

## Political Questions – Theo Fleurbaey (2011)

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

Instead of shouting for Change from the sideline it's better to participate in the process and initiate and contribute to the necessary changes that have to be made in government. To bring more business sense and experience to government for it to be more productive, cost effective and more democratic.

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

Poor, It has lacked the foresight and effectiveness you would expect from a competent government. It has dealt badly with the events of the last few years, to the detriment of our economy, its people and the image of the IoM. Few Examples: The Health Agreement, the KSF fiasco, the VAT agreement (twice!)

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

Preserve and improve quality of life through improved services, infrastructure, housing, green areas etc.

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

Reducing size, cost and expenditure of Government in a sensible way, Further diversification of our economy to increase our national income. Protecting our quality of life. Raise our

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

international profile and improve our relationships with other countries. Seeking a greener energy policy, making the Island less dependent on expensive fossil fuels.

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

Political: Dealing with a hostile UK and the Global economic situation. The need for a smaller, cheaper and more democratic and open government. Working with a dramatically reduced National Income and hence a significantly smaller Budget. Social: safeguarding our quality of life, welfare of our people. Maintaining and improving employment. Protection of the weaker in our society. Solving the NEETs problem.

Review the government's spending and cut where possible. Reduce the number of MHKs, freeze their pay and let them pay for their pension. Privatised loss making services/departments where possible. Working more closely with the private sector through PPPs or Corporations. Encouraging NEETs into educational programmes, apprenticeships, work placements.

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

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

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

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

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

Dramatically decreased National Income due to the "renegotiated" VAT agreement. Economy under threat. Employment. Inflation.

Yes. I have said that for years.

Make it more attractive for companies and individuals to establish their base here. Cut the red tape. Step up international marketing of the island in what it has to offer both for entrepreneurs and companies and tourists. Tourism can be the key to increase revenue.

I would like to see the IoM more independent from the UK and deal with the UK on a more equal footing. The current government has shown to suffer from an inferiority complex in dealing with its bigger brother. Any decision on full independence should be based on a proper evaluation of

the pros and cons and decided through a national referendum.

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

Absolutely

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

Absolutely

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

No, but the option should be available as a last resort if the loss of a service would be detrimental to our economy.

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

I prefer off shore but will not rule out onshore. I am in favour of the IoM being less dependent on ever more expensive fossil fuels.

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

Eligibility for certain benefits should depend on income.