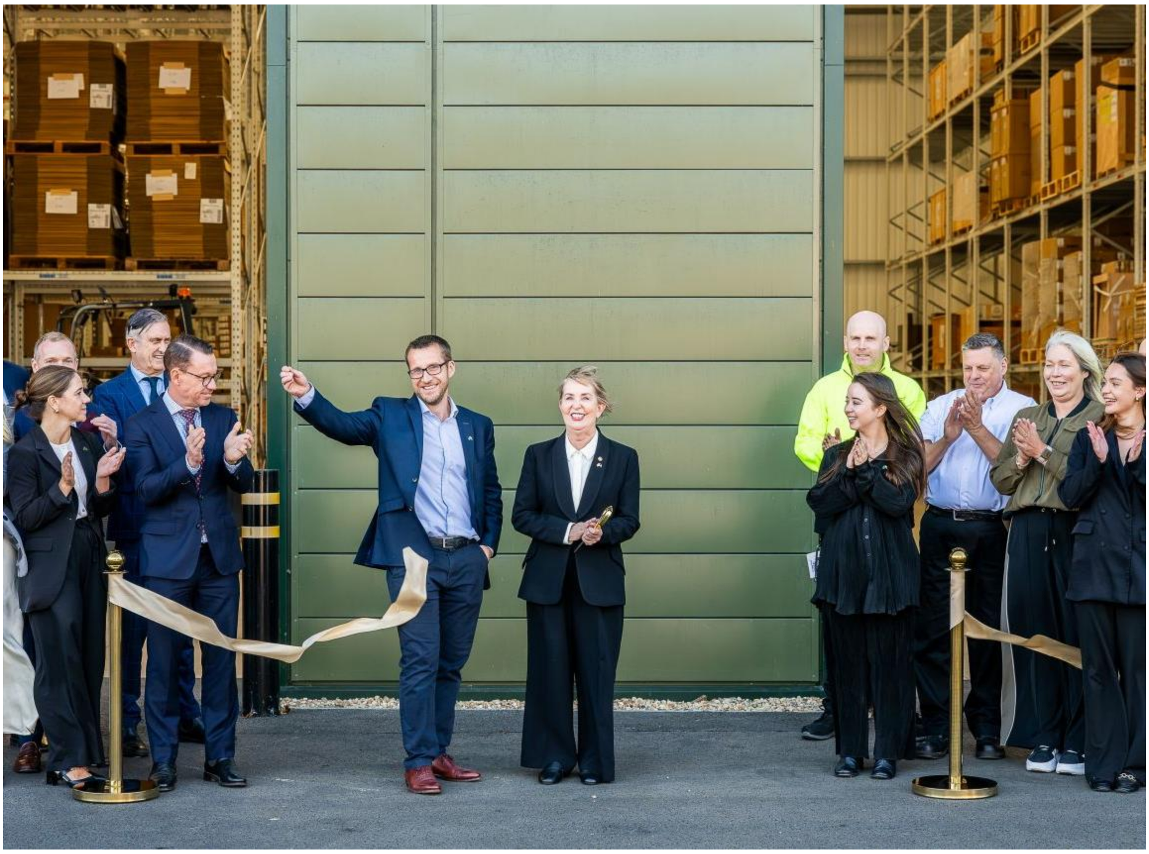
The Minister officially opened the ABI Interiors warehouse and distribution centre in the United Kingdom near London’s Gatwick Airport.

At the opening, the Minister congratulated ABI Interiors on its export success in the UK and acknowledged all their efforts in realising this achievement.

ABI Interiors is a Queensland-based company founded in 2016, specialising in high-quality kitchen, bathroom, and interior fixtures.

ABI Interiors facilitated a comprehensive site visit with the Minister encompassing their current operations at the warehouse and distribution centre. The Minister noted that she had visited their impressive headquarters located in Carrara, adding that their success was an inspiration to Queensland businesses looking to and currently exporting.

TIQ will continue working with ABI Interiors on supporting the continued growth of their UK operations.



Meeting and site visit to Pinewood Studios

Date: Friday, 26 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr David Conway, Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Andrew Smith OBE, Corporate Affairs Director
- Ms Amanda Halliday, Special Projects

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with Pinewood Studios and participated in a site visit of their facilities, which includes stages, backlots, TV production studios, and extensive post-production houses.

Pinewood Studios is a world-renowned British film and television studio located in Buckinghamshire, England. It has been the production site for numerous iconic films, including the James Bond and Star Wars franchises. Pinewood Studios is responsible for major national and international film productions, television, commercials, and post services including the Marvel franchise.

During the meeting Pinewood Studios outlined their priorities and investment interests. The Minister emphasised that Queensland maintains a thriving screen industry supported by strong screen industry talent and education institutions. As Minister for Employment and Training, she encouraged Pinewood Studios to engage with local industry and training providers in Queensland due to the significant level of skills available in this industry in Queensland.

Pinewood has studios in Canada, the US, and Malaysia. It remains a cornerstone of the UK film industry, offering cutting-edge technology and a rich cinematic legacy.

TIQ will continue to promote Queensland as a logical partner for the screen industry.

Meeting with Octopus Group

Date: Friday, 26 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Chris Hulatt, Co-Founder, Octopus Group

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with Octopus Group and acknowledged their significant investment in Queensland renewable energy projects and advancing Queensland's clean energy transition, as well as encouraging further investment into Queensland.

Founded in 2000, Octopus Group is one of the UK's fastest growing companies, operating in energy and financial services. Octopus Group has over £12 billion in global assets under management and employs approximately 8,500 staff globally.

The Minister reinforced that Queensland is committed to delivering an energy system that is affordable, reliable and sustainable, noting that this would be a key theme through the Energy Roadmap to be released shortly after the mission.

The Minister noted that prior to her mission, she launched the *Queensland–Europe & UK Trade and Investment Strategy 2025–2028,* which outlines energy and resources as key strategic priorities of focus over the next three years.

TIQ will continue to work with Octopus Group in conjunction with other government departments to realise their investment plans.

Meeting with System C

Date: Friday, 26 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Nick Wilson, Chief Executive Officer

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with System C to discuss their current project collaborations and future investment requirements.

The Minister highlighted that Queensland has an innovative and rapidly growing biomedical and digital health industry, making it a highly attractive investment destination.

System C is a British technology company, headquartered in the United Kingdom, supporting over 700,000 users across 400 customers in the NHS, private healthcare and social care, and education in the UK and internationally.

System C outlined their healthcare and social care platforms as well as their recent investment in Queensland via acquisition of a Queensland company.

TIQ will continue to work closely with System C to support their acquisition and future plans to expand their activities in Queensland, which will boost employment opportunities for Queensland.

Debrief on UK mission

Date: Friday, 26 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Justin McGowan, Chief Executive Officer, Trade and Investment Queensland
- Mr Ross Buchanan, Agent-General for Queensland and Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner Europe

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with the TIQ Chief Executive Officer and Agent-General to discuss outcomes from the meetings undertaken in London. Discussions were held on the next steps for the engagements held and follow-up with individual clients and opportunities.

The Minister, CEO and Agent-General also discussed potential expansion opportunities to ensure that Queensland could be best placed under the new government to take advantage of a possible EU-Australia FTA.

The TIQ team briefed the Minister on the rest of the program, including travel logistics, and engagements and opportunities for Queensland in Madrid and Frankfurt.

Meeting with Dr Georgia Richards

Date: Saturday, 27 September 2025

Attendees

- Dr Georgia Richards, Epidemiologist, Health Research Scientist and King's Prize Research Fellow, King's College London

Meeting Summary

With a strong interest and background in healthcare, the Minister met with Dr Georgia Richards who shared her journey from Queensland to the UK as a student and epidemiologist.

The Minister acknowledged Dr Richards as an inspiring Queenslander who is making a significant contribution to global public health and wellbeing.

Dr Richards outlined her current projects and research directions. Dr Richards provided an overview of the Preventable Deaths Tracker (PDT) that she founded and leads.

The PDT is an evidence-based vigilance and learning tool that monitors deaths reported by coroners. It was founded by Dr Richards in 2018 at the University of Oxford. The core purpose of the PDT is to save lives by enabling learning from avoidable and premature deaths through evidence-based vigilance and prevention. The PDT is used widely in the UK by coroners, researchers, and health and safety professionals.

The Minister encouraged Dr Richards to engage with Queensland Health and the Department of Justice. TIQ will continue to support Dr Richards and the activities of Queensland's research and development sector.

Meeting with the Australian Ambassador to Spain

Date: Monday, 29 September 2025

Attendees

- HE Ms Rosemary Morris-Castico, Australian Ambassador to Spain
- Mr Peter Kakogiannis, Deputy Head of Mission
- Mr Miguel Ríos, Investment Director, Austrade
- Mr Manuel Barbera, Senior Business Development Manager, Austrade
- Ms Elena Laburu, Investment Director, Austrade

Meeting Summary

The Ambassador of Australia to Spain provided an overview of the economic and political relationship between Spain and Australia. The Ambassador noted the significance of the Minister travelling to meet with Spanish companies and the value of the relationship with Queensland. She also underscored the importance of face-to-face meetings which evidences the importance of the relationship.

The Minister discussed key priorities and future opportunities with Spain in key markets, including resources and energy for Queensland with strong trade and investment ties. The Minister confirmed that Queensland is open for business and that the Government is very keen to support companies' investments and implementation.

TIQ will continue to collaborate on prospects for collaboration and partnerships between Spain and Queensland and work in with the Australian Embassy and Austrade staff based in Spain to secure investments for Queensland.

Meeting with Acciona Group

Date: Monday, 29 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Rafael Esteban, Global Chief Business Development Officer
- Mr Fernando Fajardo, Chief Operations, Innovation and Technology Officer – Infrastructure
- Ms Emma Reiners, Director – Global Marketing and Communications

Meeting Summary

The Minister acknowledged Acciona's significant investments in Queensland's energy and infrastructure sectors and expressed the Queensland Government's interest and support for Acciona's continued investment in the state.

Acciona is a Spanish multinational company with headquarters in Madrid that develops and manages infrastructure and renewable energy projects in 30 countries globally. They have over 1,000 employees in Australia, with a strong presence in Queensland.

During the meeting, the Minister reaffirmed the Queensland Government's commitment to new energy investments and infrastructure to ensure Queensland has access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy, something that the previous government struggled with.

The Minister noted that the Queensland Government's Energy Roadmap would be released imminently, which would provide certainty for investors and partners.

Acciona briefed the Minister on several major energy and infrastructure projects that they are developing in Queensland including road, rail and energy projects. Acciona Executives also provided the Minister with a site visit of the Acciona campus and highlighted their training programs and the work they do to upskill their staff members both in Spain and globally.

TIQ will continue to work closely with Acciona to support their ongoing investments and activities in Queensland, especially following the release of the Energy Roadmap.

Meeting with Gransolar Group

Date: Monday, 29 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Ivan Higueras, Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Carlos Lopez, Chief Operating Officer
- Mr Luis Marquina, Public Affairs Director

Meeting Summary

Founded in 2004, Gransolar Group is a Spanish-headquartered consortium of vertically integrated companies specialising in solar photovoltaic (PV) energy and battery energy storage systems (BESS). The group is based in Alcobendas, Spain.

During the meeting, Gransolar Group provided an overview of their activities in Queensland and extensive investment in the energy sector, including a range of solar and BESS developments, and the establishment of Green Grid Connect headquartered in Brisbane.

The Minister acknowledged Gransolar Group’s extensive investment in Queensland and reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to delivering an energy system that is affordable, reliable and sustainable.

The Minister highlighted the Government’s recently launched *Queensland–Europe & UK Trade and Investment Strategy 2025–2028* outlining energy and resources as one of its key strategic priorities of focus over the next three years. The Minister again reaffirmed the Queensland Government's commitment to new energy investments and infrastructure to ensure Queensland has access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy, something that the previous government struggled with.

The Minister noted that the Queensland Government’s Energy Roadmap would be released imminently, which would provide certainty for investors and partners.

TIQ will continue to work closely with Gransolar Group to support their ongoing investments in Queensland.

Meeting with EDP Renewables

Date: Monday, 29 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Miguel Fonseca, CEO EDP Renewables APAC
- Mr Pedro Neves Ferreira, Head of Global Energy Management
- Ms Rocío Garcia Alvarez, Regulation and Markets Director
- Ms Carlota Santiago Dias Da Silva, Chief of Staff to CEO EDP Renewables APAC

Meeting Summary

The Minister acknowledged EDP Renewables' significant investment in Queensland which is helping to advance the development of Queensland's energy sector. The Minister briefed the company on how the Government welcomes private sector investment in new energy infrastructure, particularly in renewables, and noted the imminent release of the Queensland Government's Energy Roadmap. EDP welcomed the high-level overview of the Roadmap provided.

Founded in 2007, EDP Renewables is a Portuguese renewable energy company, headquartered in Madrid. They are involved in the design, development, and management and operation of renewable energy projects.

EDP Renewables briefed the Minister on their expansion to Australia in 2023, when they acquired ITP Development, marking a significant step in its Asia-Pacific expansion.

The company highlighted their current activities in Queensland, including the development of the Punch's Creek solar and BESS project in Queensland. They also explained the current offtake discussions underway which would enable the project to be fully financed and proceed to full implementation.

TIQ will continue to support EDP Renewables with their current investment plans to enable the project to be completed and will also work with EDP Renewables to encourage future investment projects in Queensland.

Meeting with X-Elio

Date: Monday, 29 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr Lluís Noguera, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Nicholas Pentreath, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
- Ms Elina Molina, Chief Business Development Officer

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with X-Elio to learn about their ongoing investments in Queensland's energy sector and provide support to encourage further investment.

Founded in Spain, X-Elio is a globally recognised leader in renewable and sustainable energy development, specialising in the design, construction, financing, and operation of high-quality clean energy projects around the world.

X-Elio briefed the Minister on their current projects in Queensland, including a range of solar farm and BESS projects in regional Queensland. They also outlined plans to continue expanding existing projects noting their positive experience investing in Queensland. X-Elio confirmed the importance of interconnection issues and understood the need for strong community consultation in their Queensland projects.

The Minister reaffirmed the Queensland Government's commitment to delivering an energy system that is affordable, reliable and sustainable, and advised on the upcoming release of the Energy Roadmap which would provide further certainty for investors.

TIQ has supported X-Elio investments for many years and will continue to work closely with their company to encourage further investment, especially following the release of the Energy Roadmap.

Meeting with Grupo Cobra

Date: Tuesday, 30 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr José Antonio Fernández García, Director General/Managing Director, Cobra Energía y Plantas Industriales
- Mr Miguel Ángel Fernández López-Guevara, Asset Management Director, Zero-E Cobra Energy

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with Grupo Cobra to discuss their ongoing interests and investments in Queensland in the energy and infrastructure sector.

Grupo Cobra was founded in 1944 and since 2021 has been owned by the Vinci Group. Leveraging its broad expertise across engineering and infrastructure, Grupo Cobra is focused on developing, constructing, and operating renewable energy assets globally.

The company briefed the Minister on their significant development projects in Queensland, including solar farms and BESS.

The Minister thanked Grupo Cobra for their investments in Queensland and discussed the government's focus on welcoming and facilitating private sector investment in new energy infrastructure, including renewable energy. The Minister also reaffirmed the Queensland Government's commitment to ensuring Queensland has access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy, something that the previous government struggled with.

The Minister noted that the Queensland Government's Energy Roadmap would be released imminently, which would provide certainty for investors and partners.

The Minister also offered TIQ's ongoing support to assist Grupo Cobra with new and existing investment opportunities, including assistance regarding infrastructure requirements for their projects.

Meeting with EPSA

Date: Tuesday, 30 September 2025

Attendees

- Mr José Llorens, President
- Mrs Mercedes Llorens, Director

Meeting Summary

EPSA provides earthmoving services for open pit mining and infrastructure civil works projects such as mining, construction, drilling and blasting, and maintenance. Created in 1962, EPSA employs more than 6,000 people and had revenues of approximately €195 million in 2023. EPSA is present in 19 countries, including Australia.

At this meeting with the Minister, EPSA discussed their expansion projects in Queensland and provided an update on their flagship projects and future needs.

The Minister acknowledged EPSA's substantial contribution to Queensland's mining sector.

Since 2022, EPSA has provided open-cut mining services at the Isaac Downs metallurgical coal mine located southeast of Moranbah, Queensland.

TIQ supports EPSA in Queensland by providing introductions to key stakeholders in Queensland's mining sector.

Through sustained engagement with the Queensland Government and TIQ, EPSA is considering an even greater presence in Queensland with TIQ assistance. TIQ will collaborate with EPSA and support their future projects to assist them in growing their business in Queensland.

Meeting and site visit with Iberdrola Group

Date: Tuesday, 30 September 2025

Attendees

- HE Rosemary Morris-Castico, Australian Ambassador to Spain
- Mr José Oriol Hoyos, Chairman, Iberdrola Renovables Internacional S.A.U.
- Mr Carlos Lozano, Iberdrola Campus Manager
- Ms Celia Roldán Santías, Public Affairs, Chairman's Office
- Mr Guillermo de Echevarria, Public Affairs, Chairman's Office

Meeting Summary

Iberdrola is a global leader in clean energy, grids and storage, supplying energy to almost 100 million people worldwide and employing more than 38,000 people.

The Iberdrola Campus for Innovation and Training in Madrid opened in April 2021 and provides training to over 13,000 people each year in key areas such as underground power installation, overhead transmission and distribution, and wind technology.

The Minister met with Iberdrola Group who also facilitated a site visit of their campus for Innovation and Training. Iberdrola Group explained about the classes and workshops at the training facility with some activities delivered in collaboration with universities.

As training is part of the Minister's portfolio this visit was of mutual interest to learn more about Iberdrola Group's strategies in upskilling their energy workforce.

In April 2025, Iberdrola took part in the Queensland Government's Renewable Energy Roundtable, to support the development of Queensland's Energy Roadmap.

The Minister acknowledged Iberdrola Group's extensive investment in Queensland to support the development of Queensland's infrastructure and energy sectors.

The Minister reiterated that the Queensland Government is committed to energy sector growth that is affordable, reliable and sustainable, which would be demonstrated through the Energy Roadmap, released shortly after the mission. Iberdrola welcomed the overview provided of the Roadmap, and commended the sensible approach taken by the new Queensland Government to the energy transition.

TIQ will actively work with Iberdrola Group on their investment needs and projects to facilitate further investment in Queensland.

Virtual meeting with Australian Ambassador to Germany

Date: Tuesday, 30 September 2025

Attendees

- HE Ms Natasha Smith, Australian Ambassador to Germany

Meeting Summary

The Ambassador of Australia to Germany provided an overview of the economic and political relationship between Germany and Australia.

The Ambassador noted the strong interest from the German government to collaborate with Australia in the areas of renewable energy, defence, and critical minerals.

The Minister discussed key priorities and future opportunities with Germany in key markets including resources and energy, and defence for Queensland with strong trade and investment ties. The Minister confirmed that Queensland is open for business and that the Government is very keen to assist companies to ensure their investment opportunities proceed to investment decision and implementation. The 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games represent a significant opportunity for German and European companies, a topic of great interest to the Ambassador.

TIQ will continue to collaborate on opportunities and partnerships between Germany and Queensland. The Australian Ambassador and Austrade are motivated to continue working productively with TIQ and the Queensland Government to secure more trade and investment outcomes with Germany.

Meeting and market briefing with TIQ Germany team

Date: Wednesday, 1 October 2025

Attendees

- Mr Stefan Augustin, Investment Director
- Ms Henriette Pook, Director Research Partnerships

Meeting Summary

The TIQ Germany office has been in operation for four years and serves Europe's German speaking markets (Germany, Austria and Switzerland) and the Netherlands.

The Minister met with the German TIQ team to acknowledge their roles, commitment and contributions to TIQ's trade and investment outcomes in market. The team highlighted their joint approach of combining their investment attraction and research partnership activities, and showcased some examples of joint outcomes.

The TIQ Germany team also provided the Minister with details of the extensive meeting schedule taking place that day in Frankfurt.

Meeting with Fraunhofer ICT and University of Queensland

Date: Wednesday, 1 October 2025

Attendees

- Dr Jens Noack, Project Leader
- Ms Natalie Percsy, Fraunhofer Headquarter Liaison Officer for Australia and New Zealand
- Ms Claire Green, Associate Director, Global Strategy and Partnerships, University of Queensland

Meeting Summary

Fraunhofer ICT and the University of Queensland (UQ) are working together on the research and development of iron/iron redox flow batteries, under a Memorandum of Understanding.

The Minister met with Fraunhofer ICT and UQ who provided an update on the progress of their research and development partnership.

Fraunhofer ICT and UQ are both highly regarded within the global research community, delivering exceptional fundamental and translational research. Fraunhofer ICT and UQ's Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (AIBN) have established a strategic partnership that aims to transform stationary energy storage.

Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, based in Germany, is a global leader in applied research. Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft prioritises research into future-relevant technologies to commercialise their findings within businesses and industries, supporting ongoing innovation.

Fraunhofer ICT conducts research and development in the fields of chemical energy technology, polymer technology, and environmental technology.

The Minister highlighted that research and innovation is a key priority for the Queensland Government and one of the five strategic priorities identified in the *Queensland–Europe & UK Trade and Investment Strategy 2025–2028* launched prior to this mission.

TIQ will work with Fraunhofer ICT to assist in this partnership and to facilitate future collaborations. The Minister and TIQ team highlighted the importance of UQ and Fraunhofer identifying areas of collaboration to enable the project to lead to a future commercial production facility project.

Meeting with RWE Renewables Europe and Australia

Date: Wednesday, 1 October 2025

Attendees

- Ms Katja Wünschel, Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Fredrik Andren Sandberg, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs for Europe and APAC

Meeting Summary

RWE Group is the largest energy utility in Germany with 46 GW in operating energy assets including in coal, gas, and nuclear. The company is active in 25 countries, employs 20,000 people globally and is considered one of the largest global organisations in renewable energy.

At this meeting the Minister reassured RWE Renewables that the Queensland Government is committed to developing a credible energy system that meets the needs of Queenslanders both now and in the future. The Minister acknowledged RWE Renewables' considerable investment in planning, consultation, and collaborative work as part of their current Queensland projects. The Minister reiterated the new Queensland Government's commitment to new energy investments and infrastructure to ensure Queensland has access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy, something that the previous government struggled with.

The Minister noted that the Queensland Government's Energy Roadmap would be released imminently, which would provide certainty for investors and partners.

RWE Renewables discussed their current Queensland projects and their plans. They provided an update on the Theodore wind farm project and acknowledged the Queensland Government's clear vision on the energy policy and recognised the collaboration with Stanwell and Powerlink.

TIQ will coordinate with RWE Renewables to assist in advancing their project plans in Queensland.

Meeting with Deutsche Bank AG

Date: Wednesday, 1 October 2025

Attendees

- Mr David Lynne, Global Head Corporate Bank
- Mr Michael Volkermann, Managing Director

Meeting Summary

The Deutsche Bank Corporate and Investment divisions and the DWS Investments Australia (Asset Management) divisions of Deutsche Bank have a presence in Australia and consider Queensland to offer compelling opportunities for the bank.

Deutsche Bank AG provided an update on their involvement in funding the Quinbrook Infrastructure Partners' 'Supernode' battery storage project in Queensland. As of July 2025, the deal is Australia's largest stand-alone BESS financing project.

The company also referred to the 2032 Olympics and Paralympic Games as a major opportunity to increase the financing footprint of Deutsche Bank in Queensland.

TIQ will actively work with Deutsche Bank AG on their investment needs and projects.

Meeting with KfW IPEX-Bank

Date: Wednesday, 1 October 2025

Attendees

- Ms Belgin Rudack, Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Alexander Schober, Department Head, Infrastructure
- Mr Thomas Alberghina, Team Head, Infrastructure
- Mr Michael Waitz, Director, Origination and Structuring Resources and Recycling Co-Head Metals and Mining

Meeting Summary

The Minister acknowledged KfW IPEX-Bank's significant investment contribution in Queensland. The Minister promoted Queensland as an ideal location for an office within the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region. Australia is the most important market for KfW IPEX-Bank in the APAC region. The APAC region is managed from their Singapore office. KfW IPEX-Bank also discussed their interest in the infrastructure investment pipeline for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games and welcomed the Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) approach for certain infrastructure projects.

KfW IPEX-Bank is the German state-owned investment and development bank, based in Frankfurt. IPEX-Bank is responsible for export and project financing. KfW IPEX-Bank is active in the business sectors of manufacturing, telecommunications, trade, health, energy and environment, shipping and ports, aviation and airports, rail and road, construction, and PPPs.

KfW IPEX-Bank is the administrator for the German Raw Materials Fund, endowed with €1 billion, which is intended to support projects that contribute to securing the German and European raw material supply through extraction, processing, or recycling. Queensland projects may benefit from this initiative.

TIQ will support visits to Queensland by their company representatives, support their current investment projects, and encourage future investment opportunities in Queensland.

Meeting with Merck KGaA

Date: Wednesday, 1 October 2025

Attendees

- Mr Matthias Simnacher, Director, Merck Digital
- Mr Philipp Harbach, Global Head of Group Digital Innovation, Merck

Meeting Summary

The Minister met with Merck Digital and discussed that biomedical innovation is a Queensland Government priority sector. The Minister acknowledged and welcomed Merck's plans to test and implement their digital health solutions in Queensland.

Merck is a global science and technology company headquartered in Germany. Merck has approximately 63,000 employees in 65 countries specialising in healthcare, life science, and electronics innovation, which is delivered through their research and development partnerships, innovation centres, artificial intelligence research, and grant programs.

Merck's life science business sector targets the expanding market for complex molecules and novel modalities. In healthcare, Merck focus on specialty pharmaceuticals in oncology, neurology, and immunology. In electronics, Merck benefits from the increasing demand for semiconductors. The ongoing development and integration of digital and data-based technologies is a key focus for Merck.

TIQ will continue to work with Merck Digital to assist in advancing their project plans in Queensland.

Meeting with Justus Liebig University Giessen

Date: Wednesday, 1 October 2025

Attendees

- Prof Dr Katharina Lorenz, President
- Ms Julia Volz, Head of International Affairs

Meeting Summary

Justus Liebig University Giessen (JLU) is a research university based in Giessen, the German state of Hessen and attracts around 25,700 students. Since 2006, research at JLU has been funded by the German Universities Excellence Initiative and the Excellence Strategy.

UQ and JLU have received A$15 million in funding from the German Research Foundation to establish an International Research Training Group focused on Accelerating Crop Genetic Gain. The Group is the first international graduate school focused on modern crop breeding. The agreement enables training for approximately 24 UQ PhD students and a similar number of JLU students.

In addition, JLU actively operates under the Hessen-Queensland State University Programme. Within the Hessen-Queensland State University Programme, the 14 state universities in Hessen and the nine universities in Queensland have been actively cooperating since 2004.

The Minister acknowledged the successful collaboration between the universities and the training opportunities the program provides for dozens of PhD candidates from Queensland and Germany.

TIQ will continue to support JLU's collaboration with Queensland and joint activities under the Hessen-Queensland State University Programme.

Meeting with TeleMedC

Date: Wednesday, 1 October 2025

Attendees

- Mr Para Segaram, Chief Executive Officer
- Ms Anna Brandt, Director of Business Development and Marketing, Germany
- Mr Dominik Schindler, Product Manager, Germany

Meeting Summary

TeleMedC is a Brisbane-based growing MedTech company, dedicated to improving health outcomes with innovative AI-powered products. Using cutting edge technology, TeleMedC innovates hardware and software solutions to screen, detect, and monitor diseases on a global scale.

In Germany, Austria and Switzerland, TeleMedC is rolling out their innovative AI eye screening solution. It helps to prevent avoidable blindness through earlier detection of eye diseases such as age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma. Due to the demographic structure in Germany and Switzerland, these countries are ideal international markets for TeleMedC.

The Minister congratulated TeleMedC on their successful partnership agreement in Germany and Switzerland, which is a milestone achievement for TeleMedC.

TIQ will continue to work closely with TeleMedC to support their growth throughout Europe, in particular with a focus on their forthcoming opportunities in Germany and Switzerland.