

## Political Questions – John Houghton (2011)

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

To continue my work bringing about necessary changes to the benefit of Manx residents.

**How well does the candidate think that the present?**

VAT income: needs to be carefully renegotiated with UK authorities.  
Reciprocal Health Agreement was poorly handled.

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

Continue to support constituents to the best of my ability.

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

To be part of a Team of Tynwald Members fostering close relations with counterparts in Westminster.

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

Political: VAT sharing agreement and diversification of Income generation –  
Social: Long term care policies and the continued development of health care.

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

Play a leading part as at (3b).

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

Reciprocal Health Agreement maintained after Parliamentary (non Government) campaign.

**giving examples?**

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

The severe cut in VAT sharing.

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

Yes, but diversification is the way forward.

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

Small industries would provide substantial employment spending on Island together with spin-off employment opportunities.

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

No

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

Yes

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

Only if a well thought through mechanism is reached.

**Is the candidate in favour of**

Air: No By – Sea: Open minded to

**nationalisation of air and or sea services to and from the Isle of Man?**

substantive proposals.

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

No

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

Would only be minded if careful and well thought through policies were developed containing appropriate safeguards.