

TYNWALD

Tinvaal



QUESTION PAPER

Pabyr Feyshtyn

DOUGLAS
20th JANUARY 2009
at 10.30 am

FOR ORAL ANSWER

1. The Hon Member of the Council, Mr Lowey, to ask the Chief Minister –

How many Isle of Man Senior Civil Servants who have retired from Government in the past three years have been or are being re-employed by Government as consultants or part time employees on individual or specific projects; and which Departments have re-employed them?

2. The Hon Member for Michael (Mr Cannan) to ask the Chief Minister –

Whether the Council of Ministers will abide by the decision of the person appointed to preside over the Public Inquiry into footpaths on Langness?

3. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Quirk) to ask the Chief Minister –

What the Energy Working Group is; what the remit of the group is; what this group has looked into; and what saving this group has achieved in the year 2008?

4. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Chief Minister –

In view of substantial shortfall in revenue to the Isle of Man Treasury on account of the decision by the UK Chancellor of the Exchequer to reduce the Standard Rate of VAT to 15%, as well as other external factors, why the Council of Ministers has not cancelled, or deferred, the construction of the promontory into the sea at the eastern end of the main runway at Ronaldsway Airport?

5. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Chief Minister –

If the Council of Ministers would support additional clauses to the Companies (Amendment) Bill that would: -

- (a) ensure that anyone seeking to become a company director understands what is involved and in particular has read the FSC guidance notes on the responsibilities and duties of directors;
- (b) ensure the absence of recent connections with the regulators in connection with business regulated by the FSC and the IPA;
- (c) ensure a greater degree of transparency to corporate structures and relationships;
- (d) in the case of public companies, ensure the disclosure of directors' remuneration, benefits and service contracts and the rights of shareholders to inspect them; and
- (e) also in the case of public companies define new rules governing substantial property transactions between companies and their directors or other connected parties, and in particular specify when these would have to be approved by shareholders in advance?

6. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Chief Minister –

- (a) Whether he would be in favour of a second casino licence being granted on the Island, for example at the proposed new development at Mount Murray;
- (b) if such a licence were granted, whether it would be awarded on the basis of competitive tender; and
- (c) how much money is likely to be obtained for the Isle of Man Treasury by the granting of such a licence?

7. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Chief Minister –

Whether he would support a motion if it were made in this Hon Court that the Isle of Man Government request that a formal Revocation Order of the Communications (Isle of Man) Order 2003 be approved by Her Majesty's Privy Council, so that Manx resident television viewers will no longer be forced to pay the BBC licence fee?

8. The Hon Member of the Council, Mr Lowey, to ask the Minister for the Treasury –

What plans the Treasury has to float a loans issue, or Fixed Bond or any other Scheme to encourage investment into the Isle of Man Government; and, if not, why not?

9. The Hon Member for Michael (Mr Cannan) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –
- (a) How much money the Treasury has set aside to fund the Public Inquiry into the footpaths on Langness; and
 - (b) whether all interested parties to the Inquiry will be required to fund their own costs?
10. The Hon Member of the Council, Mr Lowey, to ask the Minister for Tourism and Leisure –
- (a) What the current position is regarding the plans for the Commonwealth Youth Games;
 - (b) what plans have been (i) commissioned and (ii) commenced and (iii) laid for the redevelopment of the Bowl;
 - (c) what financial arrangements have been put in place to ensure these games are a showcase for the Island and its people?
11. The Hon Member of the Council, Mr Lowey, to ask the Minister for Tourism and Leisure –
- (a) Whether the Department has a major overspend on its revenue account for this year;
 - (b) whether another Government department is incurring costs that the Department of Tourism and Leisure is having to pick up (without political input); and
 - (c) whether the Arts and Sport Councils budgets have been vired to accommodate or mitigate this overspend with the consent of both organisations?
12. The Hon Member for Douglas East (Mrs Cannell) to ask the Minister for Tourism and Leisure –
- When the Villa Marina Arcade and Colonnade will be completed and open for business?
13. The Hon Member for Peel (Mr Crookall) to ask the Minister for Tourism and Leisure –
- If he will make a statement on the Summerland site?

14. The Hon Member for Michael (Mr Cannan) to ask the Minister for Transport –
- (a) Whether a person has been chosen to preside over the Public Inquiry into footpaths on Langness, and, if so, what his/her credentials are;
 - (b) on what date it is intended that the Public Inquiry should commence;
 - (c) what the estimated cost of the Inquiry is; and
 - (d) to what extent will his Department be involved in the Public Inquiry?
15. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for Transport –
- (a) What charges, if any, are made for aircraft entering Manx airspace for training purposes and/or to make practice approaches to the Isle of Man Airport, where the aircraft involved do not actually land; and
 - (b) what income was generated from these activities for the last financial year for which figures are available?
16. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for Transport –
- What would have been the approximate reduction in Airport revenue over the last 12 months if a discount of 10% on landing charges had been given to aircraft on the Isle of Man aircraft register?
17. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for Transport –
- What would have been the approximate reduction in port revenue over the last 12 months if a discount of 10% on harbour charges had been given to vessels on the Isle of Man shipping register?
18. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for Transport –
- What are the applicable design specifications with regard to –
- (a) the maximum height of the vertical face of a ramp above the road surface; and
 - (b) the recommended maximum speed for an average vehicle travelling over a ramp
- that are designed for the speed bumps being installed on the Island roads?
19. The Hon Member for Malew & Santon (Mr Cregeen) to ask the Minister for Transport –
- What action his Department is taking with regard to the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company charging a fuel surcharge after the cancellation of the agreement?

20. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Gill) to ask the Minister for Home Affairs –

What the costs to date are of the police investigation into the recent complaints made to the constabulary by the Chairman of the Whitley Council; and what criteria the police employ to decide whether such a complaint is justified or not?

21. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Quirk) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment –

- (a) What plans he has to provide this Court with an annual Report on the trial Kerbside Collection, setting out all relevant information, in particular the financial information to include the total costs including capital costs and operational costs, and calculated as a cost per tonne of each recycled product and as a cost per household;
- (b) whether the Department is taking forward the establishment of a Waste Park, what stage it has reached through the financial procedure for allocating capital and what the expenditure incurred to date is;
- (c) when his Department intends to bring forward a kerbside collection for green waste and waste that can be composted, especially green waste which can be composted on Island and used by local residents, Farms and Contractors; and
- (d) what tonnage of green waste was dumped in each Civic Amenity site over the last 12 months; and whether all the green waste was then composted; and, if not, why not?

22. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Quirk) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment –

What his policy is on the service and repair of oil and gas boilers in Public Sector Housing –

- (a) in his Department;
- (b) all other Local Authorities; and
- (c) all other rented housing and flats?

23. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment –

In relation to the IdEA Report –

- (a) who gave evidence;
- (b) what evidence was submitted;
- (c) how the stakeholders who were invited to give evidence were chosen and by whom;
- (d) what steps were taken to ensure that it was a representative sample; and
- (e) why DLGE or IdEA did not advertise the “peer review” and invite the general public to submit evidence to IdEA?

FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

24. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Houghton) to ask the Chief Minister –

In respect of tribunals’ panels –

- (a) how members are recruited;
- (b) what the selection process is;
- (c) who undertakes the interviews of members; and
- (d) how the appointments are made?

25. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Watterson) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –

What the –

- (a) book value; and
- (b) market value

is of each of the Government reserves as at 31st December 2008 (or the most recent available figures)?

26. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Watterson) to ask the Minister for the Treasury -
- (a) How much the Treasury Online Services (i) software and (ii) hardware cost to implement and on what date they were approved by Tynwald;
 - (b) how many –
 - (i) individual; and
 - (ii) corporate;registered users it has;
 - (c) how many –
 - (i) potential individual users; and
 - (ii) registered companies;there are in the Isle of Man;
 - (d) how many individuals have used the service –
 - (i) to pay the MEA;
 - (ii) to pay their income tax;
 - (iii) to pay their rates; and
 - (iv) to pay Customs and Excise;for each of the years 2007/08 and 2008/09 to date;
 - (e) how many companies have used the service –
 - (i) to pay the MEA;
 - (ii) to submit tax returns;
 - (iii) to pay their income tax;
 - (iv) to make monthly employer remittance payments;
 - (v) to pay their rates; and
 - (vi) to pay Customs and Excise;for each of the years 2007/08 and 2008/09 to date;
 - (f) what the Treasury's targets are for take up of the service; and how many users were anticipated in the business case;
 - (g) what strategies Treasury has to ensure that take up reaches targets, and how long it will take to achieve this; and
 - (h) whether this system provides value for money?

27. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Watterson) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –

What the investment policy is of the Treasury's Investment Committee?

28. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Watterson) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –

How much Government money is invested with each individual bank on the Isle of Man?

29. The Hon Member for Michael (Mr Cannan) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –

- (a) What the Treasury's revised income estimate is for the financial year 2008-09 in respect of –

- (i) Customs and Excise Division;
- (ii) Income Tax Division; and
- (iii) other Treasury Income

showing a comparison with the estimate published in February 2008 (the annual budget document);

- (b) what the Treasury's predicted income is for the financial year 2009-10 in respect of –

- (i) Customs and Excise Division;
- (ii) Income Tax Division; and
- (iii) other Treasury Income?

30. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Houghton) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –

- (a) How many new residents have moved to the Island in direct response to the introduction of the £100,000 tax cap in the following categories –

- (i) number of family units (occupying a single dwelling);
- (ii) number of individuals submitting separate tax returns since the initiative was launched; and
- (iii) total number of qualifying individuals; and

- (b) what estimates he has published in respect of high net worth individuals since this initiative was launched; and what the basis was on which the estimates were made?

31. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Watterson) to ask the Minister for Transport –
- (a) Who has the current security contract at Ronaldsway airport;
 - (b) whether this is a Manx company; and
 - (c) whether anyone in airport management has checked their certification for employers liability and Data Protection?
32. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Gill) to ask HM Attorney General –
- What legal rights a terminally ill patient entering a Hospice or an NHS facility has in regard to –
- (a) a living will;
 - (b) an advance directive; or
 - (c) any other legally binding patient autonomous document?
33. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Gill) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security –
- How many people in the southern community need to be accommodated in Southlands but cannot be?
34. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Chairman of the Manx Electricity Authority –
- (a) What the design capacity is of the SIPS (Scotland Ireland Pipeline System) pipeline system (IC1 and IC2);
 - (b) what the reserved capacity in the SIPS system was for (i) the Manx Electricity Authority and (ii) Northern Ireland for the last 12 months;
 - (c) what the reserved capacity is for (i) the Manx Electricity Authority and (ii) Northern Ireland, for the next 12 months;
 - (d) how much of the reserved capacity for (i) the Manx Electricity Authority and (ii) Northern Ireland was actually used during the last 12 months;
 - (e) how much of the reserved capacity is budgeted to be used during the next 12 months;
 - (f) what the total capital cost was of the SIPS pipeline system, including the compressor station at Moffatt and the pressure reduction and metering station in the Republic of Ireland;

- (g) what the monetary value was of the European Union infrastructure grant paid to the Bord Gáis for the construction of the SIPS 1 pipeline (IC1);
- (h) what was the total capacity charge paid to Bord Gáis for the use of the Interconnector during the last 12 months and what the budget is for the next 12 months;
- (i) what was the total capacity charge paid to Bord Gáis for the use of the Spur Connection during the last 12 months and what the budget is for the next 12 months;
- (j) what was the total operating charge paid to Bord Gáis for the use of the Interconnector during the last 12 months and what the budget is for the next 12 months;
- (k) what was the total operating charge paid to Bord Gáis for the use of the Spur Connection during the last 12 months and what is the budget for the next 12 months; and
- (l) what the impact will be of the start up of the Corib gas field, the commissioning of the gas storage facilities at Larne in Northern Ireland and the commissioning of an LNG receiving terminal at Shannon in the Republic of Ireland, on the MEA's capacity charges and operating costs?