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**Douglas North**

**HOUSE OF KEYS GENERAL ELECTION**

23rd September 2021

## Dear Constituent,

I write to you today having put my name forward to represent you for the next five years.

The last five years have been some of the most turbulent in world history, with huge changes globally that have impacted upon us locally, latterly the devastating impact of the pandemic that still lives with us.

The fast roll out of the vaccine hopefully saved lives, we now need to look forward to build a better future, a future that is focused on enabling everyone to maximise their potential where government is an enabler rather than a barrier to people achieving their goals.

I see this being achieved by our new administration adopting a growth mindset, looking for reasons to enable things to happen, or at least creating reasons to stop things happening, by continuing to reduce red tape and intervening less, rather supporting our efforts. To see you the voter as a customer of government services with a fair and even-handed approach.

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### **We need to grow a more customer centric approach. Government doesn't always know best.**

During the current administration I brought forward more motions to the floor of Tynwald than any other back bench MHK looking to improve our services but acknowledge the system moves painfully slowly. I have experience now and can deliver faster.

My work in Treasury during the last five years took me into the heart of government if not into the headlines, laying the foundations I hope for a new future.

I am passionate about Isle of Man business, I am passionate about small business, the backbone of the Isle of Man economy and often ignored. Over 80% of Isle of Man businesses employ less than five people. In the last five years I have supported numerous businesses in engaging with government.

### **If I am elected I will work re engineer Government's relationship with small business, forcing an enabling mindset, a one service approach rather than through various silos.**

Our future needs to be a sustainable one, a future with the environment front and centre, a planning system that backs up these ambitions, a system that puts green energy at its heart and everyone one's interest on the front page, rather than the interest of a few.

**If I am elected I will push for an immediate change in the building regulations for new housing to deliver better insulated new homes using cleaner energy. We need to move faster on this issue.**

**As an electric car driver for many years, I have personally been at the forefront of green thinking personally and in the current Administration - something that hasn't always been easy. I was also a key link to Professor Curran in the work he did on our climate change strategy.**

**I want to see our Island driven by clean power.**

Net zero emissions by 2050 is an unparalleled opportunity for the Isle of Man. The Island can entirely power itself with renewable energy, whilst gaining considerable income from the export of clean electricity to UK and Ireland. We are blessed with rich natural resources of wind, sea and mountains, offering significant value in the future low-carbon world. There are multiple sustainable options for the Island and, by working with industry, local experts and renewable energy specialists, I will ensure that the net zero pathway is optimized for maximum benefit to the people of the Isle of Man. The benefits include cheap electricity, hundreds of new jobs in clean technologies and a pride in knowing that we are doing the right thing to alleviate climate change. The next several years promise to be exciting and rewarding.



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**We must review our housing strategies; we need more affordable housing.**

**We need to develop further the role of housing associations.**

The very basic fabric of Douglas needs special attention, we need to really focus on regenerating and repurposing Douglas centre, our town and the Islands capital, presently it doesn't deliver on either.

The fiasco of the promenade must never be repeated, it is essential that we do things differently.

**If elected I will seek to encourage government to stand back from our lives and develop a new approach, a more customer and collaborative based approach.**

**If elected I will continue to work on mental health support issues through both traditional methods and community based efforts.**



**I chair the mental health wellbeing charity, Quing, whose positive approach is based community driven development, building on an individual's strengths and those of their community.**

Three years ago Councillor Peter Washington and I established Willaston Community Association. With residents support the group has begun working together. This group is an important forum in working more closely with Douglas Borough Council.



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**If elected I will continue to make myself available to listen to your concerns and to represent your views at national level.**

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