

## TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UK 駐英國台北代表處





(Graphic design by UK Department for International Trade)

## **IN THE NEWSLETTER**

Key events featured in this issue include Taiwan's ranking 2<sup>nd</sup> among the UK's fastest growing export markets, and people-to-people exchanges between Taiwan and the UK increasing significantly in tourism and bilateral high-level official visits.

## Taiwan listed as UK's 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest growing export market

Taiwan ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> among Britain's fastest growing export markets with growth up 40.8% to £2.8 billion between 2017-2018, according to data from the UK Office for National Statistics on 24 April. In a press release published the following day (https://bit.ly/2lKReoq), the UK Department for International Trade listed Taiwan as one of the UK's fastest growing export partners in Asia for 2018, adding this trend "reflects the growing prosperity and economic potential of the region, and its attractiveness as a destination for British goods and services." Secretary of State for International Trade Dr Liam Fox also highlighted the need for British businesses to be reaching out to growing export partners in Asia, including Taiwan.

Taiwan opened its market to pork imports from the UK last year, presenting business opportunity worth more than £50 million over the next five years and signifying deepening trade relations between the two countries. Taiwan is the UK's 7<sup>th</sup> largest trading partner in the Asia Pacific region with bilateral trade amounting to £6.6 billion in 2018.



(Original Source: Taiwan Tourism Bureau)

People-to-people exchanges between Taiwan and the UK are on the rise as the reported number of visitors from Taiwan to the UK has increased by 40.9% to 164,000 from 2016-2017, while the number of UK visitors to Taiwan grew to 108,200 in 2018. The significant growth in bilateral tourism has been aided by Taiwanese airlines Eva Air's seven direct flights per week and China Airlines' establishment in December 2017 of five non-stop direct flights per week between Taiwan and the UK.

Exchanges between Taiwanese and British high-level officials have also continued to increase this year with Taiwan Science and Technology Minister Dr Liang-Gee Chen's recent trip to the UK from 31 March to 2 April. In addition to visits from three UK parliamentary delegations between 2018-2019, the government of Taiwan also received UK Investment Minister Graham Stuart, Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Taiwan Lord Faulkner of Worcester, Foreign and Commonwealth Office Chief Scientific Adviser Professor Robin Grimes, Minister of State for Trade Policy George Hollingbery as well as Department for International Trade Chief Scientific Adviser Dr Mike Short.



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