HOUSE OF KEYS GENERAL ELECTION THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22ND 2016

Martyn Perkins

A strong voice to represent you the people of Garff



Dear Elector

The Isle of Man is unique, shaped by a thousand years of unbroken parliamentary tradition that many countries could only dream of. Without Tynwald the Isle of Man would be another Isle of Wight or Isle of Anglesey with one MP representing us in Westminster. Our independence allows us to set our own fiscal and social policy. We must fiercely defend ourselves against any outside interference at all costs.

The Isle of Man is facing the most challenging times it has experienced in the last 30 years. The members voted into the House of Keys at this election will have to restore confidence, adopt and implement a clear strategy that focusses on the important issues that affect you, the Island's population. It is critical you elect the right politicians to make decisions on your behalf. Transparency, accountability and global outlook must be the Government watchwords.

The reason I am putting myself forward as an MHK is that I believe my experience in the precision engineering aerospace business has given me the tools, insight and determination firstly to represent all the people of the Sheading and secondly to make a vital contribution to the way in which the Isle of Man Government should address, local, national and international issues which will affect us all.

Yours sincerely



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Onchan

Firstly we must secure and grow our existing businesses. I know the Department of Economic Development is actively supporting local business with training assistance and investment grants towards new plant and machinery. This must be selective to achieve the best results.

Secondly we must grow and diversify the economy by putting in place the right business friendly legislation. This has been proven by the Island's internet gaming companies the shipping registry and the satellite industry. All enjoy considerable acclaim for having world class legislation underpinning their operations. They make a considerable contribution the Island's economy and are often the first choice of new entrants to the industries. We must use them as a model to attract other business.

There's an abundance of new internet based technologies coming to the fore. Data Warehousing is the physical retention of data in a secure and controlled environment. This would go hand in hand with the E gaming requirement of data retention. Data driven

marketing, data mining and artificial intelligence companies are all hot tips for the future. They could conceivably operate from anywhere but if we can attract them they would require a similar skill base to our existing internet companies. I would aim for Government to create the best possible conditions for their operation so they do not consider leaving the Island.

Robotics, Cryogenics, Bio-technology and Photonics are just a few of the new technologies that all produce high added value product which is ideal for the Island. We must go out and bring them here and give them the red carpet treatment. I am convinced the way to get young, new businesses to the Island is to attract their owners to the unique quality of life we enjoy and the business will follow.

It is essential we all buy into the fact that the Government can't do it all. We must all take responsibility in talking the Island up not moaning and groaning about the shortfalls. A "can do, will do" attitude is needed from each and everyone of us.

What are the Perkins Priorities?

Without doubt the most important issue facing us is the economy as the health service, schools, police and all of the other public services we enjoy – not forgetting the black hole of the public pension deficit – all need funding.





Agriculture

Firstly we must promote Manx produced food and encourage the public to buy it in preference to imported food. The all Island TB disease free cattle, the lush grass, pure air and water make Manx produce some of the finest you can buy. If we don't support the farmers now they will not be there when we need them

I would encourage farmers in utilising new technology and new methods of farming.

The subvention payment scheme appears not to be working as intended. It must be reviewed with the farmers input and a sustainable scheme put in place.

The government must ensure that our schools and hospitals use Manx produce and help the farming community to actively promote the sale of Manx produce in the UK and internationally.

Constitutional Reform

Lord Lisvane's report has highlighted some important reforms that I feel we should adopt. A Legislative Council retained as a revising chamber, elected by the people at the same time. All the Keys and council members elected together at a single election. In my opinion it is very important the candidates contemplating standing for chief minister in this new parliament, publish their detailed plan for the next five years as early as possible, to enable the MHK's to get behind it and vote for the best candidate to take the Island forward.

Brexit - we must:

- Understand the risks and opportunities and exactly how this will effect Isle of Man Law,
- Closely monitor the development of the new relationship the UK will have with Europe,
- Seize opportunities in new trade deals and go out to the wider world.

Education

Schools are the very heart and future of our community. It is essential that primary school class sizes are kept under control. The focus on testing and statistics should be further relaxed to give teachers the opportunity to creatively teach the children rather than teaching purely for results.

The last Government must be congratulated for supporting young school leavers and creating opportunities to train on the Island. The Isle of Man University College, the Advanced Manufacturing training centre and the newly approved IT training scheme, all give first class further education for our students. Training our own nurses and Police officers is a positive step forward.

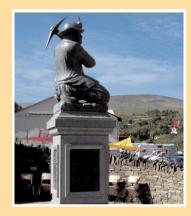
We must continue the financial support of tuition fees for students studying in the UK and look at the extended repayment of student loans on students who come back to the Island to work.

Employers who give training to students with disabilities **which leads to a real job** must be supported.

Health Service

The introduction of Telemedicine and new treatment technology, coupled with working smarter will all help to keep within budget. Middle management numbers should be addressed and frontline staff strengthened. Healthy living and eating lifestyles should be promoted in schools.

Prevention is better than cure.









Law and order.

The Chief Constable and the Isle of Man Police force are to be congratulated. Despite budget cuts the crime level is at an all-time low.

I believe we should introduce a fixed penalty fine and counselling for possession of a small amount of cannabis as this takes up a disproportionate amount of police and judicial time and resources.

The criminal justice system needs a complete review. It is essential we offer victims the opportunity of restorative justice if they wish it, making offenders see the consequences of their crimes. In tandem with that it is essential we offer rehabilitation and reintegration to offenders. I support a policy to enable certain prisoners who can be trusted, out into the community, in a controlled manner to do public works, for example beach cleaning, helping staff to restore paths in the glens. Firms that offer a position to an ex-offender should be given an NI holiday.

Pensions

The Public Sector Pensions Authority has started addressing the Public Sector Pensions issue. The legacy funding gap must be addressed and it is essential that the outcome is fair to all and sustainable. Existing public pensions must be maintained

Tourism

It is vital we reinvigorate our tourist industry. By specifically targeting activities such as Coasteering, Canoeing, Walking, Dark skies Astronomy and in particular highlighting our unique UNESCO, Man and Biosphere status, coupled with our culture and heritage we should be able to generate all year round tourism. The Government should coordinate publicity to the many events that are unique to the Island. Cruise ships should be further encouraged.

TV Licence

I believe that the decision not to pay for the TV licence for the narrow group of pensioners over 75 not on income support is ill-conceived. The wealthy pensioners can afford to pay, and should, but there is a group of single (mainly widows) who are surviving only on their pension who now have to pay for the licence, which is a great concern to them. Typically they have never been late paying bills as they have set money aside on a regular basis. Many are not able to get out of their house and the TV is a lifeline which will cost them more than a full week's pension. If elected I will certainly take up this matter with the Government and BBC.

Travel

The Government should implement a proper tendering process for the provision of ferry and shipping services to the Island. At least 3 tenders should be sought and the purchase of the Liverpool landing area should go ahead. It is essential the operator of the route makes a profit and is able to invest in new vessels and provide a year round service so vital to the Island.

The current air travel arrangements are not performing well for the Island. Business and tourist travellers need to have a good experience when travelling to the Island if they are to come back again. The Government must develop and put in place a clear strategy to remedy the situation starting with the monitoring and publishing of the on time arrival and departure time statistics









More locally....

Onchan

If elected I would immediately implement a private members bill to amend the name of Garff. A similar private members bill was passed in the last parliamentary session with little loss of parliamentary time. What could the name be to reflect the true description of the constituency? Garff & Onchan North, Garff and North Onchan or perhaps just East? I would hold a consultation with the whole of the sheading and go with the majority view.

Onchan / Garff members can rest assured that I would, if elected, work with the other MHK and give equal time, and the best representation possible, to all members of the constituency.

The promenade refurbishment, parking issues and bus routes and bus station provision all need to be addressed

Laxey

A flood prevention survey is underway and certain measures are already being put in place. The clearing of debris from rivers and culverts must be a priority before winter. This must be maintained to prevent further damage to property. Some of the many trees in the village need trimming.

Sewerage connection to Iris is essential, or a mini treatment plant with an extended outfall pipe, whichever is most cost effective and quickest to implement.

Traffic and parking issues, especially when the mountain road is closed, must be addressed.

We all look forward to the completion of the bridge that will reconnect lower Laxey!!

Maughold

Traffic speed on the main road is a concern. The reception of mobile phone signals and broadband speed both need to be improved.

If I am elected on the 22nd I will do my best to work with the other MHK to give all the people of Garff (including the new Onchan members) and the Isle of Man the representation they deserve. I will try to engender a sense of urgency, teamwork and focus to take the Isle of Man forward and make it a fit place for our future generations.









What is Martyn's background?

Employment :- Director of a local precision aerospace engineering company.

During the last 30 years Martyn has piloted the company, with the management team through both good and turbulent times. He is used to liaising with the shop floor and the purchasing directors of large aerospace companies alike.

Over the years he has brought a great deal of business to the Island to keep the average 25 employees in employment.

He has worked with DED regarding machine grant assistance and training.

Martyn is currently the Vice chairman of Engineering and Manufacturing Industries committee of the Chamber of Commerce, which works with and has close ties with the DED regarding Waste, Energy, Skills etc.

Martyn was a founder company member of the Isle of Man Aerospace Cluster of companies that recently exhibited at the Farnborough Air show.

He was also the manufacturing judge for three years on Young Enterprise, which is now called Junior Achievement.

Martyn has been described by his colleagues as a team player but one who is not afraid to speak out to express his considered point of view.

Martyn in the community

Martyn moved to Laxey with his wife Tracey in 1980 and had twins Nick and Emily in 1984.

- Martyn has served two terms as a Laxey School Governor.
- Is a member of Laxey and Lonan Heritage Trust and served two terms on the committee.
- Member of Laxey Sailing club and served two terms on the committee.
- Organised many Christmas Variety concerts, the old time music hall and the year 2000 celebrations.
- Is Father Christmas on the lifeboat when it comes to Laxey for the torchlight procession. A keen RNLI and Royal Yachting Association member. Martyn is a Life member and sailing Instructor with Douglas sailing club and a member of Isle of Man Sailing for the Disabled.
- He has won division two of the Round the Island sailing race three times.

- For many years Martyn was a swimming and diving teacher at the NSC at weekends and represented the Island at Rugby 1981-1983.
- He is a life member of Manx National Heritage.
- As founder member of "The Shenanigans Banned" folk group he organised an all Island 100 pub gig raising more than £7,500 for Isle of Man Breakthrough Breast Cancer appeal.







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Polling Stations:

- Onchan Methodist Church.
- Laxey Working Men's Institute,
- Baldrine Methodist Church Hall.
- Maughold Village Church Hall,
- Dhoon Church Hall, Main Road, Glen Mona.

If you require transport to vote please contact 471157 by Tuesday 20th September 2016.