

HOUSE OF KEYS GENERAL ELECTION DOUGLAS SOUTH

Thursday 23rd September 2021

Paul QUINE

*For You
and
Your family!*



Dear Douglas South Constituent,

I am pleased to present to you my manifesto for the forthcoming g

Introduction

As a proud Manxman brought up in the area, it has been my honour and privilege to have served you since I was elected at the 2020 by-election. In that time I have maintained a highly visible hands-on presence in the area, working to improve the quality of life for Douglas South constituents. And so I am pleased to present to you my manifesto for the forthcoming General Election for the House of Keys.

My manifesto seeks to build on what I laid out last year, setting out my plans for economic growth post-Covid; how I envisage we set about constructing sustainable and

About Me

My name is Stephen Paul Quine, always known as Paul, and I was born at the Jane Crookall Maternity Home on January 17th, 1969. I was brought up in Hibbin Lane, Anagh Coar.

I attended Pulrose Infants and Manor Park Primary Schools and was an enthusiastic member of the 2nd Douglas Cub Pack and Scout Troop in addition to which I played football for Pulrose United.

On leaving school I became a director of my father's marine supply and solid fuel company, before I embarked on my career as a commercial airline pilot. I attended the British Aerospace Flying College at Prestwick, and on graduation joined Manx Airlines as a Second Officer, subsequently being promoted and attaining the rank of Captain at the relatively young age of 29. Following the acquisition of Manx Airlines by British Airways I was based in Manchester operating on the European network, subsequently being transferred to Flybe which allowed me to resume working on the Island.

I have always cared deeply for our Island, our culture and our heritage, and that is why I chose to stand in the Douglas South by-election last year. Thanks to the faith which you put in me I was successfully returned for one of the two vacant seats following which I have looked to serve the constituency to the best of my ability.

Environment

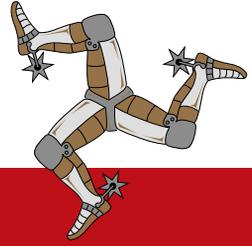
The preservation of our environment is the responsibility of all of us, and we need to become a more durable Island by making the right choices.

We need to promote our Biosphere status to its maximum effect, creating green jobs and ensuring a sustainable future.

In addition we must also ensure that our local greenery and natural wildlife habitats are



g general election in the constituency.



affordable housing for our people; my commitment to continue working with our police in the fight against anti-social behaviour; preserving our NHS so as we continue to receive the health care we require; reforming our rating system so as to address the injustice highlighted by so many Douglas South ratepayers; ensuring we continue to provide our children with the best education that can be offered; to allow our older generation to live in a manner which preserves their dignity; my commitment to continue to fight for a sustainable environment.

Economy



Covid-19 has cost the Manx taxpayer approximately £250 million. However that is not the whole story. Post-Covid our competitors will be aggressively seeking to attract new business and investment, or looking to entice business away from us. We must be ready to meet this challenge. I believe our future is as a global Island reaching out into the world to attract business, and central to this is our ability to offer one-stop connectivity to markets, particularly emerging markets, world-wide. Utilised properly, we have the opportunity to offer the type of interconnectivity that our competitors could only wish for. This will allow us to build a strong, diverse and sustainable economic model; robust but flexible.

We need to use changes in our legislation wisely, looking to attract dynamic new business by using our Biosphere status to its full advantage, attracting Biotech companies who can drive this desire forward.

However we must also ensure our local-based economy is every bit as important. We need to support small local business, our wealth generators, who have had to contend with numerous disruptions to business over the course of the last 18 months. Within this sector we must look at continuing with enterprise grants so as we create income growth and job creation, which must be our primary objectives. Therefore we need to harness the best minds in the private and public sectors to work together to create policies, fresh ideas and wide-ranging strategy.

protected, and that is why in my time as your MHK I involved myself with the opposition to the felling of a copse of over 150 mature trees in south Douglas. In addition I was actively engaged in opposing the felling of the historic elm trees on the St Mark's Road, and was granted an opportunity to ask an urgent question in the House of Keys in order to formulate a debate on the issue and which resulted in the welcomed decision by the applicant not to proceed with their planning approval.

Housing

I am acutely aware, having discussed this issue with many of you, of the need to ensure affordable housing is built as a priority. In addition, the Isle of Man should not be a commercial opportunity for off-Island speculators to buy up our properties to the detriment of our people.



Successive governments have allowed the construction and ownership of houses to be developer driven. This needs to change urgently, so as we ensure it becomes policy driven in order that we build the right houses in the right areas that best serves our people, our infrastructure and our environment.

The policy needs to be multifaceted, and if re-elected I will work to ensure that it is. We need to build houses to suit various requirements namely:

- Affordable houses for first time buyers.
- Houses for people in their first property to upgrade to; thereby creating further availability in the initial purchase market.
- Safe, affordable and secure sheltered housing in order for people of our older generation to downsize to, should they wish.

An urgent revision of the government's Shared Equity Schemes also needs to be undertaken, as it no longer reflects current market conditions.

Local Authority Rates

I have always advocated for an all-Island domestic rate, and I have raised the issue in the House of Keys. The formula of our rating system is over 50 years old and long overdue for reform. Neighbouring local authorities have been getting off lightly for years, carried by the burden imposed on the Douglas ratepayer.

During my time as your MHK I have discussed how we seek to reform this issue with like-minded colleagues, and if re-elected I shall strive to ensure that the Douglas ratepayer at last gets a fair deal. It is simply ludicrous that people in Douglas South are paying significantly higher rates than their neighbours across the garden fence who use the same infrastructure both in the locality and the wider area.

Health

Our National Health Service is our proudest creation, and the dedication and selflessness of our health workers has never been more keenly demonstrated than in recent times.



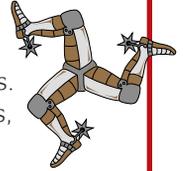
Covid-19 has resulted in many people having to endure significant extensions to waiting times for operations, and we must look to redress this by utilising all options available, including such as the private sector.

It is of the highest importance that we recruit more GPs and District Nurses in addition to which I would like to see an expansion of the nurse training programme which on completion results in students being awarded a Degree or Masters in their chosen field

If re-elected I shall push immediately for the Isle of Man Government to adopt a radical overhaul of these schemes, simplifying them and tailoring them to the current need.

This would take the form of a government backed mortgage scheme, to allow first time buyers and current homeowners to secure a mortgage with just a 5% deposit.

Under the scheme, first time buyers, home movers and previous home owners with a 5% deposit would have access to 95% loan-to-value mortgages. Mortgages would be offered by existing and reputable lenders in line with this, signing up to the programme in conjunction with the government.



With regard to building houses, I have taken a keen interest in the new pilot scheme for eco-homes which were recently built in Douglas. These houses allow for more efficient construction by allowing the developer to concentrate on internal and external construction at the same time, markedly reducing the time of construction. By utilising all the space within the dwelling the environmental efficiency is significantly improved. This results in much smaller household bills thereby improving the affordability of the houses. These type of houses are ideal for development on existing brown field sites and would therefore significantly help in our drive towards carbon neutrality and environmental sustainability.

The Isle of Man has an excellent opportunity to lead the way in this form of sustainable development, and if re-elected it is something I shall devote my energy to achieving.



of adult or mental health nursing. On graduation this would enable people to secure local jobs in the profession and reduce our reliance on locums.

In addition medicines which are available over the counter should be taken off prescription, which would lead to a significant saving.

The issue of mental health is now, rightly, at the forefront of debate. I particularly welcome the recent news that we are to increase funding in this highly important field with the hiring of new mental health therapists both externally and being trained locally.

Control of Government Spending

It is essential that we reform the way that tax-payer's money is spent, and that is why I was fully supportive of the establishment of an Auditor General so as to ensure future major capital projects are brought in on time, on budget and with those who have made the decisions being held to account for their actions. Robust and prudent management must be applied together with commercial accountable disciplines with regard to financial waste and profligacy to ensure value for money.

Therefore future investment decisions must be transparent with a defined resolution and time-frame in order to ensure that a fit-for-purpose approach is taken as opposed to needless gold-plated vanity.

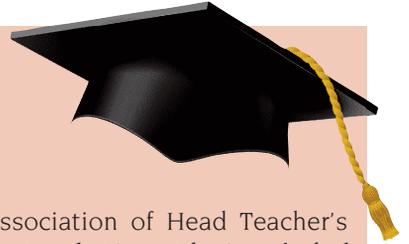
In view of such government must recognise that value for money is expected by the tax-payer and ensure that it is delivered.



Education

- The future of our Island lies with our youth. They must be given the opportunity to develop their talent and skills in order to succeed.

To this end I was pleased to sign the National Association of Head Teacher's undertaking that: *'I pledge to work with the profession, listening to and acting on the views of school leaders as the experts in education in the best interests of all learners. I commit to working with the Isle of Man NAHT on their manifesto for education.'*



Early learning

The sooner a young person's learning begins the better, and this is best achieved by offering increased access to high quality nursery care. We have some very gifted nursery teachers whose talents should be used to give our children the best possible start in education.

Primary & Secondary Education

Primary and secondary schooling should continue to offer the ability for all our children to reach their full potential. Our young people's educational attainment should not be continued to be judged solely on their ability to gain GCSE results in the higher grades; their objectives and ambition should not be capped at 16. Instead we must look towards how best to give them the ability to reach their full promise in whatever direction that may take.

So I am particularly keen that we broaden our skills base as an Island. This means actively promoting vocational learning, and therefore we must look to protect class sizes and recruit and retain the most exceptional teachers.

Higher Education

We must strive to encourage our young people to undertake higher education, in whatever form that takes, building on the vocational training I previously mentioned. I would like to see the provision of higher education for people with learning difficulties continue for as long as it is required, so as they may fully realise their own dreams and educational aspirations.

The ability for students to attain their degree either on or off the Island should be equally promoted. Those seeking to attend university off Island should not be put at a disadvantage by choosing to do so, whilst the benefits of staying on Island should be emphasised every bit as importantly. Joined up thinking must continue to be improved, allowing University College Isle of Man to build on its excellent relationship with our secondary schools, the University of Chester and the Department for Enterprise, thereby being able to continue to advise and assist young people who wish to undertake a rewarding trade apprenticeship or a University degree.

To this end I am very keen to see the continuation of the Work Based and Integrative Studies Programme, the Manx Internship Programme and the Graduate Role Incentive.

In addition I would also like to see the government begin to work with the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company and the locally-based aviation sector to provide our young people with marine and aviation engineering apprenticeships and officer cadetships, offering a challenging career which will improve the educational pool and skill set within our Island.

Law & Order

In order to be tough on crime, we must be tough on the causes of crime. On being elected last year I immediately gave my full support to the Sexual Offences and Obscene Publications Bill which was then in the process of becoming legislation. I am pleased to say this has now become law, addressing the inadequacy of previous legislation, and so those who seek to prey on the innocence of our children will receive the punishment that their vile practice rightly deserves.



In addition, should I be re-elected I pledge to give my full support to an Animal Welfare Bill so as those who seek ill-treat animals will also receive a just and proportionate sentence.

Their punishment should fit their crime, and I make no apologies for saying that.

Anti-social behaviour takes many forms; be that abusive intimidating conduct, inconsiderate neighbourhood practices or speeding in residential areas. Such behaviour still blights parts of south Douglas and severely affects the quality of life of many good, decent, people. Therefore one of my first priorities following my election last year to meet with the Chief Constable so as I fully understood the strategy which was being put in place to fight back against this. The re-establishment of good community policing was something which I called for in my pervious manifesto, and is something which I am pleased to have become involved with. This has seen dedicated police officers once more tasked with working in the community offering a visible presence and re-assurance.

In addition I have sought to work with the Roads Policing Unit and the DoI in order to increase road safety in areas such as Saddlestone, Pulrose, Farmhill and the Cooil Road. Should I be re-elected I shall continue to actively work with our police for the benefit of our community.

Older Generation

The great moral injustice of our time regards the cost of residential care. It is simply wrong that people who have worked hard all their lives, paid their taxes and made provision for their families, have to watch as the proceeds of that hard work are confiscated by the state. Older age should be a time for people to enjoy, and they should not approach their more senior years concerned with worry and anxiety over their financial future.

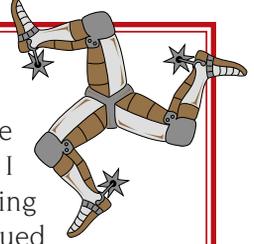
Our older generation are proud, decent people, many of whom have served their country and have worked hard all their lives to create the services and community which can so often taken for granted. Any senior citizen should enjoy a retirement in which they feel secure, and so if re-elected I will work tirelessly to ensure they are enabled to live with the dignity and independence which they so rightly desire.

I will push to see more construction of sheltered housing complexes, such as Hazel Court and Saddle Mews Village, which allow our older people to live in clean, safe, low maintenance accommodation that provides a strong sense of community through the ability to interact in social activities. The increased availability of this type of housing will in turn have a beneficial effect on our older people's physical and mental wellbeing, addressing issues of loneliness and social isolation, sadly all too often experienced, by re-forging the strong community identity which so many rightly cherish.

This would also result in far fewer people needing the requirement to live in residential care homes. However such a requirement will, for some people, still exist, and so if re-elected I will campaign to change the law so that our older people do not have to surrender their homes to fund their nursing care.

The old age pension is not a handout. It is a right, not a privilege, and so if re-elected I shall continue to ensure that the old age pension will always at least keep pace with inflation.

Summary



Thank you for taking the time to read my manifesto. I hope some if not all of what I have outlined is agreeable to you. I look forward to meeting as many of you as is possible during the course of my canvassing and I would welcome your valued opinion should you wish to discuss the matters outlined, or any other issues which for the sake of brevity I may have omitted.

If you agree that we need:

- To build a sustainable and diverse economy.
- To develop a housing strategy which will allow our people to achieve the dream of home ownership.
- To preserve our NHS in order to deliver the health care which we all expect.
- To address the injustice of our domestic rating system.
- To ensure our environment is nurtured and protected.
- To allow our older generation live in a manner which preserves their dignity.
- To continue to fight back against the scourge of anti-social behaviour and preserve law and order.

Then please: VOTE QUINE

The election in Douglas South will take place on **Thursday, 23rd September, 2021**

Polling Stations will be open from 8am to 8pm and are located at:

- CDGS1 Pulrose Methodist Church, Pulrose Road, Pulrose, Douglas
Scoill Vallajeelt, Meadow Crescent, Braddan, IM2 1NN
- CDGS2 Anagh Coar Primary School, Darragh Way, Anagh Coar, Douglas, IM2 2BA
- CDGS3 Scoill Vallajeelt, Meadow Crescent, Braddan, IM2 1NN

If you would like transport on Election Day, please do not hesitate to contact me:

Cronk Aash, Bray Hill, Douglas. IM2 5AW

Telephone (07624) 499530

Email: paulquine@manx.net

Facebook: Paul Quine for Douglas South, or follow me on Instagram