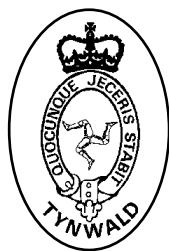


TYNWALD

Tinvaal



QUESTION PAPER

Pabyr Feyshtyn

DOUGLAS
21st March 2006
at 10.30 am

FOR ORAL ANSWER

1. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Chief Minister -
 - (1) Has your Government (Council of Ministers) formulated an economic policy on what is considered a sustainable and economically viable population for the Isle of Man; and
 - (2) if so, how many people does this policy consider sustainable for the Island, that is the amount of population currently and over the next 10 years; and
 - (3) if not, has your Government yet determined, or considered in draft, at what figure of population it would fully implement the Residence Act 2001?

2. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Chief Minister -
 - (1) What is the current status of the Residence Act 2001;
 - (2) what work has continued since then to formulate regulations and “residential gateways” to the Island; and
 - (3) when is it proposed to operate the “gateways”?

3. The Hon Member for Peel (Mrs Hannan) to ask the Chief Minister -

Is the Government at all concerned that, following the withdrawal of two superannuation up-dating proposals, that no further action has been taken to resolve the future pension position of many civil servants?

4. The Hon Member for Middle (Mr Quayle) to ask the Chief Minister -

In connection with the European Constitution which was rejected by referendums in France and the Netherlands, now that we are halfway through the current Austrian Presidency, what implications are there for the Isle of Man and its Protocol 3 arrangements, given the Austrian aim of "breathing new life" into the Constitution issue?

5. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Chief Minister -

Will you make a public statement on -

- (a) the number of foreign nationals (ie not Manx or UK) now living in the Island;
- (b) the proportion of those foreign nationals who are employed, either permanently or temporarily;
- (c) the proportion of those foreign nationals who are not legally on the Island;
- (d) the proportion of those foreign nationals who are entitled to the same benefits and public services as local Island residents; and
- (e) how your Government intends to manage this situation if unemployment figures continue to rise?

6. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for the Treasury -

- (1) Which companies provide computer services for Government;
- (2) what was the cost in each of the last five years;
- (3) did it go out to open tender; and
- (4) has there been an independent audit regarding value for money, or a Treasury audit?

7. The Hon Member for Peel (Mrs Hannan) to ask the Minister for the Treasury -
 - (1) During the Budget consideration did you make provision for a settlement of the Civil Service Superannuation problems; and
 - (2) are you concerned that the Scheme has not been returned for consideration?

8. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask HM Attorney General -

What, if any, are the reasons to stop a person coming into the Isle of Man, or have them returned to their country of origin -

 - (a) from within the European Union; and
 - (b) from elsewhere?

9. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Minister for Tourism and Leisure -

In the past 12 to 24 months -

 - (a) what promotional activities and advertising, if any, has your Department undertaken to attract motorised vehicles to use public land here on the Island; and
 - (b) how much has each activity, including advertising, cost?

10. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Minister for Home Affairs -
 - (1) What policies, procedures, legislation or regulations does your Department operate to monitor and detect any illegal immigrants coming, or attempting to come, to the Island and in doing so, what personnel and resources are usually utilised; and
 - (2) how many illegal immigrants have been detected in the last -
 - (a) 12 months;
 - (b) 24 months;
 - (c) 36 months; and
 - (3) what, if any, was the outcome for these people?

11. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for Trade and Industry -
- (1) Does your Department have a break-down of people requiring new National Insurance Numbers showing -
 - (a) the sector in which they are to be employed;
 - (b) their nationality; and
 - (2) if this information is not readily available, will you start to keep a record?
12. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry -
- Can you confirm that considerable tracts of land which are our National Heritage, some of which is of European significance, in your Department's ownership, is subject to irreparable carnage, and what direct immediate action do you propose to take to protect our National Heritage?
13. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry -
- (1) What measures are your Department taking to protect our valuable uplands and other areas of our National Heritage (non-afforested) suffering the carnage of over use of this special landscape by motorised vehicles; and
 - (2) indiscriminate and illegal use of motorised vehicles in your Department's non-afforested land?
14. The Hon Member for Middle (Mr Quayle) to ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry -
- (1) What is the average cost for putting beef and sheepmeat animals through the Meat Plant;
 - (2) what would be the equivalent average cost for animals being put through meat plants in the United Kingdom; and
 - (3) what action is being taken to assist the industry, in order to facilitate a level playing field in terms of costs?

15. The Hon Member of the Council, Mr Singer, to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -
- (1) What are the comparative birth rates to women under 20 years of age in the Isle of Man to the United Kingdom; and
 - (2) what family planning clinic facilities are available in areas of the Isle of Man other than Douglas?
16. The Hon Member for Douglas South (Mr Duggan) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -
- Are you satisfied that the measures in place at Noble's Hospital to combat MRSA are effective enough to eventually rid the hospital of MRSA?
17. The Hon Member for Peel (Mrs Hannan) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment -
- (1) Who certifies that a house is suitable for habitation;
 - (2) is the same process followed for flats and refurbished buildings;
 - (3) who signs the certificates; and
 - (4) is there any appeal procedure?
18. The Hon Member for Peel (Mrs Hannan) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment -
- Is it your intention to publish a design guide on East Quay, Peel and, if not, why not?
19. The Hon Member for Douglas South (Mr Duggan) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment -
- (1) When did the refurbishment of the Upper Pulrose Estate commence;
 - (2) how many properties have been refurbished to date;
 - (3) what was the original cost per property, compared to today's costs;
 - (4) what is the envisaged time to refurbish or rebuild the remainder of the estate to improve living conditions for the tenants?

20. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Houghton) to ask the Minister for Transport -

What action will you take against airlines who cancel routes almost on the eleventh hour and therefore cause severe inconvenience and increased costs to the passengers?

21. The Hon Member for Ramsey (Mrs Craine) to ask the Minister for Education -

What representation is your Department making to Higher Educational Institutions where striking university lecturers are threatening the success of Manx undergraduates?

22. The Hon Member for Peel (Mrs Hannan) to ask the Chair of the Civil Service Commission -

What action does the Commission intend to take to introduce an up to date Pension Superannuation Scheme following the withdrawal of two schemes, and do you intend that it will be implemented - within the legal advice given - prior to November 2006?

FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

23. The Hon Member for Castletown (Mr Speaker) to ask the Chief Minister -

(1) Whereas Isle of Man residents who use a television receiver are required, under the relevant United Kingdom legislation as extended to the Island, to pay a TV Licence Tax to the United Kingdom Authority (the British Broadcasting Corporation) as applies in the other British Isles Crown Dependencies, can you advise why the Isle of Man is not provided with a local TV service similar to that as is provided to those other British Isles Crown Dependencies by such UK Authority, in that they are provided with a BBC CI and ITV CI service, which provides for a local TV service, with the same also being available through for example, the Sky TV Satellite system;

(2) can you advise what proposals the UK Government and the relevant UK Authority has to rectify this discrimination towards our Island and, when can we expect to be provided with our own local TV service, fully funded by the relevant UK Authority, which will provide the Island with at least a similar local TV service as that presently enjoyed by and, provided by the same UK Authority to, the other British Isles Crown Dependencies: and

(3) if the UK Government and the relevant UK Authority has no proposal to provide such a local TV service to our Island within the near future, can you advise why this is the case and, will you undertake actively to pursue this matter with the UK Department of Constitutional Affairs and the appropriate UK Authority and to report to Tynwald at your earliest convenience and, in any case by no later than October 2006, on the outcome of those discussions?

24. The Hon Member for Douglas East (Mrs Cannell) to ask the Chief Minister -
When do you expect the Commission of Inquiry into the Care of Young to make their report?
25. The Hon Member for Douglas East (Mrs Cannell) to ask the Chief Minister -
Can you confirm that the Regulations covering superannuation pension payments to retired Police Officers require that such payments are to be made in advance and not in arrears?
26. The Hon Member for Douglas East (Mrs Cannell) to ask the Chief Minister -
- (1) Are you aware that as of 1st April 2006 the Department of Home Affairs intends to pay out the superannuation pension to retired Police Officers on the first day of each month, but if this date falls over a weekend or a bank holiday payment will only be made after this date; and
 - (2) would you agree that such new arrangements will result in some payments being made in arrears?
27. The Hon Member for Middle (Mr Quayle) to ask the Chief Minister -
- (1) What is the average cost to Government for pension arrangements for an employee joining the Civil Service Final Salary Pension Scheme; and
 - (2) will you consider halting new entrants from joining the Civil Service Final Salary Pension Scheme?
28. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Minister for the Treasury -
What is the latest, or last known, net immigration figures for the Isle of Man and in detail in the last 12 months or last period of assessment by your Department -
- (a) population of the Isle of Man;
 - (b) numbers of people leaving the Isle of Man;
 - (c) numbers of people coming to the Isle of Man; and
 - (d) if known, or best estimate, figures of temporary residents?

29. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Minister for Tourism and Leisure -

- (1) Has your Department promoted motorised vehicle events on Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's land;
- (2) if so, how many motorised vehicle events did your Department promote on the Department's land in the last 12 months and the last 24 months; and
- (3) how many of those events were on non-afforested Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry land, or partially afforested land?

30. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Houghton) to ask the Minister for Tourism and Leisure -

- (1) What would be the total cost of refurbishing the Manx Electric Railway Tunnel Car 7 to a standard for passenger use; and
- (2) will you authorise such works to be carried out as soon as possible?

31. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Houghton) to ask the Minister for Home Affairs -

With regard to the expenses of the Cheshire Constabulary, will you provide a breakdown of miscellaneous costs by way of expense sheets and invoices containing the actual expenditure, and provide same in a file for viewing by Members in the Clerk of Tynwald's Office?

32. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Minister for Trade and Industry -

- (1) What are the most up to date figures for people unemployed on the Island, or best estimate;
- (2) does your Department also liaise with all the Island's Employment Agencies to arrive at this figure; and
- (3) if not, will you give an undertaking to do so and produce those figures where possible for circulation to Tynwald Members and make them public once collated; if this is not possible within the time limits of this question, will you also illustrate using the information collected above -
 - (a) what is the average time a person takes to regain employment or best estimate;
 - (b) what percentage of the current unemployed figures are people who have been unemployed for -
 - (i) over 6 months;
 - (ii) over 12 months;

- (c) what percentage of the unemployed figure are people requiring work permits;
 - (d) are you able to tell what percentage are local residents unemployed and what percentage are non-resident temporary workers, and if so, what are those percentages;
 - (e) how many work permits were issued within the last 12 months, or last period of assessment by your Department; and
 - (f) how many "cross-Island" job vacancies are there, or best estimate, and what is the skills range of those vacancies?
33. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry -
- (1) How many cases has your Department brought against illegal motorised vehicle users in your Department's non-afforested land; and
 - (2) how many convictions have been achieved?
34. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Houghton) to ask the Minister for Transport -
- With regard to the Road Transport Act 2001 -
- (a) has the whole Act been brought into force;
 - (b) if so, when were the Appointed Day Orders for each section enacted; and
 - (c) what measures have been imposed in respect to the licensing of heavy goods operators?
35. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Houghton) to ask the Minister for Home Affairs -
- Will you set out an analysis of the costs of accommodation in respect of the Cheshire Constabulary as follows:
- (a) a breakdown of accommodation in total of £71,777.59 to include -
 - (i) name of hotel(s);
 - (ii) number of nights on each occasion;
 - (iii) meals (detailing all costs separately for any alcoholic drinks etc);
 - (iv) names of those present and receiving meals;
 - (b) names of Officers on each occasion (together with all dates) staying in that accommodation; and
 - (c) full breakdown of guests attending for meals during each period of accommodation and the names of those guests?