

Political Questions – Peter Karran (2011)

Why this candidate wishes to be a member of the House of Keys?

To continue the good work that I have been doing over the last 26 years to turn it into an inclusive not exclusive society. To bring about the political changes that would be needed to protect the long term interests of the people and the Manx Nation if it is to survive and flourish by bringing about transparent, accountable Government through the development of the good systems of Government that the people of the Isle of Man deserve with the start of open, transparent Party Politics.

How well does the candidate think that the present?

Extremely poorly in the midst of this Nation having the biggest economic boom in its history. The poor spending patterns, the refusal to develop the strategic, long term policies for a sustainable Government coming down to the lack of transparency and accountability in its present structure and the lack of the present political administration to make the agenda, far too often allowing its Senior Civil Servants to do so which weakens the Manx Government when dealing with external forces

If the candidate were elected, what would their priorities be at a constituency level?

outside their control.

As a National MHK my priorities on a constituency level is to bring about good governance that is the only way to protect the services that are by required by my constituents in a caring and prosperous society. Issues such as, obviously more affordable housing in my constituency, better facilities as for as youth is concerned and to try and bring about an environment that would bring some retail back to the heart of Onchan.

If the candidate were elected, what would their priorities be at a national level?

As a National MHK the protection of the vast social improvements we have seen over the last 20 years this can only come about by the changes that are desperately needed in the Ministerial System so that Government can create the environment where the public and private sector can work together in balance on sustainable policies to continue to create a caring prosperous society.

What does the candidate view as the main political and social issues facing the Isle of Man in the next 5

The continuing development of the environment within the economy to allow for a diverse economic base

years?

that provides both secure and good employment opportunities for all citizens of the Island. To protect the services for the vulnerable within our society and to develop a public service that realises that it is there to serve the public and not the public to serve them. To bring about the audit and accountability which is part of the present democratic deficit in the far to nepotistic, short-term interest planning in the present Council of Minister system of Government and the fundamental principle that the only debt that we are to leave for the next generation is the debt of gratitude for bringing about the opportunities for the social improvement and mobility of all our citizens.

How would the candidate deal with the challenges/issues over the next five years - as stated in the Main Social Issues question?

The fundamental issue is that Government don't make the money but they provide the stability and the environment for the economy to grow which is more important when not living through this Nations' biggest economic boom in its history. Without fundamental changes how the political structures are not changed to bring about audit, accountability

What does the candidate feel has changed for the better, for Isle of Man residents, in the past five years - giving examples?

and transparency you will not achieve the protection of the present opportunities we have had over the last 20 years.

What does the candidate feel has changed for the worse for Isle of Man residents, in the past 5 years - give examples?

Very little has changed for the better with maybe the private sector rental accommodation has eased for the vulnerable section of the community that is neither in local authority housing or the part of the ownership of a property owning democracy.

The lack of increase in job opportunities. The curtailing in the improvements of many of the services that are provided for the vulnerable of our society. The increase in the number of young people that are not in education or training. The rise in the costs of the utilities and the general inflation rate on the Island. The complacency and arrogance of the Government in not to listen to the needs of its people, particularly in the Reciprocal Health Agreement, the Capital Spending and the overspending and deficit spending.

Does the candidate feel that the Isle

Yes totally. The income from this

of man has been too reliant upon the financial services industry?

should have been used more to broaden the economic base of the Island's economy than spent far too often on badly thought out revenue liability capital schemes.

If The candidate feels there is too much Financial Services reliance, how does the candidate feel that they would further diversify the Manx economy?

By bringing about changes in Government to become a "can do" administration, working with industry to develop real programmes for sustainable growth within the Island. Issues that I have raised over the last 5 years, such as an e-commerce resolution Court; the possibility of a Patents Office; the development of the Island becoming more involved with intellectual property; the idea of a more progressive Manx Business Incubator Service are some of the ideas that are needed to diversify the economic base. The issues of the fundamental issues of off-Island transport, energy providers and telecommunication services will be needed to be looked at to make sure that monopolies do not hamper the freedom to flourish for all in a diversified Manx economy.

Is the candidate in favour of independence from the United

The Isle of Man's connection with the United Kingdom is through the Royal

Kingdom?

Prerogative and not the United Kingdom Government. Before any changes to the constitutional position of the Isle of Man there has to be fundamental changes in the democratic deficiencies in the present Ministerial system of Government and the protection of the independence of the Parliament, the Judiciary and the Executive to then give the people of the Isle of Man a referendum to the issue of the Crown using its Royal Prerogative on the advice of the democratically elected Government of the Isle of Man.

Is the candidate in favour of -and if a standing member, did they vote for- a popularly elected Legislative Council?

The Liberal Vannin policy on this subject is that they should be popularly elected by the general public.

Is the candidate in favour of -and if a standing member, did they vote for- a popularly elected Chief Minister?

The Liberal Vannin does not have a policy on such an item, but I have supported such moves if that is the only way to bring about accountable executive to the Isle of Man.

Is the candidate in favour of nationalisation of air and or sea services to and from the Isle of Man?

No. Liberal Vannin policy is not to nationalise these service.

Is the candidate in favour of onshore wind farms in the Isle of Man?

There is no Liberal Vannin policy on such a proposal but would consider any viable suggestions to protect the environment so long as it is a private sector and not a public sector initiative.

Is the candidate in favour of Means testing for "universal" benefits and social housing?

Liberal Vannin does not have a party policy on this subject it would be up to its Conference or the Parliamentary Liberal Vannin Party after the election to look at all issues to protect the vulnerable within our society.