## Putin arrives in North Korea ahead of talks with Kim Jong Un

Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in North Korea to a red carpet welcome on Tuesday night at the start of his first visit to the totalitarian state in 24 years.

Mr Putin was met on the tarmac by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and - flanked by a military guard of honour - the pair talked animatedly for several minutes.

The two leaders last met in September at the Vostochny cosmodrome in Russia's far east, but this is Mr Putin's first trip to Pyongyang since 2000.

Ties between the two pariah states have increased in recent years, especially since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

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