

Political Questions – Howard Quayle (2011)

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

As an experienced businessman I believe I can help to steer the Island through the stormy waters we find ourselves in. My experience gained while representing the Island in Westminster and the EU will help create better political contacts and help to protect and promote the interests of the Island.

How well does the candidate think that the present?

The Manx Government has been reactive rather than pro-active. The reciprocal health agreement negotiations were a farce. Government did not make sufficient use of UK political contacts in order to avert this one sided attack on the VAT Agreement. Present government has not addressed "pension's time bomb". There is a lack of transparency in Government.

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

People deserve to be listened to and have their concerns dealt with. Traffic Issues, Housing Issues and better leisure facilities for our young people.

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

Growing the economy, getting value for money, streamlining Government Services, reduce hospital waiting lists,

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

encouraging new diversified business for the Island.

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

Strong leadership required with an open minded, entrepreneurial approach which will embrace and encourage new ideas. We have an ageing population and therefore need to tackle the pension problem. The loss of a large amount of our income due to VAT cuts will place incredible pressure on our finances.

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

A full review of our pension provision and ability to finance it. Reduce the size and scope of Government. Implement a pro-active rather than re-active mentality combined with an innovative approach.

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

Continued low crime rates. Improved upkeep and use of the countryside.

Massive increase in energy prices. A worldwide recession has brought about financial uncertainty. Longer hospital waiting lists. A reduction in the number of qualified teachers in our schools, lack of (NEETS) provision

Does the candidate feel that the Isle of Man has been too reliant upon the financial services industry?

for young people who have left school and who are neither in education or training. Repair of roads and roadside hedge trimming.

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

No, however it has not supported and grown its Tourism, Agriculture and Manufacturing sectors which are all VAT generators and which would help develop a broader diversified base.

Is the candidate in favour of independence from the United Kingdom?

Only if it is in our best financial interest.

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

Yes, but before that can be done a decision has to be taken as to what functions it would fulfil. If MLC's have a mandate from the public should they get involved in constituency work or does the council act purely as a reviewing chamber.

Is the candidate in favour of -and if a standing member, did they vote for-

No, I feel it is essential the Chief Minister has the support of his Tynwald

a popularly elected Chief Minister?

Colleagues with whom they will have to work with. However whilst canvassing I have taken note of those members favoured by constituents.

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

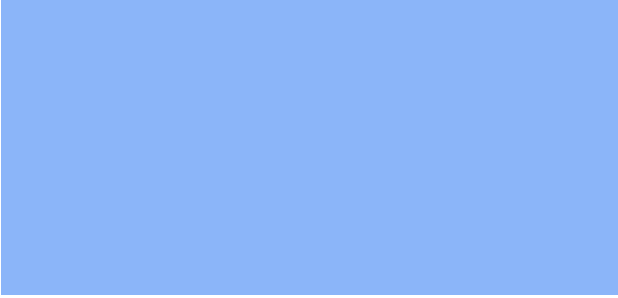
No, Government has an abysmal track record of running travel services, though I would be interested in proposals involving private companies to operate the airport. I would like to see ownership of our main sea services in the hands of local people rather than European Banks or venture capitalists as local people have a vested interest in a fair and efficient service.

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

I would prefer to see alternative green energy schemes which would not impact so greatly on our beautiful Manx countryside such as hydroelectric schemes or the use of wave and tidal power.

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

I believe in fairness for all regarding means testing for universal benefits. I would support means testing regarding social housing in cases where there has been a significant change in a tenants income or where



they have inherited a house. The vast majority of tenants would be unaffected but people earning £50,000 or more p.a. should pay a fairer rent.