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ISLE OF MAN GENERAL ELECTION 2006

DAVID BUTTERY

CANDIDATE FOR DOUGLAS SOUTH

MANIFESTO

- ACCOUNTABILTY, EFFICIENCY & OPENESS IN GOVERNMENT
- CONTROLLED IMMIGRATION
- JOBS & WAGE SAFEGUARDS AGAINST LOW PAID IMPORTED LABOUR
- CCTV MONITORING TO COMBAT STREET CRIME
- EFFECTIVE FINANCIAL CONTROL OF THE HOSPITAL
- INVESTMENT IN YOUTH FACILITIES & JOB FOCUSED EDUCATION
- REALISTIC PENSIONERS FUEL ALLOWANCE & CHILDCARE ASSISTANCE FOR WORKING PARENTS
- FIRST TIME BUYERS SHARED OWNERSHIP SCHEME
- PROMOTION OF MANX PRODUCE TO REDUCE FOOD MILES & CARBON EMISSIONS
- TOURIST ACCOMMODATION GRANTS REPLACED WITH TAX ALLOWANCES

home page1 :: page 2 :: page 3.: page 4**ACCOUNTABILITY EFFICIENCY & OPENENESS**

Good government is the foundation of a successful and decent society. We as a community deserve a government dedicated to the future well being of this Island and its people, a government that is forward thinking, business friendly, delivers value for money, is transparent in its activities and above all accountable for its actions.

I would support the following measures for positive reform:

- Introduce a Freedom of Information Act.
- Establish an Independent Audit Commission to oversee capital spending
- Put the heads of government departments on five-year employment contracts and stop the “jobs for life” mentality which can foster poor performance.
- End the practice of budgeting departments based on last years spend.
- Increase efficiency by merging the smaller departments and give them a set function that does not conflict or overlap with other departments. Have a clear chain of command in management to identify responsibility.
- Privatised departments, only where it can be proved to benefit the public and deliver better services.
- The Legislative Council is elected by the House of Keys, the very body it is supposed to oversee. Stop this conflict of interest and make Leg Co. independent by having it publicly elected.

CONTROLLED IMMIGRATION

Under the present agreement with the UK and EU we are obliged to allow anyone with the right to enter the UK the same right to enter the Island . Our only control is the work permit system, which will be made unworkable by the European Human Rights Act becoming law here in November.

- Secure Manx jobs and prevent a low wage economy developing by making it an offence to pay an immigrant worker less than the Manx workers rate for the job.
- Bring in the Residence Act 2001 in conjunction with a points based system like Australia 's and restrict immigration to persons filling a proven jobs shortage or bringing investment.

LAW & ORDER

Last year there were nearly a thousand offences of assault & public order, mostly in Douglas and at night. At the moment the CCTV system is recorded for later viewing and not used in conjunction with police operations.

- Allow the police full time monitoring of the CCTV system to increase crime prevention & detection. A similar scheme in Sheffield has cut crime dramatically.
- Toughen up checks at the ports to prevent undesirables getting here in the first place.
- Use reformed addicts to give drug education in schools, this would be more realistic and unglamorous than using the police for this role.
- Allow prisoners to repay their debt to society by cleaning up the beaches & footpaths. It seems a waste to have fit young men brooding away in jail when they could be doing something useful.

EDUCATION & YOUTH

There is a chronic lack of investment in youth facilities, particularly in South Douglas .

- Provide a large warehouse unit to house a skateboard & BMX track, rock wall, band practice studio, Internet room etc. Such a unit would provide all weather and after dark facilities away from residential areas.

Our exam results are way up in the UK league tables but many children still fail to achieve their potential in this “one size fits all” system.

- Create more vocational training and apprenticeship places so that all school leavers have marketable skills.

home page1 :: page 2 :: page 3.: page 4**SOCIAL CARE**

We suffer the most expensive fuel costs in Europe .

- Give pensioners a realistic winter fuel payment, and bear in mind our winter can be nine months long.

The more local people in work means the less we have to rely on imported labour

- Allow tax credits against nursery care expenses and make it worthwhile for parents to go back to work.

Poor parenting is the major factor in causing youth crime.

- The New Zealand early intervention scheme should be tried out here. Under this scheme problem families are provided with parenting assistance from birth to school and beyond.

This provides both routine and structure for the child and has had good results in the long term.

NOBLES HOSPITAL

The report by the Healthcare Commission into Nobles was critical of waste and inefficiency caused by outdated management practices, lack of a clear operational plan & no proper ways of measuring performance.

Money wasted on sloppy practice is money diverted away from patient care.

- Draw up a timetable for implementing the recommendations in the Healthcare Commission report
- Make annual comparisons to hospitals in the UK
- Increase private funding to the hospital by giving tax breaks to surgeons carrying out private work. Patients currently travel all over the EU for procedures, we should be cashing in on some of that business.

HOUSING

We have some of the most expensive housing in the British Isles leaving many people with little hope of owning their own home.

- Shared Equity Schemes, where the government owns part of the equity in the property have been a great success in the UK , get one off the ground here.
- Make available on a lease-buy basis, government building plots for self-builders.
- Bring together all council & commissioners housing under one all island housing authority to streamline maintenance and waiting lists.
- Set up a feasibility study into the right of tenants to buy their own council properties.

GREEN ISSUES

The incinerator and the power station fiasco have dampened any meaningful recycling and wind & tide electricity projects, but we should not postpone these issues.

- Set an agenda (and stick to it) for recycling and reduction of carbon emissions
- 14% of all carbon emissions are caused by transporting food around the globe. Promote a "Buy Manx Produce" campaign to reduce greenhouse gas, help the Manx economy and improve our diet.
- Remove planning restrictions on domestic wind turbines
- Release government land for a self-build starter scheme of "carbon neutral homes"
- Safeguard our fish & shellfish stocks by extending the territorial limit to 12 miles and closing off fish nursery grounds.

TOURISM

The present grants system designed to improve tourist accommodation has been abused.

- Replace this system with tax & VAT credits allowable on earnings from improved or new accommodation.

The Steam Packet Company is giving us poor service and high fares.

- Get rid of the link-span user agreement and the Steam Packet monopoly and allow some healthy competition on our sea routes.

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MY PROFILE

Aged 49 I have three grown up children and one grandson

I grew up around Douglas Harbour attending local schools and IOM College .

We returned to the island in 1990 after living in London and the US .

In 1991 we established the Route 66 Diner, which was sold in 1998 when we opened the Tanroagan Seafood Restaurant.

In order to concentrate on politics the Tanroagan was sold this year and I now work part time as a lobster fisherman.

I compete in local mountain bike events and enjoy travel, I am also involved with the Manx based charity CRC and their School in Cambodia .

In 2001 I stood for this seat and beat three other candidates, coming in just behind the two sitting members.

I am hardworking, approachable and straightforward, if I say I'm going to do something then I do it.

If elected I will work toward the principals set out in this manifesto and be available to the residents of Douglas South for support, advice and a voice in Tynwald.



David Buttery
Your Candidate for Douglas South

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