

PLEASE
VOTE
FOR
TIM
GLOVER

A LISTENING VOICE
FOR ARBORY
CASTLETOWN
AND MALEW

HOUSE OF KEYS GENERAL ELECTION
THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER



TIM GLOVER – A LISTENING VOICE FOR ARBORY C

COVID-19

I believe the pandemic presents the Isle of Man with an opportunity to press the reset button and go for a fresh approach.

If we are to truly learn lessons from the past year and a half, we need a different approach.

We need joined-up thinking, sound policies and compassion, for our Island to eventually emerge from the pandemic as a better place. We need a strategic approach across government so that matters are looked at in depth and not as single ticket issues.

During the pandemic, government did work faster and break through bureaucracy – smaller and smarter is the way forward.

However, the pandemic has also seen many people and government take a financial hit. Economic recovery and our health and well-being go hand in hand.

Let's build the community spirit we saw in lockdowns where people watched out for family, friends and neighbours.

Let's keep supporting local businesses.

Let's keep valuing our doctors, nurses and teachers, and many others including posties, refuse collectors, shop workers and delivery drivers.

TIM GLOVER

My hometown is Castletown, I have lived in Malew and currently share a home in Colby with my lovely wife Jane Glover MBE.

My education was at Victoria Road Primary School and at King William's College (on account of my dad being a teacher there).

After many years working in the finance sector, I joined the newsroom at Manx Radio in May 1997.

After 24 years, I have left my role as news editor to campaign to be one of your two MHKs for Arbory, Castletown and Malew.

This demonstrates how committed I am to being one of your representatives.

CASTLETOWN AND MALEW

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As a journalist you listen to people, ask questions, hold people to account and investigate issues – all attributes I will bring to the table if elected as your MHK.

It is time to move from commentary to being an active player.

I take people at face value, treating everyone with respect and as an equal.

I will provide a listening voice for all people in Arbory, Castletown and Malew and around our Island.

If elected, I will be 1 of 24 MHKs – therefore the only promise I can make in this manifesto is to represent you at a local and national level with passion, honesty, openness and understanding.

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GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

Government needs to work as a single legal entity and not in departmental silos.

Many of the issues facing the Island and its people cannot be tackled individually by one department or as a single subject. Solutions need to be sought from all areas of government. Examples appear in this manifesto.

The current budgetary system is one factor behind the silo mentality. I support a strategic body to oversee all areas of policy including overseeing all large capital projects from beginning to end.

Each department will then be free to receive a budget to meet core duties.

This is working smarter, more efficiently, in a joined-up manner and will save money.



ECONOMY

Economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic is the number one priority for government and local businesses.

If government money is in short supply, we are stretched when dealing with healthcare, education, infrastructure (including fixing our roads), our emergency services, benefits, climate change and providing affordable housing to name some of the priority areas.

I will encourage policies which help diversify and grow our economy and support new and existing businesses.

I am against any austerity measures or actions which make people worse off and threaten the social fabric of our Island.

Our economic recovery is to leave no one behind. Government needs a social conscious.

Moving away from the minimum wage to a living wage and limiting zero-hour contracts will reduce the need for income support paid by the taxpayer. This needs to be done quicker than the proposed 5 years.

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AFFORDABLE HOUSING

One of the most talked about topics on the doorstep and a complicated one to sort out.

Government schemes for first time buyers are out-of-touch with the current market. The average house price on the Isle of Man is £313,192 at the end of last year and will be higher now.

The Fixed and First Home Choice schemes refer to an apartment or a house in the range of £140,000 to £190,000 depending on personal financial circumstances.

There are just over 50 houses on new developments classed as “first time buyer” properties available during 2022.

The Mid Rent Scheme quotes a few houses in Colby with rent at 20% below market rate for an initial 12-month period. These houses were built in 2017.

At the time of writing, there are no Buy Back properties available.

The above does not meet demand and there is a further issue for others wanting to get back on the property ladder.

Tynwald needs to debate the matter very early in the next administration in order to allow our younger people stay on Island and for recruiting and retaining doctors, nurses, teachers, police officers and other professionals.

Can government release some of the land it owns for plots to be bought? Do we introduce a two-tier property market – one for residents and one for non-residents with a 5-year qualifying period to be competitive against other jurisdictions? I support moves to cap rents, limit multiple ownerships, use of

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brownfield sites ahead of more house build in the countryside and for all new builds to be eco-friendly.

I have visited passive and eco builds which could potentially help people move on to the property ladder.

Grants are needed for people in public sector housing who want to move on and buy their own home.

HEALTH

Bringing waiting lists down must be the top priority for the newly established Manx Care. Patients should be offered the option of treatment in the UK if they have been waiting for an unacceptable time.

I will support initiatives to attract more consultants, surgeons, nurses, doctors and district nurses to our Island. An expanded mentoring system for nurses training on the Island will lead to positions when qualified.

Mental wellbeing needs to be given much more prominence. The current offering is not fit for purpose and needs more facilities and staff.

People in crisis need immediate help not an appointment the next day as tomorrow may never come. Closer working ties are needed with existing third sector charities in this field.

Mental health is a classic example of an all-government approach being needed. We need to tackle the causes such as addiction, poverty, social exclusion, sub-standard housing and unemployment to name just a few.

Education is key as well – teaching coping strategies and breaking down the stigma so that youngsters grow up feeling able to talk will bring down the alarming number of suicides we currently have on our Island.

Nursing homes should be inspected on a regular basis so that safe standards are maintained. There should be a cap on the amount people pay for their own care when they need help at home or in a nursing home.

EDUCATION

Ensuring all youngsters get the best possible start in life is key to our future.

I fully support the new build at Castle Rushen High School and am disappointed with the further delay.

An inclusive system of education is desirable with provision across as many schools as possible for pupils with additional educational needs.

The first attempt at introducing a revised Education Bill was rightly pulled. The Bill needs to empower headteachers, teachers and pupils at our 37 schools and University College IOM to be centres of learning excellence. The role of the Education Department is to provide policy to support this aim.

For example:

- Encourage University College IOM to offer further degree and courses for the benefit of commerce and industry on the Island.
- Partnership and sponsorship arrangements between students and businesses with employment on offer at the end of the education cycle.
- Expand apprenticeships to help people gain core skills to support the Island's economic recovery.
- Support the STEP programme where companies in private, public and third sectors host an undergraduate student over an 8-to-12-week period between June and September.
- Investigate a university fee rebate scheme to help Manx students return to work on the Island within 4 years of graduating. This is in addition to the National Insurance Holiday Scheme.
- Continue and expand work placements.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT

Climate Change is a big priority area – The recent UN report states we are in a race to save planet Earth – it is an emergency. We need to be urgent and ambitious.

The Professor Curran report estimates the Island needs to spend £25 million a year to meet the current target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050. This date needs to be revisited.

Good communication is needed to bring the public on this journey. There is an opportunity to bring a green economy to the Island using the Technology Gateway at the airport. This will create jobs and give the Isle of Man the opportunity to be a world leader in dealing with Climate Change solutions.

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The next administration needs to look at:

- Establishing a solar farm.
- Revisit tidal energy and wind turbine options.
- Insulation solutions for old and new properties.
- Air and heat pump solutions.
- Biomass power generation.
- Hydrogen use.
- More comprehensive financial support and grants for homeowners and businesses.
- Refurbishment of schools needs to incorporate green technology – heating, insulation, lighting and ventilation.
- Establish a consultation on free public transport with a green fleet of buses to reduce the number of car journeys being made. Encourage car sharing.
- All new builds should now meet eco requirements – most recent new builds and current developments will need retrofits over the next five years which seems a strange way to be going. Castletown Commissioners rebuild of School Hill and Westhill is a good example of forward thinking.
- Cycleways which are separated from other traffic.

Planting trees is always a good thing and I support further development here. One newly created forest area could provide a way of remembering people who have passed away by planting a tree of choice with the ashes buried or scattered next to it.

Protection of our peat bogs and marine habitats also contribute positively and I support this work.

Flood defences need to be in line with current forecasts.

The “Reduce, Reuse and Recycle” scheme around the Island needs reviewing with more emphasis on reducing waste.

**Our Island's
Biosphere status
needs far greater
promotion.**

FARMING, FISHING AND ANIMAL WELFARE

I will support policies that protect our farming and fishing sectors. This includes businesses set-up supporting the use of local products.

The meat plant shouldn't be under political leadership and the workings of the facility need to be examined to provide value for money.

We need our own Animal Welfare Bill which offers proper protections.

PLANNING

The current system is unfit for purpose. Local Authorities should be able to approve small scale household schemes with planning boards established in the south, east, north and west of the Island.

The Planning Committee will then give final approval or intervene if complications have been found. It will deal with the bigger planning applications.

Interested party status for the larger applications should include affected neighbours, communities and additional third sector organisations such as the Manx Wildlife Trust.

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POLICE

I attended the southern public meeting at the end of July, and it is clear the Police are under pressure.

They are dealing with more sophisticated drug operations and resources are stretched by now policing the borders and the increase in cyber-crime.

The south has a low number of officers and there are increasing reports of anti-social behaviour.

I will support moves to increase police numbers.

HERITAGE AND TOURISM

Our heritage is what makes us different and attractive to visitors. Manx National Heritage and government need to work in a closer and more collaborative way.

Our Island's Biosphere status needs far greater promotion.

Isle of Man Airport and the Sea Terminal look tired. They are a first impression of the Isle of Man for visitors. The gardens and surrounds at Ronaldsway need urgent attention and ongoing maintenance.

The main road from Castletown to Douglas should be prioritised for resurfacing and ongoing works.



ISSUES IN ARBORY, CASTLETOWN AND MALEW

MHKs working closely with the local authorities is important.

All three boards say dealing with the Department of Infrastructure to get things done is slow and very difficult – this needs to change.

Speeding is another issue – I support the use of mobile speed cameras.

The traffic management of the south needs looking at to encourage use of the new bypass through Ballasalla otherwise it is a wasted opportunity. This includes addressing issues in Colby, Ballabeg, Castletown and St Marks.

Arbory School still needs a solution at drop-off and pick up times. The red courtesy crossings in Ballabeg are an accident waiting to happen. Proper recognised crossings are needed.

Public engagement is needed over plans for a one-way system in and out of Castletown centre.

We can all pick a road in the constituency which needs fixing – I will press for action.

It is disappointing the new Castle Rushen High School project has been further delayed. I support the need for a southern swimming pool and the project at KWC.

The Castletown Golf Links Hotel eyesore has gone on for too long now. Derbyhaven residents oppose the plans for a boutique hotel and apartments. The current building is being vandalised and crumbling. It is riddled with asbestos so needs to be demolished as a matter of urgency.

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PLEASE MAKE YOUR
VOTE COUNT ON
THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

YOU CAN VOTE FOR
A MAXIMUM OF TWO
CANDIDATES

POLLING STATIONS

Thursday 23 September
(8am to 8pm)

Colby Methodist Hall
Ballabeg Methodist Hall
Ballasalla Village Hall
Castletown Civic Hall

If you need help getting to your
polling station or with a postal
vote, please contact me on

07624 453786
or at

tingloverash@gmail.com

Follow me on social media where
I will be posting regular updates:

Facebook - **@VoteTG23Sept**

Twitter - **@tingloverash**

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