

Election Manifesto

Priorities for Ramsey

- I want to see more investment in Ramsey, I am in favour of renovating our Pier and constructing a Marina. There needs to be more in Ramsey to attract people, more to see and do. Government should play an active role in bringing more entertainment to the town, Ramsey would benefit greatly from more venues where functions can be held and new entertainment complexes, similar to the Centenary Centre in Peel.
- Government should be encouraging more businesses to set up in Ramsey and should offer support to people who want to set up their own businesses. Increasing the number of people who work in Ramsey will boost the local economy and have a positive impact on the look and feel of the town. One way of increasing the number of workers in Ramsey would be to move a Government department to the town. In this age of technology where businesses can have offices all around the world there is no reason why the Isle of Man Government should be so centralised in Douglas.
- I believe that your MHK should be focused on Ramsey and ensure that they are available to you. If I am elected I will ensure that I am in Ramsey regularly and that the times and places that I will be available are well publicised so that if you want to talk in person I will be available.

National Priorities

- Government needs to control its spending. We need a full review of Government spending at all levels to make sure that Government money is being spent where it is most needed.
- Not only should we review what we are spending money on, we need to look at the way in which Government spends money. We need to make sure that Government is getting the best value for money. If the private sector can do things better and cheaper then we should be taking advantage of that!
- Is our current tax system the best for the Island? We need to make sure that we look at every viable option when it comes to generating revenue for the Government. The current VAT arrangement may not be in the best interest of the Island, your Government should be willing to explore all alternatives and make sure that they do what is best for you.
- A full review of local authorities and their functions needs to be undertaken. At present, the Island has 24 local authorities, some with as few as 400 residents! We need to look at the possibility of merging some of our local authorities together to simplify local government.
- MLC's and the Chief Minister should be directly elected by you. Only people elected by you should be at the centre of National Government.
- All elected officials should contribute to their pensions.
- There needs to be more communication from Government. You have a right to know where the Government is spending your money and why it makes the decisions it makes. If I am elected I will make sure that I keep you informed throughout my term as your MHK, and make sure that I always listen to your views, not just once every five years.

Your vote counts. If you want an MHK who will always put Ramsey first vote for me on September 29th. I am trying to visit as many people in Ramsey as I can before the election, if I haven't made it to you yet or if you have any questions, please get in touch.

Lawrie Hooper, Putting Ramsey First

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Vote Lawrie Hooper for Ramsey

Who am I? Why am I standing?

I'm 24, married and work as an accountant. I've lived on the Island for 12 years and attended Ramsey Grammar School. I grew up in Ramsey and am extremely saddened by how the town seems to have been left behind by the Government.

Ramsey needs more investment in areas that will bring business, work and jobs to the town. This will provide a boost to the local economy and encourage further investment in Ramsey. For too long the focus has been on Douglas and I believe that Ramsey has suffered because of it.

Time and time again we see Government's spending spiral out of control and yet we are never given the reasons why. It is time that Government took control of its finances.

You have a right to know where Government is spending your money. Government has a duty to keep you informed and to listen to your views.

Government reform is high on my agenda. I feel strongly that you should get a chance to elect your MLC's and your Chief Minister.

The Island is facing some tough times ahead, it has never been more important that your MHK is working hard for Ramsey.

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Lawrie Hooper - Putting Ramsey First