

“Time for Change”
In
North Douglas



VOTE
COLEMAN

On
November 23rd

Manifesto

Michael R. Coleman - Policy Statement

As a candidate for the House of Keys I believe that the Isle of Man should be judged on how it looks after those who are not able to look after themselves and how the policies of Government benefit all sections of society. Government must serve the people and not be there to benefit and serve the egos of those participating in the administrative process. To avoid this it is essential that Government is open and transparent to facilitate scrutiny and challenge.

If elected in November I will represent you by scrutinising Government initiatives and promoting your interests in the House of Keys. I will not accept favour or position at the expense of my commitment to serve the people of North Douglas faithfully and with integrity.

Please use your vote on the 23rd of November and take part in the democratic process.



Michael R Coleman
LLB(Hons)(Open), CEng, FBCS CITP, FIMIS

"Mike Coleman is one of the most all-round capable new candidates we have had for the House of Keys in a very long time. I fully endorse his candidacy in North Douglas. We need him to succeed in November"
Peter Karran MHK, 10th August 2006

Manifesto Highlights

- More professional financial control and budgeting by Government, especially on Capital projects.
- Urgent implementation of effective Immigration and Population Control.
- Realistic increases in State Pensions.
- Need for more Government housing.
- Additional assistance for “first time buyers”.
- Open and accountable Government.
- Detailed consideration of all recommendations about the “privatisation” or “corporatisation” of public functions.
- Remove Council of Ministers inbuilt majority.
- Additional community policing resources.
- Provision of venues for young people.
- More and different types of apprenticeship.
- University tuition fees guaranteed for 4 years.
- Monopolies Legislation.
- Single point of contact for access to Social Services with a full client management agreement.
- No means testing for Residential and Nursing care.
- Free PublicTransport.

The Economy

The last 25 years has seen the Island benefit from a growing economy fuelled mainly by the Finance Industry. At the same time it has seen traditional industries such as manufacturing, traditional tourism, farming and fishing decline.

Great care must be taken by Government to ensure that the Finance Industry continues to be vibrant and that legislative burdens, prompted internally or externally to the Isle of Man, do not put this sector at risk. The Government must be robust in rejecting pressures from external organisations, such as the OECD, to impose constraints on any local industry.

Government attempts to diversify the economy are to be applauded and have resulted in a growing Film Industry, e-commerce and e-gaming. The selection of Boeing to manage the fibre optic cable, laid with the MEA electricity cable, has great potential for the Isle of Man becoming a communications Portal of world significance. Unfortunately there have situations where “start up” financing and grants appear to have been awarded without sufficient investigation into the recipient’s Business Plan which resulted in the enterprise folding or leaving the Island.

Government must ensure that the Isle of Man does not become dependant on any of these new sectors which could prove to be transient. The United States’ aggressive approach to jurisdictions accepting wagers over the internet in contravention of the US Wire Act could result in retaliation against non gaming related Isle of Man organisations. The definition of gaming by the United Nations in their Consolidated Product Categorisation as “a recreational service” could mean that the EU could prohibit gaming in the Isle of Man from the EU as Protocol 3 Article 1 only provides for free movement of goods and not services. EU member countries are also starting to realise they are losing gaming duty because of the internet and are imposing local legislation. Italy has passed legislation prohibiting all forms of gaming within the home.

I would fully support the Government in their development of a more diversified economy as long as I felt that sufficient “due diligence” had been performed on the recipient of any Government incentives, that there would be sufficient ongoing scrutiny of the incentive recipients and that the industry involved was viable in the Isle of Man environment. I would like to see a “science park” established. This might have the “knock on” effect of kick starting a niche manufacturing industry to produce low quantity “first runs” and high value, low volume items.

Government has introduced tax incentives to attract new organisations to the Isle of Man. This has involved removing Company Tax for non-finance companies, capping individual tax and there is a proposal to cap finance company tax at £6m. These are indeed significant incentives. Unfortunately the “blanket” method of implementation has reduced revenues to the Treasury by £25m from existing local companies also qualifying for the incentives.

I will only support this type of incentive if it only is applicable to significant organisations, or individuals, not already resident in the Isle of Man. The incentives

already implemented have benefited the wealthy whereas the ordinary family man has seen little benefit.

The management of major Capital Schemes over the last 10 years has resulted in a number of high profile situations whereby it is obvious that there has been profligate waste of the tax payer's money. Lack of business acumen has also allowed monopoly agreements to have been entered into that do not seem to be in the best interests of the people of the Isle of Man. It is our children and grandchildren that will be required to pay for these obligations.

I will only support future capital schemes when I am convinced that the scheme is a part of a cogent departmental business plan, a realistic budget has been proposed, project responsibilities adequately allocated and review points established. MHK's asking questions when financial scandals surface is too late. It is closing the stable door after the horse has bolted.

Immigration

Immigration is the greatest concern of the people in North Douglas. Almost every house visited raised it as a concern. At the last election in 2001 MHK's included this in their manifestos as requiring action. The action taken was to pass the 2001 Residency Act. This was the Primary Legislation that was meant to be followed up by the detailed regulations and eventual implementation. Nothing has been done to create this Secondary Legislation and no form of control has been implemented. It is now widely recognised that the 2001 Act is unworkable and also that Government has no idea how many people are living in the Isle of Man. The recent Census is already discredited and is estimated to understate the population by 10%.

Following the "party line" existing MHK's when asked about immigration reply that immigration is essential to fill jobs that Isle of Man workers don't want. Ministers have stated that the Work Permit System provides sufficient control of the population. This view, from a head in the sand, totally ignores dependants subsequently joining Work Permit holders and those retiring to the Isle of Man. Both views miss the point that Control is not necessarily Limitation.

Who is it that benefits from an "open door" policy. Treasury Ministers are normally in favour of immigration. This is because the workers add to the GDP and make the economy look better. Property developers want an "open door" policy so that there are customers for their properties.

I believe that the most urgent issue to be addressed by the new Government is that of Immigration Control. For Immigration Control to work effectively it requires barriers at every point of entry to the Isle of Man meaning that returning residents will be required to show evidence of residence in the form of a biometric Id. Card. As many residence already carry Tesco or Shoprite cards this should not add significant burden.

Temporary visitors would be required to show a return ticket valid within one month and fill in an entry form. Without this type of control individuals will enter the Island and disappear into the “black economy”.

To ensure that those granted Residence in the Isle of Man are economically sustainable a points system similar to those of Australia and Canada should be implemented. These systems treat value to the economy as positive points and burdens as negative points and failure to achieve a minimum number of points results in residence being denied. Based on these points a Work Permit would be granted to the worker and Residence permits for the worker, partner and children would be granted. If one of the dependants wants to work they would need to apply for their own permit. This should be the only situation where a work permit is granted to an individual on the Island. It should not be possible to get off the ferry and look for work. Work should be obtained prior to entry. There might be some professions for which it would not be possible to obtain a work permit.

Work/residence permits would require police and medical checks as part of the approval process.

As Residence Permits are linked to Work Permits if employment ceases so does residence after 3 months.

As with all systems there are those who would attempt to circumvent the rules. To avoid this it might be necessary to revisit the status of children born to foreign nationals and the definition of “marriages of convenience”.

Pensions

State Pension & Isle of Man Supplement

The recent 2.6% increase in the Isle of Man Retirement Pension was derisory. It was rapidly absorbed by above inflation increases in rents and energy. This increase was awarded in the same budget that saw the introduction of individual tax capping at £100,000. The 2.6% was constrained by the link to pensions paid in the UK.

In a civilised society the contribution made by pensioners to the Isle of Man would be adequately appreciated. If the Retirement Pension is to be inflation linked then it should be based upon Isle of Man inflation and not UK inflation.

I will support and lobby for any initiative to restore the link between the Retirement Pension and earnings. The UK has announced this as an objective therefore the Isle of Man should follow.

The Manx Pension Supplement should be available to all pensioners who have been resident in the Isle of Man for 10 years on the basis that for any years that they have not contributed to Isle of Man National Insurance they can make up the deficit by paying Voluntary Class 3 contributions in retrospect.

Private Pensions

The decline of Final Salary pension schemes is an inevitability. Company reporting requirements require that any or under funding of such schemes is reported in the annual accounts. For public companies this can cause the share price to fluctuate and together with the vagaries of the markets used for the underlying assets causes uncertainty. This has resulted in organisations moving to Money Purchase pension schemes.

When members of Money Purchase schemes reach retirement they are allowed to take 25% of their accumulated fund as a tax free lump sum. The remainder can be taken in cash after payment of tax or invested in an Annuity. At the present time for every £10000 invested in an annuity a pension of £600 per annum is payable. There is normally a minimum period that this sum would be paid and some annuities allow for indexing and partners pension but at lower rates. When all pensions are paid the original Capital reverts to the Annuity supplier rather than becoming part of the members estate.

With annuity rates just above deposit rates I would like to see a “ring-fenced” fixed deposit introduced. Upon retirement the pensioner would be allowed the option of putting their pension fund into a “pension deposit”. The amount deposited would remain a part of the pensioner’s estate and could not be withdrawn. Interest on the deposit would be paid to the pensioner. The pensioner would be allowed one opportunity to transfer the deposit to an annuity.

For those heeding the advice of saving for retirement should be provided with a tax free savings vehicle, or receive the first £2000 of interest income tax free.

Pensioners should also be given special rates for official documents such as Passports. Expecting a pensioner to find £66 for a passport is unreasonable.

Housing

For those already on the property ladder the housing situation in the Isle of Man is not too bad. For those not on the ladder the prospect of owning their own home can seem an unattainable dream. The Catch-22 situation whereby you only qualify for the “first time buyers” grant if your family income is less than £25000 means that there is normally insufficient income to raise an adequate mortgage. Even if a mortgage is obtained it is a struggle to pay it off.

One of the reasons that house prices are so high is the investors buying to let. This means that non Manx residents can buy property in the Isle of Man and rent it out. This type of buyer creates demand which fuels house price increases.

For those trying to obtain a Corporation house the wait seems interminable as the number on the waiting list greatly exceeds the number of properties available.

I will progress more inventive solutions to assist “first time buyers” such as Part-Equity schemes with DOLGE as the equity partner and additional grants, in the form of non repayable loans, for buyers who would be vacating Corporation housing. If an additional loan of £30,000 was available to those proposing to leave Corporation housing then an additional housing resource would be created at a low cost. The non-interest bearing loan amount outstanding would be decreased by £2,000, without payment for every year the property is occupied by the borrowers. Thus at the end of 15 years the loan is automatically repaid. If the house is sold prior to 15 years the balance would be repayable.

I will push for the earnings ceiling for “first time buyers” to be raised to £35,000.

I propose that Mortgage Interest Tax Relief should only be available for one mortgage and that this is on the borrower’s primary residence. I will not support the Treasury minister’s suggestion that this situation would be solved simply by capping Relief. This would mean that those without a mortgage on their primary residence could still gain relief on a property they buy to let.

For those on the Corporation housing list who can never aspire to buying their own home additional housing must be made available. A “quick start” programme of constructing additional housing must be budgeted and started as quickly as possible. Emphasis should be placed on providing more one and two bedroom bungalows that could accommodate those who would wish to free up larger family homes.

Greater emphasis must be placed on identifying those who abuse their Corporation housing. There are suggestions that some houses are occupied only for part of the year and that some houses are being rented out whilst the official tenant lives elsewhere. These abuses must stop.

Open and Accountable Government

The numerous examples of financial mismanagement by the existing Administration might have surfaced earlier if the process of Government had been more open, transparent and accountable. Questions were posed by Peter Karran MHK regarding the allegedly unauthorised MEA loans long before the issue exploded. The Government chose to ignore his warnings to the detriment of the people of the Isle of Man.

To achieve Open and Accountable Government I will push for the following changes

- Public Election for Members of the Legislative Council
- No Member of the Legislative Council can be a Minister
- Although the post of Auditor General has been approved I believe that the role should be extended to cover prevention as well as “after the fact” investigation. Proposed major capital projects should be audited.
- Creation of an Independent Ombudsman to look into how complaints about Government departments have been handled
- A Freedom of Information Act to be passed

- A Conflicts of Interests Act to be passed
- Fully introduce the Human Rights Act 2001
- Public Accounts Committee members should include outsiders and MHK's with no Departmental or Statutory board responsibilities

Structure of National and Local Government

The committee charged with looking into this has now reported. Some of the recommendations have already caused concern amongst the Public and Politicians.

Each one of the recommendations made by the Committee needs careful scrutiny. The report was produced as the result of input from the public, existing members of the Administration, the Civil Service, and various lobby groups. Inevitably the submissions made would have been self-serving or just from malcontents. Those satisfied with the existing system are unlikely to have made a submission.

The recommendations made regarding Corporatisation and Privatisation have not been received well. The results of such exercises in the UK have resulted in a decline in public services and a consequent erosion of public confidence.

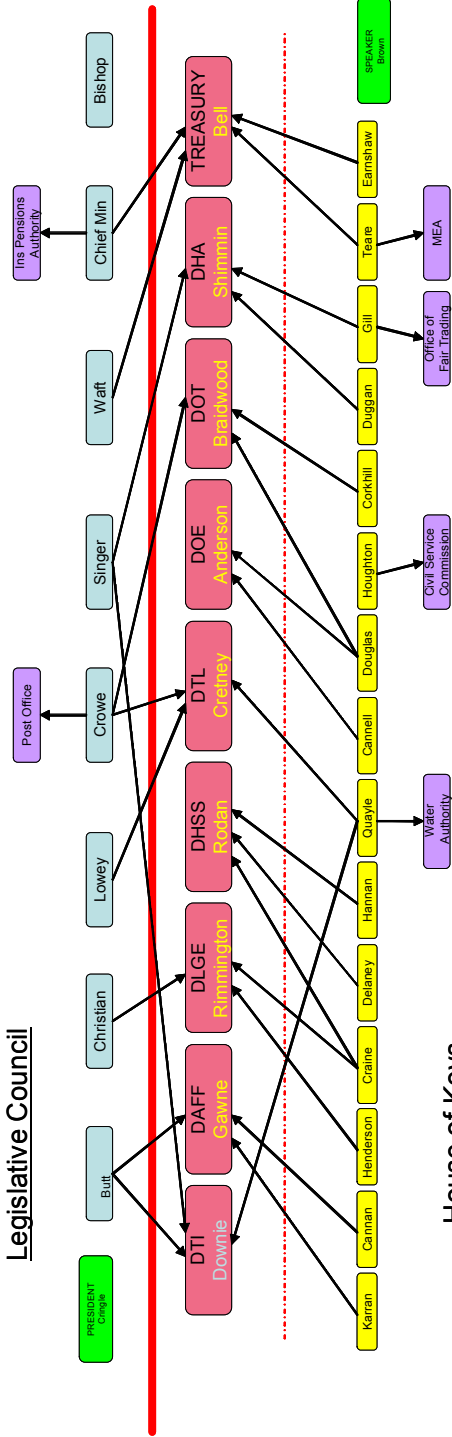
Those regarding the reallocation of responsibilities within Ministries have been described as "shuffling the deck chairs on the Titanic".

I will scrutinise every proposed implementation of these recommendations to ensure that the people of North Douglas and the Isle of Man are protected.

One thing the report failed to mention was the inbuilt majority of the Council of Ministers in the House of Keys which means that any Government Legislation will be passed. On the next page is a diagram showing how responsibilities were allocated in the previous House of Keys and how retention of additional remuneration could influence MHK's to vote in certain ways. There was a recommendation that the number of departmental members should be reduced to one or two but you can see this would make little difference. The number of Ministers must be reduced to provide greater democracy.

Tynwald Structure – September 2006

Legislative Council



House of Keys

Law and Order

Every person living in the Isle of Man has the right to the quiet enjoyment of their home, their local environment and any public place. Every citizen has the right to enter, and enjoy, these places without annoyance and being afraid for their safety. The environment can be detrimentally affected by such things as large commercial vehicles being parked on residential streets or noisy and antisocial neighbours. Of great concern to people in North Douglas is the use of open spaces at night by juveniles congregating to drink alcohol or cause mischief. This has recently occurred in Nobles Park, Willaston Park and on the open space behind the Manor.

I believe that the Chief Constable should be responsible to an Independent Police Authority and that complaints should be handled by an Independent Police Complaints Authority.

In my view Police resources are only sufficient when there is no sickness, no holidays, no officers escorting prisoners and no officers diverted from their main duties. Even at these rare times their local policing resources are limited to responding to incidents.

The current allocation of “public facing” police officers needs to be raised by 20%. This would facilitate preventative policing and a demonstrable police presence on our streets. It would also mean that there could be a full time presence in local police stations such as exists in Willaston. The public has the right to occasionally see a “bobby” walking the beat in their area keeping an eye on things and collecting valuable intelligence.

The morale of the Isle of Man police force must be maintained. Pay increments should be based upon Isle of Man criteria rather than being set through the UK Police Federation.

With a 15 month training period for new police officers the existing personnel cap means that even if it is known that an officer is leaving or retiring in the near future their replacement cannot be brought on board until the current staff member actually leaves. This does not allow the ability to plan for succession meaning that there could be gaps in a vital service.

I support the use of Ant Social Behaviour Orders and the escalation procedure leading to their issuance. The Isle of Man should be robust in dealing with those in breach of the ASBO restrictions. In the UK it has been reported that those breaking the conditions of the ASBO are not being treated sufficiently robustly by the courts. Those breaking the conditions of an ASBO in the Isle of Man should feel the full effect of the law.

Parents of under 16's should be made legally liable for criminal damage caused by their offspring.

I did not agree with the decision to build such a large new prison. I would have preferred to see the purchase of a farm to be used as an “open prison” and a smaller

conventional prison. Prisoners would be sent to the open prison based upon their offence and would be permanently electronically tagged. With such an open facility it would be possible to grow food for other public facilities such as hospitals and schools. Any breach by an open prisoner would result in transfer to the conventional prison.

New, more flexible, sentences should be made available through a Penal Review. In far too many cases when a breadwinner is sent to prison their family must resort to the DHSS for support. In this way the taxpayer is penalised twice by paying for the prisoner and for his family. In suitable cases would it not be better to impose a “weekend sentence” whereby the prisoner works during the week to support his dependents but must be in prison at the weekend. During the week the prisoner would be tagged and not allowed to leave his home after 7pm. Such schemes have proved successful in countries such as Sweden.

There is a constant erosion of places for young people to go for entertainment or to safely congregate. We must provide new venues for young people. Think back at the number of places that were available to young people 25 years ago. We need replacements for Summerland, the Venue, the Lido, the Crescent etc. If we do not provide community centres and other such facilities then we can expect “the devil to make work for idle hands”.

Education

The Isle of Man can be justifiably proud of it's educational record. It is essential that this continues and that further investment is made in educational buildings and in the teaching staff.

The automatic adoption of many UK educational initiatives appears to have resulted in a system that is geared to children being educated to pass tests rather than being educated to face the working world.

It has to be accepted that some children are simply not academic and their needs also need to be satisfied. There should be greater use of NVQ's within the education system. More apprenticeships should be made available where a student is attached to a craftsman but is not his employee and therefore the craftsman does not bear the bureaucratic burden of employees. It is this burden that alienates self-employed craftsmen from offering apprenticeships. The apprentice would be an employee of the DTI.

Consideration of a commercial apprenticeship scheme should also be given. These normally last 3 years and during that time the apprentice spends 6 months working in 6 different parts of the commercial organisation. This type of scheme provides broad commercial experience in a working environment.

University tuition fees should be paid 100% automatically for 4 years. Thereafter payment would be by application. Subsistence grants should be realistic and reflect the cost of travel to and from University. When considering eligibility for subsistence grants greater consideration of the whole family situation should be considered.

Monopolies

There are a number of aspects of life in the Isle of Man that are controlled by Monopolies. These include transport providers, energy and communications suppliers and many more. The European Union defines a Monopoly as an organisation with a dominant market position. In United Brands v Commission (Case 27/76) [1978] ECR 2007 the European Court stated that "an undertaking does not have to have eliminated all opportunity for competition in order to be in a dominant position".

I will seek to have Monopolies legislation introduced to ensure that Monopoly positions are not abused. A similar definition of a Monopoly to that used within the European Union would seem appropriate.

Government will be obliged by statute to tender publicly for all monopoly licences it issues to private companies. These would include the Steam Packet User Agreement and the Manx Telecom licence.

Where other organisations hold a monopoly position the Office of Fair Trading would police price increases, before the event. Special investigation would need to be undertaken when the organisation is also taking profits as part of the supply chain and on the final sale of an item. This would also cover situations where organisations operate on a gross margin basis and their product is subject to Government Duty increases. Should additional profit be allowed on duty increases?

Health and Social Services

Approximately one half of all Government expenditure is spent by the DHSS. A recent UK Health Commission report highlighted failings at Nobles hospital. A recent external audit of the DHSS Finance function made 44 significant recommendations. With all of this expenditure some waiting lists are increasing and quality of care reflects "centres of excellence" and more frequently "centres of bare adequacy". In general when medical care is provided it is of good quality. Where the DHSS falls down is in the area of administration.

I will support the introduction of measures that address both the Health Commission report and the external audit report.

I will lobby for the introduction of a "well man" screening program and will support all initiatives that encourage prevention of disease.

Social Services now provide so many services that it is difficult for a client to know about them all.

I will push for Social Services to introduce an effective "single point of contact" for access to all services, from whatever part of Government. Every client should be allocated a Contact who will ensure that their needs are met. This is a similar system to that used in some parts of the UK for special needs children. This Child Advocacy

Service appoints a Contact and an agreed, auditable, way forward is established between the relevant agencies and the parents.

Greater financial assistance must be made available to those parents who feel that their special needs child would benefit from remaining within the family unit rather than going into care. Recognition must be given to the sacrifices that such responsible and caring parents have to make when considering all other aspects of their life. These additional financial burdens need to be taken into account when considering such issues university subsistence grants for other children of the family.

Residential and Nursing Homes need to operate under more up to date and applicable legislation.

I will also encourage the removal of all means testing for Residential and Nursing Home care. The situation where those entering care must sell their home to pay for their care is unfair. The recent relaxation whereby the home can be rented is welcome but I believe that the person requiring care has already paid for it via their NI contributions.

Childrens Disability Discrimination legislation needs to be enacted. At the present time certain children are being denied access to their parents because the parental home requires additional specialised facilities.

The Environment

The Isle of Man is not immune to the threat of Global warming. Unless the environment is a consideration in all of the decisions that we make we will leave our children with a situation that could be irretrievable. The sooner we start investing in the environment the more chance we have of saving it.

It is to the Island's credit that the Government has mandated that it's own energy use is to be reduced by 20% before 2011. We need to go further and fully subscribe to the terms of the Kyoto Agreement.

I will support all initiatives that involve recycling. It was disappointing that the kerb-side collections in Governors Hill were discontinued because of cost. What was not considered when this decision was made was that it brought re-cycling to the front of peoples minds and did not count the cost to the environment of not continuing.

Government should encourage the use of less polluting vehicles by applying varying rates of Vehicle Tax.

Replaceable energy should be used in the Isle of Man. Tidal and wind generation should be considered.

The use of alternative energy sources should be encouraged by the provision of grants to assist with the installation of Solar Heating, as an example. Planning applications for alternative energy installations should be made simpler for domestic installations below a certain size.

Users must be encouraged to move away from fuels that encourage Global Warming and pollute the local environment. Urban areas of the Isle of Man should be made smokeless zones and financial incentives should make smokeless fuels more economic than polluting fuels.

Other ways that carbon emissions could be reduced is by removing the need for journeys and if they are required provide good quality and frequent free public transport.

Consideration is already being given to a Douglas Congestion Charge. Rather than providing additional parking facilities why not think laterally.

Government should distribute their own offices around the Island. This could remove or shorten journeys and provide much needed revitalisation to other parts of the Island. Dilapidated and unoccupied properties are also detrimental to our personal environment.

Public transport should be made free for all users and upgraded. Smaller buses should be used for off-peak times and additional routes introduced to serve new housing developments more efficiently. A study should be made into the viability of using the existing rail tracks as year round commuter lines using small diesel electric rolling stock. Based upon this study the viability of relaying the track to Peel should be considered.

Tourism / Transport – Off Island

The cost of transport on and off the Island is one of the major factors impacting on tourism. Traditional two week family holidays are no longer the norm in the Isle of Man. They have been replaced by speciality short stays such as golf and walking long weekends. Many potential customers for this type of holiday decide to travel at short notice. They decide to have a long weekend at the beginning of the week for the coming weekend. Unfortunately the way transport fares operate this “spur of the moment” decision making normally results in full fares being quoted by airlines and the Steam Packet.

Island residents are also feeling the impact on travel costs, even if booked well in advance.

Under my proposed Monopolies Legislation when the User Agreement is up for renewal or extension it would be subject by statute to a public tender process. The tender document would include consideration of the requirements of all types of user. Specific levels of service and fares would be conditions included in the tender.

Monopolies Legislation would also include provisions to ensure that there is no collusion between the airlines on fare levels and conditions and that free market conditions prevail.

Farming / Fishing

Much of the tourism to the Isle of Man is attracted by the beautiful countryside and picturesque harbours. Much of the countryside is managed for local people and tourists by farmers. The presence of fishing boats enhances the harbours. Thus Farming and Fishing also have an impact on tourism. They are also a backbone of the Island's rural economy.

The potential loss of the red meat derogation poses a challenge to Manx farmers. The main challenge will be to ensure a family farming industry exists in 10 years time. I will support any measure that I feel is in the best interest of the people of the Isle of Man and preserves the Manx farming industry.

The waters of the Isle of Man belong to the people of the Isle of Man and we should ensure that we dictate who fishes those waters. We must restate our rights to fish in these waters according to good fish management principles which protect the fish stocks.

Manx Labour Party

Representing the ordinary people of the Isle of Man since 1918

The Manx Labour Party is a political party operating in the Isle of Man. It has no links with the UK Labour Party and formulates its own policies based upon local conditions. It was formed in 1918 making it the first organised political party in Mann. Its formation was prompted by the high level of indirect taxation as a proportion of the Manx government's income which was viewed as being unfair on the poorest in society, and consequently wanted to increase the reliance on income taxation instead.

For 88 years the Manx Labour Party has been protecting the interests of the ordinary people. Those on fixed incomes, those trying to raise a family and those buying their own homes. Those currently involved with the MLP are committed to continuing this responsibility.

Of the small number of parties that have participated in the political process in Mann, the Labour Party has been the most successful at establishing itself. Between the First World War and the Second World War the Labour Party was successful in gaining at various times between 4 and 7 seats in the House of Keys. Indeed, the first election it contested was in 1919 when a Labour Party candidate stood in every constituency on the island bar one.

In the 2001 election, of the political parties contesting, it polled the highest percentage of votes, 17.3% and won 2 seats (although only 3 candidates were nominated). The Manx Labour Party also provides a number of current Douglas Corporation Councillors. It is these councillors that have actively lobbied for and overseen the programmes for the installation of double glazing, central heating and new fencing in Corporation housing. They have also consistently voted against rent increases above the level of inflation. They also forced reconsideration of the decision to stop collecting rent in Willaston Methodist Church. The Manx Labour Party, through Branch and Executive meetings, is active behind the scenes looking after the interests of ordinary people by ensuring that issues land on the right desk for action. The combination of a Manx Labour Party MHK and Councillors would provide a formidable, seamless, team to support the needs of the people of North Douglas.

Currently the MLP has the following representatives supporting the people of the Isle of Man.

Eddie Lowey MLC

David Cretney MHK

Councillors - Doreen Kinrade, Billy Noble, Michael Dooley

Put another MHK on the list by voting for Mike Coleman

Michael R Coleman—A Biography

I was born in the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel, London, on 13th of February 1948. My father was a brewery labourer and my mother a housewife. I was educated at the Columbia Road Primary School and the Central Foundation Boys Grammar School. The only widely known former students of the latter being Dr. Jacob Bronowski and the Kemp twins from Spandau Ballet. Divorced in 1987 I have a daughter, who works abroad, and a son who lives at home with me.

Prior to my decision to retire early in June 2006 my 42 year professional career encompassed living and working in Lebanon, Belgium, Nigeria, Dubai and the Bahamas. I have also spent extended periods working in Grand Cayman, Bermuda, Jersey, Guernsey, Switzerland and Uruguay. The first half of my career was as an IT professional in Manufacturing, Oilfield Production and Engineering, Property Management and Civil Construction. The latter half of my career was predominately as a senior IT and general executive in the Coutts & Co organisation, a multinational finance organisation. I was a Director of most of the Coutts companies outside of the UK and Deputy Chairman of two of the largest in the Bahamas and Grand Cayman. When asked to relocate to Slough in 1995 I decided to stay in the Isle of Man, where I had been since 1988, and left Coutts. Since that time I have been a Director of an IT consultancy and have operated as an IT and general business consultant specialising in Business Process Re-engineering.

Qualifications and Public Involvement

First Class Honours Degree in Law (postgraduate studies in Employment Law)

Chartered Engineer

Chartered Fellow of the British Computer Society

Licensed Assessor for Chartered Engineer and British Computer Society

Fellow of the Institute for the Management of Information Systems

Convenor/Chairman of NHS Independent Complaints Review Body

Statutory Board Member Isle of Man Water Authority. Chairman of Wayleave and Easement sub-committee, Water Act review sub-committee, Investment sub-committee, member of Audit sub-committee

Former Member of the Isle of Man Gaming Commission.

Former founding Joint Chairman then Chairman of the Isle of Man International Section of the British Computer Society. Stepped down to give time to stand for MHK.

Secretary North Douglas Branch of the Manx Labour Party for 10 years

Served as Territorial soldier in an Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment. Leaving rank of Corporal. Outstanding Young Soldier of the Year in 1969.

www.mike4mhk.com

- *Integrity, caring & commitment*
- *Social conscience and awareness*
- *Extensive senior executive experience in large organisations*
- *Multinational & cross-industry experience*
- *Meaningful & relevant professional qualifications*
- *Proven public involvement*
- *Resident of North Douglas for 18 years*
- *Capable of individual thought*
- *No political baggage*

Manx Labour Party

Are you willing to help with my campaign?

If you think you can help with my campaign please let me know. There are several ways to get involved with my campaign. For example, you can:

- * Provide transport on election day
- * Distribute literature
- * Network with your friends
- * Provide general support on election day
- * Help with mail shots
- * Arrange groups for me to visit
- * Put a poster in your window
- * Put a sign in your garden
- * Display car sticker

Do You Require Assistance?

If you require any help in getting to your polling station or in obtaining application forms for Postal, Absent or Sick voting please contact me using the contact information below. **Remember** that you do not have to vote for the person providing you with these forms.

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