



# Campaign to elect Geoffrey Boot

**MHK for Glenfaba**

**Ballagarraghyn, St Johns, Isle of Man, IM4 3LH**

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**Manx solutions to Manx problems**

Dear Elector/Electors,

## **Glenfaba By Election 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

As a result of David Andersons election to the Legislative council he has resigned as our MHK creating a vacancy, there is consequently a by-election on 10<sup>th</sup> September.

Having narrowly missed victory at the last election I have decided to stand again.

Before each previous elections there was a long run in period which enabled me to carry out a detailed electors survey to determine what your priorities were, an essential tool if you claim to represent people.

With the short period before this coming election I have been unable to do that but I have already been out on the doorstep and find that most of the priorities identified in 2011 are still current with additional concerns raised over the long term viability of our economy, pension and local issues involving policing, bus services, parking, speed limits etc.

A full manifesto will follow before the election but I wanted you to know that I am standing and will endeavour to knock on as many doors as possible in the coming few weeks .

You may ask what I have been doing in the meantime, I was elected as a German Commissioner in 2012 and still serve. I have been Vice Chairman and Chairman and I have to say this has taught me a lot more about the German part of the constituency and how broken in many respects the link is between central and local government, this is something I would like to address in the future.

It's also been a lesson in how disconnected the electorate is from its elected members and if elected I am committed to repairing this bridge. Foxdale particularly feels out on a limb something I will make my priority.

In the meantime I have continued with my varied business interests which include a lot of time across. Suzie and I have also taken the opportunity of travelling and visiting some of those hard to reach places like the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, Tristan da Cunha, St Helena, Ascension Island and the Far East particularly Japan where we had a very moving visit to both Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

If you elect me, I will as I promised at the last election, make my primary task that of being your MHK. I would be lying if I promised momentous things in the remaining 9 months of the present term before the next general election, but I will do my best to influence policy that is already in progress and set the scene for the next general election which will be in a combined constituency of Glenfaba and Peel.

I do hope that I will see you and if I don't and you have any queries, concerns or want more information then please don't hesitate to contact me as above. Please feel free to visit my website [www.geoffreyboot.org](http://www.geoffreyboot.org) which although prepared for the last election has been updated.

On the reverse you will find an abbreviated version of what I stand for.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely,

Geoffrey Boot  
Prospective MHK for Glenfaba

**Your views count**



# In short – what I stand for



**Full employment with more private sector jobs replacing those in the public sector.**

**Opportunities for young people.**

**Proper local engagement: letters, consultation, face-to-face surgeries, working with the Local Commissioners.**

## **Economy**

- ◆ Encourage new interest and ideas that grow our economy which pays for all the good things we want , we need a larger tax base.

## **Health provision**

- ◆ Support on-island health care and expertise wherever possible.
- ◆ Reduce waiting lists.
- ◆ Resist so-called efficiency savings that do not stack up.
- ◆ Ensure proper consultation before changes are made.

## **Education**

- ◆ No to adopting UK education policy per se.
- ◆ Work with teachers to provide a system that addresses our present and future requirements and aspirations, not those of a distant UK government. Pre school where possible.

## **Policing**

- ◆ Ensure proper manning levels so that we don't slip into the UK Laissez-faire attitude to minor crime.

## **Immigration**

- ◆ Continue protection for the island workforce without inhibiting economic growth, using the present work permit legislation. Benefits restricted to those that have worked for them.

## **Housing provision**

- ◆ A fairer planning system with more democracy and transparency, particularly at local level.
- ◆ Address local needs with particular emphasis on affordable housing and provision for older people.

## **Government**

- ◆ Stop regulation and legislation creep from the UK or EU.
- ◆ More independence.
- ◆ Support changes made in rationalisation of departments.
- ◆ More transparency.
- ◆ Limit or downsize the public sector. But no to mass redundancy.
- ◆ Control the impact of Health & Safety regulation.
- ◆ Use my UK political links to rebuild political contact with the UK.

## **Agricultural**

- ◆ Work with farmers to bring back some reality and certainty to the system that will enable young people to continue farming, preserve our landscape and provide viability for our meat processing facilities.

## **Environment**

- ◆ A planning policy that reflects our population's requirements and aspirations.
- ◆ Support green initiatives where they bring real benefits and not perceptions to the Isle of Man.

## **Future government expenditure**

- ◆ Pay close attention to and scrutinise large capital projects better. We simply cannot afford to go on making the mistakes of the past.
- ◆ A fair tax system that sustains all.
- ◆ Press for a proper appraisal of what impact leaving the present VAT agreement with the UK would have. Then make appropriate decisions as to various degrees of independence.

## **Transport and/or roads**

- ◆ Get our local roads repaired.
- ◆ Review and promote road safety and appropriate traffic calming and speed limits where necessary.
- ◆ Work with public transport to ensure timetables and destinations accord with people's needs.
- ◆ Be tougher on fuel prices, find out why we pay more.

## **Tourism**

- ◆ Support better promotion of the Isle of Man as a tourist destination — we have a good story to tell.
- ◆ Transport to the island: I am against a monopoly in either sea or air transport. We need to carefully examine and have control over future user agreements.

## **Government reform**

- ◆ At local government level once again consult, and think very carefully about, any proposed changes or amalgamation that will simply lead to a larger bureaucracy and more expense for ratepayers.

## **Constitutional reform**

- ◆ Support changes and make the Legislative Council more accountable and change the electoral process.