

# Nicholas (Nick) Crowe

6 The Threshold,  
Jurby, Isle of Man  
IM7 3BG  
Phone: 07624 460790

MHK Candidate for  
**Ramsey**



## Manifesto

My name is Nicholas Crowe known as Nick I was born on the Isle of Man on the 14th October 1970 when my parents were living in Ramsey, I am married to Danielle Crowe and between us we have four grown children. I have had a vast working career from Stores keeper in a garage to a manager for a civil engineering company on the Island, 2009 brought a dramatic end to my working career when I was involved in a racing accident in the 2009 TT sidecar race B. The last 7 years I have been

recovering and helping to build a small business up in the hope that I can earn a living. I consider myself to be an out spoken person who says it like it is and will always put 100% into what I want to achieve, that's evident in my racing career and working career, a strong will and an attitude that we don't stop until the job is done. I believe that I can offer the people of Ramsey a tough can do attitude, I will do my absolute best to represent the people as a whole and on an individual basis.

Email: [hcracedevelopments@gmail.com](mailto:hcracedevelopments@gmail.com)

■ We need some common sense in the Government we need to totally rethink how we govern our small island to enable it to implement changes more efficiently with less red tape and less money spent on consultation reports, bring a streamline system so we can benefit our people NOW not 5 years down the line. We need to prioritise better to put things that crucially need addressing before those that could wait, we need to say it like it is.

■ My main aim is to get Ramsey back on the industrial and commercial map and one idea for that has to be to renew the referendum for a Marina in Ramsey, I believe that this is one of the ways to help get businesses interested in coming to base their companies in Ramsey this will bring jobs in the construction industry and then the commercial industries both for the marina businesses and the businesses surrounding the Marina and the town centre, then in turn we will have more people moving to Ramsey which then has a snowball effect naturally improving the lifestyle of the Ramsey residents and give the visitors a positive memory of Ramsey. We have the space and the infrastructure to this so why wait let's get this started ASAP let us get Ramsey looking good again. I believe constructive dialogue with the private sector could kick start much needed investment in Ramsey. The Ramsey Park Hotel has been a great example of what can be achieved with private investment and has become a tremendous asset to the town offering excellent facilities and equally important – jobs. We only have to look at Peel as a good example.

■ The Islands infrastructure needs restructuring completely the previous Government have focused on getting rid of the foot soldiers and leaving all the generals, we need to focus on our roads and pavements, we pay some of the highest road tax in Europe and we have some of the worst roads and pavements you can get, most of the rural roads and pavements are in an increasingly poor state and this has to be addressed. We need to improve the whole structure and workings of the department addressing everything, the budgeting the spending and the work ethics.

■ I believe that a cap on legal aid needs to be introduced and a restructure of who and how legal aid is administrated.

■ We have a massive gap between the super-rich and the working people, we seem to be rewarding those that can easily afford to live comfortably with tax caps that are ridiculously low, this is an insult to the working man and woman who are paying their way and we either set the bar higher or completely abolish the cap tax. We need to stop this one rule for one and another rule for another the super-rich are no better than the working man or woman.

■ Housing is an issue on the island our first time buyers are simply finding it too difficult to get on the ladder we need diversity and a way to make housing at all levels affordable we should be encouraging our new generations to

BUY not RENT as once they start to rent they find it difficult to save for a deposit on a property if they should choose to buy. I think the government should try to improve the first time buyer's plot scheme help the banks lend money easier, Serviced Plots

I want a fair and level playing field involving the ferry service to and from the Island. I would like to see all major ferry companies to tender for the sea route. We cannot afford to have any loyalties to the Steam Packet Company, at the end of the day it's Just a name it's far from being Manx, we need to drive prices down so tourists will find it affordable again. Companies will be able to give a saving on their products enabling the Island to prosper.

We need to revisit the VAT agreement with the UK so that our island can gain its financial stability again.

Health care on the Island is in a poor state and needs to be ran with more efficiency and fairly we need to listen to the foot soldiers and take more advice from well ran UK areas.

I believe that an independent panel should be formed to address mistakes that are made by our MHK's and top officials and if found responsible for the mistake/s they should be dismissed or reprimanded appropriately one sore

subject for example is the recent TT World series investigation that cost the people of the island excess of ??

To look at the paying structure of our civil servants

Cap on civil servant's pensions and lump sum final payments this is not fair and has to change.

A welfare system that ensures that people are better off in work than on benefits. Reward those that take part time work and they should keep more of these earnings so to encourage people to get off benefits.



The Island is facing a harder time than we have previously encountered. Tough economic decisions have been routinely avoided and the next Government will need to “grasp the nettle” and identify those areas of economic uncertainty thereafter act accordingly and speedily. I would freely admit that I have little political experience, I would ask voters whether those members who have represented their constituencies and claim to have many years of political experience have used their time in office wisely. Solving the financial difficulties facing the Island using tax payer’s money carefully and prudently, rewarding those who work hard and put into the system? Or, like myself, are you constantly disillusioned with political ineptitude, dodging issues and a ‘fiddling while Rome burns’ mentality which seems to pervade much of local and central government.

Two words – “thrift” and “diligence” – I feel have become sadly lacking in recent times. Reward seems to come swiftly for those doing a “poor job” or even no job at all? I would like to see people rewarded for hard work and would also like to make sure the pensionable remains at 65 for men and for women, let’s not penalise people for their efforts.

I also feel that the price we pay for capital projects be it a new hospital, new road or social housing repairs – always seem to be far more expensive than similar projects in the UK? We really need to try harder to obtain the best value for money we can when using tax payer’s money. Affordable housing? I’m not sure such a thing exists? The ongoing housing development in the shipyard in Ramsey offered six first-time buyers properties! None of which were sold to private

individuals instead they were purchased by RTC to add to social housing stock. Obviously too expensive for many people to buy, allowing housing developers to corner the housing market means they call the tune when it comes to price. I would like to see a more imaginative approach to affordable housing; self-build plots could be an option as long as the Government has in place a better funding scheme to enable them to purchase the land. An option worth exploring is giving public sector housing tenants the option to purchase and invest in their homes, ring fencing the money for additional housing to be built by the authorities, enabling them to build more efficient properties for future tenants/owners, this would surely have positive effect on the economy in the long term.

There’s one question that’s being avoided, what would happen if the Island goes bankrupt? It’s a big possibility and when I ask people they seem to bury their heads in the sand. Let’s be open, honest and transparent.

Pensions - I shall push for companies to have work based pensions in place for their workforce to try and take pressure off Government facilities. This works very well in places such as Australia.

If like me you are fed up of hearing the same promises as previous years and you want to see a more transparent, honest and fair Government then please vote for me and let us get the jobs done.

*Nicholas (Nick) Crowe*

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