

WHITEWAY

THE RIGHT WAY FOR RAMSEY



Peter Whiteway

Candidate for Ramsey

Polling Day 24th September 2026

House of Keys General Election 2026

INTRODUCTION

The House of Keys General Election will take place on 24th September 2026. Across the Island, voters will each choose up to 2 candidates they would like to represent their constituency; who will make up the 24 representatives in the House of Keys. Those 24 MHKs collectively will hold the power to control virtually every aspect of Manx public life.

Married to Janeen, we lived and raised our family in Ramsey between 1992 and 2017. We now live in Regaby, have two married grown-up children, who attended Ramsey schools, and two granddaughters, all of whom now live in Ramsey.

Born and educated on the Island I worked in government for over 20 years before being appointed as Ramsey Town Clerk in 2002. I retired in 2022, and now serve in a number of voluntary roles to support the local and island community.

My current and recent voluntary roles include

- Trustee of Ramsey Town Band,
- Chairman of Ramsey Branch Royal National Lifeboat Institution,
- Trustee of The Norbury Boathouse Trust,
- Trustee and Chairman of Ramsey Citizens Advice,
- Former Trustee of Isle of Man Live at Home – retired June 2026,
- Member of the Isle of Man Education Council,
- Education Council Governor for several Island schools, and
- Member of the Isle of Man Planning Committee.

My personal interests include spending time with my family, especially our grandchildren, cycling, sea swimming, walking, DIY, gardening, and supporting Ramsey Rugby Club, community initiatives and events.

SHAPING TOMORROW, TOGETHER

People in Ramsey are proud of their town, but they also know when it is being overlooked. Ramsey needs a strong voice, to be recognised by government and invested in.

I am standing because I am passionate about Ramsey and its community. I have the experience and skills to influence decisions which will make Ramsey and the Island a better place for everyone.

Good representation is not about one person claiming to have every answer. It is about listening, researching, bringing people with the right skills together, being honest about choices and working collaboratively to create an environment where people and business can flourish and the economy can grow. If elected I will:

- **Listen first:** hold regular public surgeries and maintain communication with residents, businesses and community groups.
- **Demand delivery:** ask clear questions, follow up decisions and publish updates on progress.
- **Work constructively:** bring residents, Ramsey Commissioners, Tynwald colleagues, government departments, community organisations and local businesses together where collaboration can deliver better results.
- **Put Ramsey first:** challenge any policy that leaves Ramsey behind or shifts costs onto local ratepayers without fair funding.

RAMSEY MATTERS

Ramsey Cottage Hospital and local health services

Ramsey Cottage Hospital matters deeply to people in the north; it allows residents to receive care in familiar surroundings with the support of their community around them. I will fight for the future of Ramsey Cottage Hospital because local care should be strengthened, not quietly diminished. If elected I will:

- Defend and promote the role of Ramsey Cottage Hospital and seek clear commitments on its future services.
- Press for better access to appointments, community nursing, diagnostics, rehabilitation, mental health support, and for better services for older people.
- Demand transparent decision-making from Manx Care and government, with proper consultation and justified explanation before service changes are made.
- Support stronger recruitment and retention of directly employed health and care staff across the Island.



Ramsey quayside, harbour and town centre regeneration

The Quayside provides parking, access for shoppers, protection against flooding and an invaluable haulage route for imported and exported goods through our port.

With imagination, proper planning and real commitment, the harbour, West Quay and the surrounding streets can become a stronger place for local businesses, homes, community life and visitors, without losing the character that makes Ramsey distinctive.

Generating footfall in the Town Centre will ensure that the Towns varied independent and other retailers, cafes, restaurants and pubs can flourish, enhancing the community and providing employment opportunities. If elected I will:

- Seek a practical regeneration plan for the West Quay, the harbour area and the town centre.
- Seek to find ways to encourage commercial property owners to invest in properties including live above the shop schemes providing town centre footfall to local businesses.
- Promote Ramsey as a place to live, work, visit and invest.

Brownfield development sites in the town

Brownfield sites offer a real opportunity to create homes, workspace and better public spaces. This approach can breathe new life into neglected areas while protecting the countryside around us. If elected I will:

- Lobby for powers to make vacant sites become available for development.
- Ensure brownfield regeneration supports Ramsey's character, local businesses and long-term resilience.
- Support well-designed development on brownfield and town-centre sites, including housing, workspace and community use.

OUR ISLAND MATTERS

Education and employment opportunities for young people

Young people are central to the future of the Island. They need good schools, realistic routes into work, affordable training, and confidence that they can build a life on the Island.

Education should prepare young people not only for exams, but for employment, enterprise, public service, caring roles and community leadership. We should do more to connect education with local employers, supported apprenticeships, further higher education and develop opportunities in digital skills, trades, care, hospitality, construction, engineering, the creative sector and emerging green industries. If elected I will:

- Support high standards in schools, proper resources for teachers and early help for pupils who need additional support.
- Promote stronger links between schools, University College Isle of Man, local employers and voluntary organisations.
- Back apprenticeships, vocational training and work experience routes that lead to real jobs and career opportunities.
- Press government to listen directly to young people when shaping education, housing, transport and employment policy.

Housing Provision and Costs

Housing is one of the biggest pressures facing families, young people, older residents and key workers across the Island. The issue is not only how many homes are built, but whether they are the right type, in the right place, at a cost local people can realistically afford.

The Island needs a balanced approach: more social and affordable housing, better use of empty and under-used properties, sensitive brownfield development. New housing must also come with the infrastructure, schools, health services, open space and transport links needed to make communities work.

If elected I will:

- Support the delivery of more genuinely affordable homes, including social housing, sheltered housing and first-time buyer opportunities.
- Prioritise brownfield and town-centre sites where suitable.
- Press for clearer action on empty and under-used properties so existing buildings are brought back into productive occupation.
- Press for better support schemes for young people entering the property market.

Manx Care and care for our elderly

When health services are under pressure, families are immediately hit. Long waits, difficulty getting appointments, gaps in support and uncertainty about care all add stress at times when people are already vulnerable. We need a health care system that is easier to access, better at prevention and more honest with the public about delivery. If elected I will lobby to:

- Improve access to primary care and reduce avoidable pressure on emergency services.
- Invest in prevention, early mental health support and community-based care.
- Support carers and improve pathways for older people and those with complex needs.
- Hold Manx Care and Ministers accountable for performance, communication and delivery.

Government Deficit

The Island cannot continue relying on reserves to cover day-to-day spending. Public money must be managed carefully, with clear priorities and proper scrutiny of whether services are delivering value for residents. Protecting essential services matters, but so does tackling waste, duplication and long-term commitments that are not properly funded. If elected I will:

- Press for a credible plan to reduce the structural deficit without simply passing costs onto households, businesses or local ratepayers.
- Support a proper review of major spending commitments, especially where costs are rising faster than income.
- Back efficiency, transparency and accountability so government lives within its means while protecting frontline services.

Local Government Structures

Local government should be close to the people it serves. Town, village and parish authorities understand local priorities, maintain important services, and provide a direct route for residents to raise concerns. Any reform of local government must strengthen accountability and delivery, not simply move decisions further away from communities. If elected I will:

- Support a transparent review of local government responsibilities, funding and boundaries, with proper consultation before decisions are made.
- Oppose reform that centralises decision-making without improving services, accountability or value for money.
- Protect the role of locally elected representatives in shaping services, public spaces, local infrastructure and community priorities.
- Use my experience in local government to argue for practical reform that works for residents, staff and ratepayers.

Rating

The Islands rating systems stems from an assessment of notional property rental values dating back to 1969. It is an embarrassment that this system has prevailed for over 55 years without being reviewed or updated.

A revaluation or change to a capital value rate, or other fair and equitable system, is badly needed. Within local authority areas the overall collection need not change, only the proportions met by individual properties, the variances may not actually be that great. The major impact would be in relation to rates collected for central services – water and sewerage – where it is likely that an increased burden would fall to rural properties and reductions applied to town property charges where infrastructure costs are lower in any event. If elected I will:

- Press for a fundamental review of the rating system.
- Resist the use of the rates system to fund centrally delivered services.

Mooar Vannin offshore wind farm proposals

The proposed Mooar Vannin offshore wind farm is one of the most significant decisions facing the next administration. Renewable energy, energy security and economic opportunity matter, but a project of this scale must be judged carefully, transparently and be in the long-term interests of the Island. If elected I would:

- Support a full, independent and transparent assessment of the proposals before any final decision is made.
- Require clear evidence on visual impact, marine ecology, fisheries, navigation, tourism, community benefit and long-term decommissioning responsibilities.
- Ensure any economic benefits, skills opportunities, supply-chain work, community funds and decommissioning costs and funding are real, enforceable and meaningful for the Isle of Man.

- Protect the principle that major decisions affecting Manx waters must be made openly in the public interest, with proper scrutiny by Tynwald and full regard to local voices.
- Take a balanced approach: supporting the need for cleaner energy while insisting that environmental, community and economic concerns are properly answered.

Food Security

Ramsey and the north benefit from superb local produce suppliers. As an Island we should protect and enhance our farmers position in the market, aiming to increase considerably the amount of Manx produce consumed locally, and ensure they are not subject to arduous restrictions or unfair competition from imported goods. If elected I would:

- Promote more on-island food production so we are less reliant on imported produce
- Seek to ensure local producers are protected from unfair competition or overburdensome regulation especially when it is not applied in countries where comparable imported goods are sourced from.

Proportionate representation

Every voter in Ramsey will have two votes they can use on polling day. Whilst canvassing I have been clear, vote for candidates you think will make the most beneficial change, I will not be offended if you don't think I am one of the candidates you want, but please vote for someone. The towns representatives need to know that the town is behind them.

At the 2021 General Elections elected MHK's across the island received as few as 14% of the available votes from an overall turnout of only 50.8%. On average elected representatives were supported by 26% of the Islands voters. If elected I will:

- seek support to review the voting processes
- promote changes to improve voter turnout
- find ways which ensure your representatives are elected by a majority so that they have a clear mandate from the electorate

POLLING DAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2026

I am standing for a Ramsey that is heard, respected and taken seriously. Above all, I will listen, be visible, chase progress and put Ramsey first. My promise is to help shape tomorrow, together — working with people across Ramsey and the Isle of Man for a future that is secure, practical, ambitious and fair to every generation.

Leading up to polling day, I will be out and about and would welcome the opportunity for a chat. Updates and information will be posted on my Facebook page:

<https://facebook.com/Whiteway4Ramsey>

You can also contact me by email at

whiteway4ramsey@gmail.com

and I will do my best to respond to your questions and suggestions.

Please contact me if you would like a large print or PDF version of this document, or if you need assistance getting to the polling station, and I will do my best to assist subject to sufficient notice.

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT POLLING DAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2026

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Published by Peter Whiteway, Westfield, Regaby West Road, Andreas, IM7 3HL
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