

ANDREW LANGAN-NEWTON

CANDIDATE FOR RUSHEN

“

Can we wait five more years for the green transformation?

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Andrew Langan-Newton

WANT GREEN, VOTE GREEN

23 September 2021

ISLE OF MAN
**GREEN
PARTY**

About Me

I am a passionate historian, economist, and environmentalist, living with my wife and our children in Port St Mary. A former Castle Rushen High School pupil, I now practise as a qualified Advocate since returning to the Isle of Man after my studies at Durham University and Manchester College of Law.

In 2015, I participated in the Commonwealth Youth Parliament in Australia. This was a pivotal experience for me, one that inspired me to create a platform for sustainable change for the island - the Isle of Man Green Party. I have been elected as leader by its growing membership each year since 2016.

In 2021, the world is changing to a zero carbon future in order to avoid climate and ecological disaster. In responding to that challenge, we have the opportunity to transform our Island. The decisions we make today can deliver cheaper, cleaner energy and overcome fuel poverty. We can invest in transport systems that reduce congestion and pollution. We can create safe, liveable spaces that enhance well-being, and we can enrich our community with local foods and products.

A vote for me is a step towards realising a vision that many of you have shared with me on your doorsteps.

Andrew Langan-Newton



MY PRINCIPLES

➔ SOCIAL JUSTICE

A fair and just society where everyone's basic physical and psychological needs are met.

➔ PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

An Isle of Man of transparent and accountable governance with a closer connection between citizens and decision making.

➔ RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY

An Isle of Man where all persons enjoy an environment supportive of their dignity, health and well-being.

➔ ECOLOGICAL WISDOM

An Isle of Man where we protect and support the ecosystems and biosphere on which we depend.

➔ NON-VIOLENCE

A peaceful society where we are all safe to cooperate and collaborate.

➔ SUSTAINABILITY

A society that meets the needs of the present without sacrificing the ability of future generations in the Isle of Man to meet their needs.



TRANSFORMING ENERGY

MY VISION

- ➔ The Isle of Man powered by 100% clean renewable energy by 2035.
- ➔ Giving everyone cheap, clean energy, overcoming fuel poverty.
- ➔ Giving control of our energy production to our local communities ('democratising energy').
- ➔ Transforming our economy and community with abundant clean energy (at near zero marginal cost) that will open doors and new opportunities for everyone.

WHY?

- ✘ Fossil fuels are expensive (estimated p/a imports of £50m heating oil & gas + ≤£65m road fuel (at pump prices)).
- ✘ Solar, batteries and wind turbines prices are falling (cost of solar and batteries fell 80% since 2010).
- ✘ Fossil fuels are polluting causing climate change / extreme weather and respiratory illness.
- ✘ Per person the Isle of Man emits more greenhouse gases than the UK or Italy.
- ✘ 20% of IOM carbon emissions are heating and 33% from energy.

HOW?

- ✔ Electrifying our entire community saves 57% in energy demand.
- ✔ Solar & batteries pay-back. Introduce a low interest 'Climate Loan' for low income and social housing to install solar & batteries.
- ✔ Install solar across the roofs of schools and other public buildings.
- ✔ Install an electrolyser to store as hydrogen surplus renewable electricity during periods of oversupply.
- ✔ Require the MUA to develop a decentralised, smart grid to balance renewable energy generation and regional storage.



TRANSFORMING TRANSPORT

MY VISION

- ➔ A public transport system that is free to the user and integrated to seamlessly join-up throughout the Isle of Man.
- ➔ A transport system that is decongested, allowing for the safer use of active travel.
- ➔ A transport system that will be decarbonised with zero fossil fuel emissions by 2035.

WHY?

- ✘ Our transport is damaging to health and environment with 23% of CO2 emissions. We have 14 years to reduce emissions to zero to avoid dangerous climate change.
- ✘ A transport system prioritising the car creates congestion, parking problems & unnecessary pollution.
- ✘ Expanding and incentivising public transport reduces car use / congestion, pollution, poverty and empowers local communities and economies.

HOW?

- ✔ Introduce free public transport for all.
- ✔ Invest in our tram and rail systems to deliver decarbonised alternatives to commuting by car that are regular, quick, and with internet access.
- ✔ Transform our planning laws to create local amenities a short walk or cycle away ('15 minute cities').
- ✔ Commence the roll out of regional trial electric buses with a plan for island wide introduction over the next 14 years.
- ✔ Increase regional highspeed electric car chargers for those without home chargers.



WELL-BEING & HEALTH MY VISION

- ➔ Improving our individual and collective well-being by reducing social and economic stresses through building an environment that is unpolluted, safe, more equal, collaborative and socially inclusive.
- ➔ A data-led healthcare system that can respond to the changing needs of our community.

WHY?

- ✗ Mental and physical health is influenced by our environment and the stress in our lives.
- ✗ We are suffering a chronic disease epidemic (60% adults overweight) that is influenced by our environment (eg diet, stressful lives, limited active travel).
- ✗ We have long waiting lists as we struggle to respond to physical and mental health outcomes in a medical setting alone rather than wider community transformation focusing on well-being.

HOW?

- ✓ Reduce economic stress/inequalities through progressive taxation, enhanced maternity pay, the living wage as a minimum wage, and exploring universal basic income.
- ✓ Introduce a non-assessed well-being school curriculum.
- ✓ Improve the funding of and access to mental health services in our schools and hospital.
- ✓ Improve the nutritional quality and the local identity of food in our schools and hospital.
- ✓ Replace the economic measure of progress with a measure of community well-being.



LIFE-LONG LEARNING MY VISION

- ➔ A formal education system that empowers our future generations with both the technical and the emotional skills to fully participate in society.
- ➔ A community which supports and empowers those outside of formal education to pursue life-long learning for their social, cultural, environmental, and economic benefit.

WHY?

- ✗ Knowledge is now available at the touch of button. We need to empower our students with suitable attributes for the future, including resilience, communication, creativity, critical-thinking, leadership and collaboration.
- ✗ We are becoming less likely to have a job for life and technology is increasingly disrupting jobs. We need opportunities to re-skill and re-educate, not just at the start of careers but throughout life.

HOW?

- ✓ Reduce the number of assessed GCSEs to create teacher time / space for unassessed life-skills curriculum, including financial literacy, emotional intelligence, IT and communication skills, well-being, politics and our environment.
- ✓ Use school canteens to teach about nutrition and local agriculture.
- ✓ Invest in joined-up public & private programmes preparing and linking students with work experience and apprenticeships.
- ✓ Invest in and support life-long learning opportunities.



AFFORDABLE HOMES

MY VISION

- ➔ An island where everyone has access to affordable housing that has low carbon heating and access to renewable energy.
- ➔ An island where housing is prioritised for building vibrant communities and not for speculative investment assets.
- ➔ Development of brownfield sites is prioritised over greenfield sites.
- ➔ New housing is built to very high efficiency standards with low carbon intensive materials.

WHY?

- ✘ We have a lot of properties (42,281 in 2016) for a population of c.83,000 but high property prices (10x median earnings) and a large number of vacant properties (6,470 in 2016).
- ✘ Access to adequate housing is a human right. A system where properties are unaffordable and/or left vacant is a market and political failure.
- ✘ Heating our homes is 20% of carbon emissions. This needs to be zero emissions by 2035 to avoid dangerous climate change.

HOW?

- ✔ Disincentivise leaving properties unoccupied with rates and/or taxation policies.
- ✔ Introduce second home taxation to disincentivise speculation.
- ✔ Require government to promote and incentivise 'Shared Responsibility Mortgages' that share and price risk better (risky lending of cheap credit has ballooned the price of property).
- ✔ All new housing to be built to very high efficiency standards, with decarbonised heating (eg heat pumps), solar panels and low carbon materials.



DELIVERING DEMOCRACY

MY VISION

- ➔ A political system that is (1) forward thinking and efficient; (2) transparent, representative, and accountable.
- ➔ A political system that allows greater engagement with and participation in decision making by citizens in the Isle of Man.

WHY?

- ✘ For effective governance, we need a transparent and accountable political system.
- ✘ Too many MHKs become members of government departments (recently 87% were members of government departments or Ministers), limiting their ability to question and hold government Ministers accountable.
- ✘ Low voter turnouts (avg. 53% at the last election) illustrate a disconnect with politics.

HOW?

- ✔ Amend the Government Departments Act 1987 to restrict the number of MHKs in government departments.
- ✔ Keep MHKs accountable by introducing a recall mechanism (eg in British Columbia an MP can be recalled by 40%+ of their electorate).
- ✔ Create a right that public petitions must be debated by the House of Keys if they have been signed by 5% of those on the electoral roll.
- ✔ Introduce a digital voting option by the time of the next general election in 2026.



CIRCULAR ECONOMY MY VISION

- ➔ A community where we can produce and re-use more of our products, energy, and food in the Isle of Man, reducing our dependence on imports and on burning waste.
- ➔ A community where we retain a strong social safety net, giving freedom to pursue economic, social, cultural pursuits, and life-long learning.

WHY?

- ✘ Building reliance on our own resources, assets, skills, and knowledge makes us more resilient and a more efficient community.
- ✘ Paying to burn waste is inefficient, costly, and polluting. Recycle figures for Douglas are 19% compared to 67% in Germany.
- ✘ A circular waste system where we reuse or repurpose more waste products in the Isle of Man will save costs and align with the Biosphere status.

HOW?

- ✔ Work with local authorities on an aligned all-island waste strategy to enhance kerbside recycling collections, space for the bringing/collection of unwanted items at amenity sites, and opportunities for reuse / recycling on-island.
- ✔ Invest in and support local allotments and micro food production, composting, and organic and regenerative farming.
- ✔ Provide incentives and support to enterprises offering recovery and fixing of household appliances.



PROTECTING OUR BIOSPHERE MY VISION

- ➔ An environment that is being enriched and given space to recover from the impact of historic pollution and biodiversity loss.
- ➔ A landscape that offers a range agricultural uses and wildlife habitats, inviting residents and visitors to connect with the natural world.

WHY?

- ✘ The condition of our environment is fundamental to our well-being and health.
- ✘ Our biodiversity has been decreasing over the years – 29% of IOM bird species are on the 2021 red list at risk of disappearing.
- ✘ Per person, the Isle of Man is a significant emitter of greenhouse gases.
- ✘ Climate change, land use and pollution impact our plant, animal and insect life, fundamental to our own health/existence.

HOW?

- ✔ Put the Government under a duty to increase the health and diversity of species and ecosystems in the Isle of Man & territorial waters.
- ✔ Create an environmental regulator separate from DEFA with the objective of ensuring the sustainability of the biosphere.
- ✔ Legislate to strengthen the protection of trees and green spaces.
- ✔ Promote and incentivise organic produce and regenerative farming practices.
- ✔ Introduce rewilding sites on barren publicly owned land.

A VOTE FOR

ANDREW LANGAN-NEWTON

MEANS

DECISIVE ACTION
FOR A SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE FOR ALL



ABUNDANT RENEWABLE ENERGY



MEASURING PROGRESS THROUGH WELL-BEING



FREE CONNECTED PUBLIC TRANSPORT



LIFE-LONG LEARNING AND EDUCATION



SUSTAINABLE & AFFORDABLE HOMES

In addition to the principles and policies set out in this manifesto, the Isle of Man Green Party's Programme for Government will be published at www.greenparty.im.

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

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