

ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS' ELECTION – THURSDAY 24th APRIL

Dear Voter,

My name is **TIM NORTON**. I have been privileged to represent you since 2001, and for the past year I have been Chairman of the Board. I am standing for re-election in the forthcoming election, and I invite you once again to vote for me.

I am 57 years old, and born and raised on the Isle of Man. I am married to Karen, and we have two grown-up children. We have lived in Onchan since 1986. I am employed by Social Services to manage the older people's community social work team.

In addition to being one of your Commissioners, I am also chairman of the Onchan Live at Home Scheme (a befriending scheme for older people), vice-chairman of the Island Live at Home scheme, a member of the committee of Namaste Children's Home – Isle of Man (a local charity supporting an orphanage in Nepal), and a steward at the Promenade Methodist Church.

Some of the issues facing the Commissioners are:

RATES The recently announced 9% increase in the rates is obviously of great concern to everyone, particularly with its impact on pensioners and others on low incomes. I share these concerns, and would not have supported the increase if I had not believed it to be absolutely necessary. The Commissioners must always be looking to ways in which we can reduce costs and improve efficiency in order to keep future rate increases to a minimum, whilst maintaining and improving services.

I think the **present rates system is unfair**, because it does not take into account a person's ability to pay, and I would support Tynwald in seeking a fairer system.

HOUSING There is great demand for more housing. I believe Onchan should look to ways of providing more first-time buyer homes and local authority housing, including sheltered accommodation for older people, supported accommodation for people with disabilities, and accommodation for single people.

There are not many parcels of land within the village that can be developed, so the Commissioners need to make better use of the existing housing stock, and reduce waiting lists. This could include encouraging tenants to move to smaller or larger properties, setting rents at more realistic levels (for those who can afford it) or fixed-term tenancies. However, some of these proposals would have to be introduced island wide.

LAW AND ORDER I believe that the appointment of our Community Warden has had a positive impact on the level of petty crime in Onchan, but we must continue to encourage the Police to have a highly visible presence. The **PACT** public meetings we have with the Police and Department of Transport have proved to be useful for sharing views and information.

SOCIAL / LEISURE FACILITIES In addition to the Onchan Live at Home Scheme, I have been instrumental in getting the Wembley Arena and Kenyon's Café off the ground. These facilities are good for the young people, and I believe they help to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES I support the proposed modernisation of Onchan Park, and voted in favour of a Velodrome in Nivison Stadium. I have proposed the development of a sensory garden by the park, and a nature trail on the North Bank land, by Groudle Glen.

KERBSIDE RECYCLING I support Onchan's participation in DOLGE's three year kerbside recycling project which will start later this year, at no cost to the rate-payer.

ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

ELECTION

THURSDAY 24th APRIL 2008



Vote for

TIM

NORTON

The independent candidate you can trust...

ALLOTMENTS There is a groundswell of interest in allotments, and I propose that the Commissioners should provide or promote them. They would be a good source of locally grown food and a social and recreational facility, and they could also link into recycling **GREEN WASTE** collected from domestic properties.

STREET LIGHTING Good street lighting is important for public safety and crime reduction. We need to make sure the lights are on when they need to be on, including on dark Winter mornings.

LOCAL AUTHORITY RE-ORGANISATION The amalgamation of the urban and rural wards and equalisation of the rates is fair, and the reduction in the size of the Board from 10 to 7 should lead to greater efficiencies. I support the principle of reducing the number of local authorities from 24 to 5 but this is some time off, so in the meantime I would encourage the Board to work closely with our neighbouring local authorities.

I may not be able to get round to talk to everyone in person.
If you would like to talk to me, please call me If you are unable to get to the Polling Station on Election Day and would like an Absent Voter form, or you would like a lift to the Polling Station, please let me know.
Tel: **620392** E-mail **timnorton@mcb.net**

I would welcome new blood in the new Board, but we also need **continuity** and **experience**. If you cast just one vote, make it count.

Vote for

- **Experience, common sense and integrity**
- **Good value for money and improving services**
- **Commitment to the community of Onchan**

Vote for

TIM NORTON

X