

HOUSE OF KEYS ELECTION 2006 (RUSHEN)

Dear voter (& prospective voter)

I would like to introduce myself as a candidate for Rushen in the forthcoming House of Keys election to be held on **Thursday 23rd November 2006**. My name is Adrian Tinkler. I have been married to Frances since 1978 and we have five children. I was born in Dublin in 1953 and moved to the Isle of Man with my family in 1989 to take up a position as an accountant for a financial services company in Douglas. Prior to 1989 I lived and worked in Ireland. My parents were originally from Warrington, Cheshire. I am a Chartered Secretary and Chartered Insurer and currently work as a Company Secretary/Compliance Officer for an insurance management company in Douglas. During a long and varied business career I have held senior management roles in both Finance and Administration and have served on numerous committee posts related to community, school and sports organisations. I have been a Rushen Parish Commissioner since 2001, having lived in the South for over 16 years.

I believe this experience equips me well to serve the voters of Rushen as your Member of the House of Keys and I would very much welcome your support in November. I feel that there are many problems that need to be addressed by Government and many serious political misjudgements have been made since the 2001 election. It is vital that great care is taken to elect politicians that can identify the problems, seek solutions and be brave enough to speak out and tackle them. I believe that I can fulfil this role. I strongly support the direction that the Manx economy is headed. We have seen excellent economic growth during the last two decades mainly attributable to the emergence of the Finance Sector. With the decline of other sectors such as Tourism, Manufacturing and Agriculture, largely due to factors outside our control, it is vital to focus upon new initiatives such as Online/Internet Services, the Film Industry, the Finance Sector and specialist niche industries. The threats implicit in cheaper air travel, labour costs and the ending of EU derogations for Tourism, Manufacturing and Agriculture respectively could spell economic disaster unless we have viable alternatives to fall back on. I would like to see the Finance Sector, which is the primary source of wealth for us all, better represented in Tynwald and my candidacy is strongly linked to this ideal.



I can be contacted by email to voteatrushen.net or tinkler@manx.net or by mobile on 07624 404458. My website address is voteatrushen.net. I hope to visit as many homes as possible between now and November and would obviously be pleased to discuss any issues you might wish to raise. I will deliver a manifesto nearer in due course. By way of example these are some of the issues I feel need to be urgently addressed:

- **Finances:** The 2006/07 Government budget projects net spending of £522m, an increase of 8.2% over 2005/06, to be funded from higher taxes. I support an independent Public Accounts or Audit Commission that can assess value for money in all areas of Government and thus hopefully reduce the tax burden for all.
- **Transparency of Government:** Does anyone remember "glasnost" (Openness) and "Perestroika" (Reconstruction) following the collapse of the Soviet Union? We need this urgently in Government for 2006-2011, to ensure that the serious financial and political problems that have taken place since 2001 are never repeated. We need elected politicians that are prepared to make a difference - I sincerely believe that I can!
- **Housing:** We need:
 - (a) The existing Government loan scheme increased to a more realistic level.
 - (b) The existing housing list system to be replaced by a broader regional one.
 - (c) More affordable housing and a proper Strategic Plan for the South.
 - (d) More local authority & retirement housing for the South.

- **Health:** We need:
 - (a) More dental facilities and elimination of the current waiting lists.
 - (b) More respite facilities for carers and their families.
 - (c) More Day-care & Respite facilities for Special Needs and Geriatric patients.
 - (d) Full utilisation of the New Southlands complex for its original purpose.
 - (e) Separation of Health Services, Social Services and Social Welfare into more manageable units, and tighter financial scrutiny and control.
- **Education:** The Department of Education is facing severe budgetary constraints; however the needs of our schoolchildren must not be compromised for financial reasons.
- **Decentralisation:** I strongly support adoption of a long-term policy whereby some key Government departments are relocated out of Douglas.
- **Parliamentary Reform:** I support the provision of fairer representation for the people by a review of the existing Keys structure to a 2 x 12 model for the 24 elected MHK's. Elections should be held in August/September. The Legislative Council issue is contentious and I support a referendum on the most acceptable way forward.
- **Local Government Reform:** I would tentatively support limited reform of Local Authorities provided that some of the powers and responsibilities they have lost in the past are given back.
- **Rateable valuation:** I support reform of our existing system, which is now clearly outdated.
- **Water Rates:** Domestic water rates should be based on usage. I would support a scheme that introduces water metering on a phased basis, subject to due care being taken to ensure the less well-off are not penalised as a result.
- **Transport:** Government must ensure when licensing new carriers or new air links that the airlines commit to providing services for a minimum period of time. The recent upgrade of the railway line should have led to provision of a modern commuter rail service for the South, but this idea was shelved and should be revisited.
- **Policing:** An All-Island speed limit in isolation is not the answer to traffic accidents, since it is unlikely that this could ever be properly policed. More police officers on the beat are needed and closer links between the police and community are essential to generate goodwill and mutual respect. Greater attention should be paid to educating young people in particular about speeding and driving under the influence of drink or drugs. Drugs and substance abuse of course are a major problem. I support doing more to prevent drugs coming into the Island by greater use of sniffer dogs, CCTV and increased random searches at points of entry.
- **Tourism/Leisure:** I support a Southern Area Leisure facility, possibly at Ballakilley; A BMX course similar to the one in Ramsey would be excellent. The proposed adoption of the Meayll Peninsula as a National Heritage Area is a good idea, provided that management is entrusted to a representative committee of interested parties.

The above are only some of the many issues that will influence our everyday lives in this wonderful community we live in. I would ask everyone to use their vote and help make a difference. You will have an opportunity to vote for three candidates and I hope you will have sufficient confidence in my candidacy to give me one of these valuable votes!

Adrian Tinkler

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For further information on the function of the House of Keys & Tynwald, please refer to the tynwald.org.im website