

## ALFRED CANNAN

Alfred was educated at King Williams College and the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. After serving as an Officer in the Royal Regiment of Wales, he returned to the Isle of Man in 1994 and commenced employment in the Finance Sector.

In May 2000 he established local recruitment consultancy Paragon before selling the business in 2007 and moving to London working with blue chip companies sourcing senior executives for interim and permanent roles. He is a Director with McKenzie Fox Limited which offers local and international recruitment solutions.

In 2011 he was elected MHK for Michael. He has served as Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, Vice Chairman of the Public Section Pensions Authority and on both the Departments of Health and Economic Development. He is currently Chairman of the Manx Utilities Authority and the Public Accounts Committee.

A keen sportsman, Alfred is a former Captain of Ramsey and Vagabonds Rugby Clubs. He continues to support local rugby and Manx sport in his spare time.

Aged 48, Alfred is married to Bella and has three children.

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Alfred would welcome your help and support on election day Thursday 22nd September 2016. He can be contacted by email ([alfcannan@mckenziefox.com](mailto:alfcannan@mckenziefox.com)) or telephone (898159).

House of Keys General Election  
Thursday 22 September 2016

# ALFRED CANNAN



For a modern  
caring and  
prosperous society

Ayre & Michael



**The Isle of Man continues to face up to significant challenges both at home and abroad. The historic decision by the people of the United Kingdom to leave the European Union signals a period of economic and political uncertainty which will have ramifications for the Island whilst of course the provision of public services remains subject to significant financial pressures.**

In facing these challenges, we must have confidence that the Isle of Man has the ability, resilience and strength of character to find ways of delivering successful outcomes for all. Key to this will be an integrated Island vision and plan that supports hard working families, creates job opportunities through focused support for local businesses to grow and develop, whilst ensuring society is created that is fair for all.

In our search to bring business and success to the Island, we sometimes forget that it is our own people that are our best asset for the promotion of the Island. If we want to be successful, we have to deliver services in such a manner so as to give confidence to our citizens. That is why I will be seeking a plan for the Island that is simple to understand, delivers the basic services to a high standard, creates an environment we can be proud of and that gives people and business the freedom and platforms to flourish.

Underpinning these ideals will be the traditional core values of hard work, determination and integrity – values that I see every day across the Island as individuals, families and businesses seek to succeed in their own ways. We will be at our best when working together and Government must communicate its plan and listen effectively through its various stakeholder forums.

I offer the residents of the constituency of Ayre & Michael the experience, acumen and ability to make a significant contribution to the future of the Island and the constituency. It has been an honour and a privilege to represent the people of Michael and if re-elected, I pledge to continue to work hard for everyone in the new constituency, to stand up for local people and to be a strong voice in Tynwald for your concerns.

## **SUPPORTING JOBS, WELFARE AND PENSIONS**

*The diversity in our economy needs to be encouraged and needs to be of benefit to all Islanders. I will:*

- Support a relative minimum wage to ensure there are incentives to work
- Support jobseekers allowance, providing focused support to help get jobseekers back to work
- Seek to ensure the right support for those choosing to start new businesses or become self employed
- Evaluate additional child benefit for working parents with children under 5
- Continue to build on progress made to eliminate abuse of the benefits system
- Review State Pension proposals – let's have a framework that is fair to existing pensioners and one that increases pensions in line with the cost of living, not devalues them
- Evaluate Public Sector Pensions – the growing cost of pension provision is a major threat to economic stability. We need a fair deal going forward for both workers and the taxpayer.
- A compulsory workplace pension scheme is now needed to enhance workers options in later life
- But people should be free to choose how to use their pension from the age of 55

## **A COMMITMENT TO LOCAL ISSUES**

*It remains my view that a successful society is built around unified and committed local communities. I am not in favour of devolving increasing powers to local authorities but I will:*

- Work with the local commissioners to enhance the environment and quality of life
- Support and encourage local retail businesses to provide a range of quality local produce and other key essentials
- Encourage new and existing businesses in the community
- Protect local educational and sporting facilities
- Seek fit for purpose community GP surgeries
- Continue to support and work with interested parties to develop Jurby
- Support and encourage community events
- Listen to local community concerns and act appropriately according to the majority view.

## AN INTEGRATED TRANSPORT PLAN:

As an Island nation, our air and sea routes are vital to our success and stability. The current ownership structure of the Steam Packet and the reliability of our airline services remain a concern. I support:

- Development of a national transport strategy that contributes to the integrated Island plan
- That an independent economic appraisal is undertaken into the Islands transport links
- That the possibility of a Government stake in the ferry or Island transport services is not discounted if it is in the Islands best interests.
- The acquisition of appropriate berthing facilities in Liverpool
- That the open skies policy is kept under review
- That Airport management is more focuses in understanding and dealing with poor service provision in respect of delays and cancellations

## AN OUTCOME FOCUSED CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

The political system needs to deliver more scrutiny and better outcomes for our people. I will:

- Work with like-minded MHK's willing to reform Tynwald to provide a more coherent and decisive platform to debate important national issues and one in which the people have confidence
- Support the recommendations in the Lisvane review
- Promote scrutiny as a positive way of improving process and outcomes
- Regularly review our relationships with the UK and Europe to establish if we can find ways to improve our standing in this respect
- Review working practices to ensure the taxpayer is receiving best value for money
- Work with business leaders to ensure our legislation remains advantageous to create increased business opportunities
- Commit to using local talent and expertise to advise Government



## AN ISLAND ECONOMIC PLAN

A successful Island economy depends on careful and prudent financial management that prioritises and protects essential services and ensures we live within our means.

I will work with like-minded MHK's to develop an integrated plan that:

- Sets out a clear vision for a modern and progressive society
- Sets out clearly spending priorities
- Sets out plans for economic growth
- Sets out plans to improve Health and Education
- Sets out plans to provide a clean and pleasing environment
- Sets out plans to eliminate wasteful spending and provide services to a high standard

## BUDGET FOR SUCCESS

We need to live within our means and that means redressing the budget deficit soon but in a measured, sensible and practical manner. There will no doubt be tough decisions to

be taken but in planning the budget we should:

- Start with a full spending review - base the budget not on precedent but on identified spending requirements
- Prioritise essential services, particularly in Health and Education.
- Outsource non-essential services where it is determined that this represents best value
- Maintain a capital spending programme of circa £50m per annum, but spend on a priority basis in line with the integrated Island plan.
- Ensure funds are available to market the Island as a business and tourist destination
- Deliver basic infrastructure services to the highest standard
- Ask for parity and accountability on revenue spending for large departments such as the DOI; for example a long term maintenance plan for the highway network that is published by the DOI and approved by Tynwald. Delivery against targets can then be monitored and managed.
- Return property tax back to 10% to encourage new investment in our towns
- Ensure procurement of services provides not only good value but better delivery and that smaller Island firms are given fair consideration particularly for smaller value contracts
- Minimise the use of consultants by utilising, wherever possible and in the first instance, the expertise and ability that exists in business and the self-employed located on the Island.
- Provide the public with a clear and concise appraisal of our budget performance

## OPEN FOR BUSINESS

*It is vital that we maintain and develop our diversified economy. I will:*

- Acknowledge the demographic changes to society and support the growth of the working population but in doing so ensure that we have the right training and facilities to ensure the best opportunities for our citizens
- Ensure proper oversight of the new £50m business investment fund seeking clear transparency on jobs created, economic benefits and viability
- Seek a refined and more transparent business grants system: a start up grant for new businesses, a development grant for existing businesses and a relocation grant for businesses wishing to relocate part or all of their offering to the IOM
- Consider incentives to local businesses and individuals who can introduce new businesses to the Isle of Man
- Evaluate underwriting key infrastructure investment schemes delivered via the private sector where it may be considered in the national interest to do so
- Support and encourage open dialogue and engagement with Westminster to ensure the best possible trading relationships with the EU and Globally

## A NEW OFFERING FOR TOURISM, LEISURE AND SPORT

*Tourism remains a key pillar in a diverse economy and the Island offers a variety of sporting and leisure activities for short breaks and holidays. I will:*

- Encourage development of key sporting and leisure events, seeking to provide grants where necessary to help with capital or event costs where it can be evidenced that UK or international entrants are present in significant numbers
- Following the delay of the Vision Nine deal use the opportunity for a full review of the TT and MGP and seek to ensure that the event is properly costed.
- Use the expertise and ability that exists in the Island's business community and workplace to develop strategies and ideas

## EDUCATION FIRST

*We should empower schools, their teachers and Governors to create the environment for success. Head Teachers should have delegated management control to ensure that our education institutions seek to be centres of learning excellence. I will:*

- Encourage and support an educational system that produces high exam success rate and exposes students to a range of activities, sports and cultures

- Review again the funding and structure of pre-school education
- Encourage and support schools and students to learn and understand world issues and social responsibilities
- Encourage and support students to develop commercial and business skills
- Support the Isle of Man College as it seeks to continually develop relevant educational courses for commerce and industry
- Require proper benchmarking to equivalent schools and colleges elsewhere
- Consider a university fee rebate scheme for Manx Students returning to the Island within three years of completing their degree
- Support back to work training schemes to assist parents returning to the workplace

## BETTER HEALTH

*The health of the nation and access to free effective health care is part of the fabric of our society. We are currently facing significant challenges in this area and I will:*

- Seek to reduce the bureaucracy and layers of management that are hampering healthcare delivery
- Explore ways in which primary care can be delivered in the community Nobles Hospital should not be the default setting because of a lack of options.
- Support usage and trials of medical monitoring equipment that seek to alleviate pressure on GPs and front line healthcare
- Maintain and improve Mental Healthcare
- Encourage active lifestyles
- Support the mile a day and similar initiatives in Schools

## A POSITIVE APPROACH TO AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

*There are considerable challenges facing the Agricultural industry which remains a key pillar to the economy and our way of life. I will:*

- Seek to support and develop the best agricultural practices
- Support local produce marketing awareness campaigns
- Work with farmers to find a solution to the Meatplant finances
- Support price equivalency for Manx meat
- Seek regeneration of our towns rather than continued countryside expansion
- Protect our landscape, ensuring that environmental interests receive full and proper consideration when developing policy
- Seek opportunities to export more Island products