

Political Questions – Juan Cottier (2011)

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

I want to make a difference to the island and by being part of team that gets this House of Keys working for the betterment of the Isle of Man.

How well does the candidate think that the present?

The present administration has missed out on a number of opportunities to build and effective and efficient government in the Isle of Man, which has now been shown by the BEAR report.

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

Safety and wellbeing of constituents, via traffic calming in rural areas, access to recreation facilities and Planning, and forging more effective communication with commissioners and constituents to ensure that issues are resolved.

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

That the Isle of Man has a robust government that fulfils its promises and fights for the betterment of the nation. That the finances of government are used effectively to ensure that we are not wasting resources by developing projects that generations to come will be paying for. Freedom of Information act is enacted and enforced, and the

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

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

Disability Discrimination Act is enforced.

Customs Agreement, Good Governance and Economy.

Customs Agreement: We have little or no control, and without any firm or sincere commitment from the United Kingdom to honour any agreements. How long can the Island sustain such a large amount of government revenues coming from sources where we have to react to the capricious behaviour of the UK government? We need to be developing a strategy to deal with both the UK government and this agreement. Good

Governance: The introduction of the Freedom of information act would be an essential step in doing this it would help to ensure that there is an environment for a safe and prosperous and caring society.

Economy: By reducing the scope and cost of the public sector, by ensuring that the user agreement and the MEA concerns are debated in the house. By exploring the possibilities of

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

joining the EFTA and establishing an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Realisation by the general public that the way that the Island is run is not sustainable, in that they recognise the importance of transparency and the need for the Council of Ministers legislation to be changed to bring about an effective audit and accountability government.

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

Increase in social problems and the inability to get government to work effectively to help those who are detached from the main stream of society.

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

Yes, but and we should be using this to develop other areas of economy of grow, using the new business centre to help start up business, encouraging venture capitalist to support entrepreneurial initiatives.

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

The government has to have transparency in its commercial dealings to help create an environment of a 'can do' economy, the possible introduction of an island stock market, and e-commerce

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

court. We also need to be looking at a Tourism policy to help revitalise the industry, looking at new markets for example conferences or seminars.

Yes, if it were in the best interest of the island to do so and only, after a referendum of the Manx people. After supporting such a step, would a timetable for independence be established. This timetable would be governed by the necessary improvements in the quality of governance of the Isle of Man and the willingness of the Crown to retain its prerogative rather than delegate it to the British Government

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?

Yes

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

No

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

No, the power station can only Ghost 10 wind turbines on the island, the party will not support any construction of wind turbines which will be constructed with the aid of any government money.

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

Most benefits are already means tested. Social housing needs to be review and all the circumstances of the occupants taken into consideration not just income.