



# QUESTION PAPER

## Pabyr Feyshtyn

DOUGLAS  
19<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010  
at 10.30 am

### FOR ORAL ANSWER

1. THE HON MEMBER FOR GARFF (MR SPEAKER) TO ASK THE CHIEF MINISTER -

- (1) On what dates in 2008 and 2009 written representations over the ending of the Reciprocal Health Agreement were made by his office to -
  - (a) the Secretary of State for Health;
  - (b) the Secretary of State for Justice; and
  - (c) other Westminster parliamentarians, specifying which;
- (2) whether he will lead the Isle of Man delegation to meet the Secretary of State for Health in London; and
- (3) whether the Isle of Man Government intends to negotiate new reciprocal health agreements directly with Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland?

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

Whether the opinions expressed by Minister Allan Bell MHK on Manx Radio on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January that the Isle of Man should prepare for greater independence from the United Kingdom are indicative of the policy of the Council of Ministers?

3. The Hon Member for Michael (Mr Cannan) to ask the Chief Minister -

Whether he is encouraged by the content of the letter from the Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP to Minister Teare agreeing to a meeting, "to discuss our

respective plans for the future and to examine how we can work together to ensure that timely and accurate information required by our citizens is made available”?

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

Whilst welcoming his reported statement that “a radical review of the structure, role and size of Government is needed” and bearing in mind that the Council of Ministers and senior civil servants have negotiated and agreed a reduction in Isle of Man Government revenue of about a quarter over the next two years as a result of the renegotiation of the revenue sharing arrangements in relation to the Common Customs agreement if he would give an update to Hon Members on the progress that has been made so far in reducing the public sector salary cost by 15% by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 and a further 10% by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 to compensate for the expected shortfall in revenue that he and they have negotiated?

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

- (a) Whether the Council of Ministers agrees with the reported comments made by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry that Members of Tynwald should have their pay reduced; and
- (b) if so, would he and they support reductions from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 of -
  - (i) 10% on the basic salary of Members of Tynwald;
  - (ii) 50% on the uplifts Members receive for special responsibilities such as departmental or ministerial positions; and
  - (iii) that Members’ tax free allowances for expenses incurred while carrying out their parliamentary duties should only be paid up to the extent of invoices produced for expenses wholly and necessarily incurred in the execution of their duties?

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

In respect of the forthcoming meeting with the UK Secretary of State for Health –

- (i) whether he has prepared an agenda; and
- (ii) if so what his proposals are to resolve the UK Government's intention to withdraw from the reciprocal agreement on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010?

7. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Gill) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –

- (a) Whether, in an interview broadcast by Manx Radio over the Christmas holiday he said –

“We have had crisis after crisis confronting us over this last twelve months and, as I have said before not just personally with myself but in Government there are really only about half a dozen people dealing with all these issues as they come up. It's the same half dozen people that have to finance us to this and I think at the moment everyone's batteries are pretty low and it has been a very exhausting few months. There's no question about that and with very little sign that the pressure is going to be off in the New Year.”

- (b) who the “same half dozen people” are?

8. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Gill) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –

Who acts as Treasury Minister in the unfortunate circumstance that he is indisposed?

9. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Gill) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –

When Treasury was last independently reviewed to assess if it is fit for modern day purposes?

10. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Henderson) to ask the Minister for Transport –

Following the snowfall of 5<sup>th</sup> January whether (a) the Island had enough rock salt supplies; (b) his Department received proper and regular communication from the Met Office of approaching weather; and (c) resources were adequate and a 'whiteout' was adequately planned for?

11. The Hon Member for Douglas South (Mr Malarkey) to ask HM Attorney General -

What part of the Road Transport Act 2001 or other statutory provision allows the Department of Transport or the RTLC to issue the Department of Tourism and Leisure with a licence to operate a UK registered Public Passenger Vehicle to be used, on Manx roads, on a fare paying passenger basis, without undergoing the normal test at the DOT test centre?

12. The Hon Member for Garff (Mr Speaker) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -

- (1) What arrangements are being made to charge visitors from the United Kingdom for the cost of NHS treatment from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010; and
- (2) whether changes to the National Health Service Act 2001 or other legislation will be necessary, and if so when public consultation will be undertaken by his Department?

13. The Hon Member for Garff (Mr Speaker) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -

Further to his public statement in December regarding the Reciprocal Health Agreement that "the United Kingdom Government's door is firmly locked on this issue"; that "for more than a year they have made it very clear that this is a policy decision not open to negotiations"; and that "the Department of Health has refused to meet the Isle of Man Government on this issue" -

- (a) on what dates requests for such meetings were made by the Isle of Man Government;
- (b) by whom, to whom and by what means such requests were made; and
- (c) what action was taken following the refusal of such requests?

14. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -
- (a) Whilst welcoming his announcement that he will be holding talks with the UK Secretary of State for Health regarding the ending of the Reciprocal Health Agreement with the UK, in those talks if he will establish why the UK is content to have reciprocal health agreements with at least twenty other countries, not including the European Union, most of which have never had any connection with the British Crown; and in particular the inconsistency of the UK having a reciprocal health agreement with Uzbekistan whilst imposing economic sanctions against that country;
  - (b) whether the Isle of Man has the power and authority to negotiate reciprocal health agreements with other jurisdictions, such as devolved parts of the UK, the Channel Islands, the Republic of Ireland, or other countries or groupings;
  - (c) with which countries his Department is currently negotiating with a view to concluding reciprocal health agreements; and if none, why not;
  - (d) whether it would be of great benefit to the tourism sector, especially for the TT, if he could conclude a reciprocal health agreement with the European Union; and
  - (e) if the various negotiations to conclude reciprocal health agreements with other jurisdictions are unsuccessful, especially with regard to the UK or EU, whether the Minister would consider introducing a simple, universal scheme based on a departure levy?
15. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -
- (a) If he will circulate to all Hon Members and place on his Department's website for public information a copy of Version 12 of the Liverpool Care Pathway; and
  - (b) if he will agree that before any patient is placed on this Pathway, a copy is also given to the next of kin and/or close relatives of the patient; and that his staff ensure that these relatives are fully aware of the details and implications of the Pathway?

16. The Hon Member for Michael (Mr Cannan) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -
- (a) Whether he personally dealt with the negotiations with the United Kingdom Department of Health when notification was first received in March 2009 that the Reciprocal Health Agreement would be cancelled as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010; and, if not,
  - (b) who in the Department was personally responsible for the on-going negotiations?
17. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Gill) to ask the Minister for Home Affairs -
- (1) If he is aware of any reported cases of arrests of suspects by the United Kingdom police in order to obtain DNA samples from them;
  - (2) if he is aware of such cases, if he will make a statement outlining all relevant issues; and
  - (3) if he is not aware of such cases, if he will make a statement outlining what, if any, monitoring his Department undertakes of any relevant and pertinent issues in the United Kingdom and elsewhere?
18. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Gill) to ask the Minister for Home Affairs -

In regard to his Department's consultation document relating to the Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2009 what definition of "hatred" those contemplating a response should consider?

19. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment -
- (1) What priority is being given by the Office of Building Control within his Department to ensuring that BS8500 - 2006 standards for concrete production and supply are fully met and implemented throughout the construction industry in the Island;
  - (2) who his Department and their sub-contractors use to test and monitor that compliance, and whether all persons so used do themselves carry BS8500 accreditation;
  - (3) in respect of strategically important developments, what safeguards are in place to ensure that builders are compelled to protect buildings against chloride attack of re-enforced concrete structures, in order to protect (a) the long term investment of the taxpayer and (b) the longevity of residential developments for the benefit of individuals purchasing such property; and
  - (4) in light of his recent visit to Copenhagen what new initiatives he is putting in place to minimise the exorbitant energy costs for all citizens, costs which particularly affect those on a fixed income, those in local authority housing and first time buyers?
20. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment -
- (1) Whether the former Castle Mona Hotel is a registered building;
  - (2) if so, what inspections have been carried out of the internal and external state of the building during the last 12 months so that the building can be properly maintained; and
  - (3) what safeguards are in place to ensure that the building does not suffer the same fate as have other registered buildings in the past?
21. The Hon Member for Michael (Mr Cannan) to ask the Minister for Local Government and the Environment -
- (1) What he achieved by his attendance at the Climate Change Conference at Copenhagen last month; and
  - (2) who accompanied him to Copenhagen and what was the total cost of the visit?

22. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Chairman of the Communications Commission -

In view of the limited number of terrestrial television channels available to the majority of residents of the Isle of Man compared with the majority of residents of the UK, due to the limited broadcasting capacity on the Island: -

- (a) what can be done to improve the situation and at what cost to whom;
- (b) who chooses which channels are broadcast in the Isle of Man and which are not; and what consultation is carried out in the Isle of Man to determine public preferences before such decisions are made; and
- (c) if the Chairman of the Communications Commission would circulate to Hon Members, and place on the Government website for public information, listings of -
  - (i) the terrestrial channels currently available to most residents of the UK in areas where the digital switchover has been completed;
  - (ii) the terrestrial channels currently broadcast in the Isle of Man; and
  - (iii) the channels currently available by satellite without subscription?

23. The Hon Member for Onchan (Mr Karran) to ask the Chairman of the Communications Commission -

- (a) What broadcast licences, including radio and satellite, are currently in the power of the Isle of Man administration to grant but remain unallocated and/or unused; and
- (b) what is currently being done to make use of these resources to bring revenue to the Isle of Man and/or promote the Isle of Man?

## FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

24. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Watterson) to ask the Chief Minister –
- What the Government headcount in post was at –
- (a) 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009; and
  - (b) 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009;
- and what the predicted number is for
- (c) 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010; and
  - (d) 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011?
25. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Gill) to ask the Chief Minister –
- Further to the COMIN Summary of Proceedings for November 2009 Item 7 re travel between the Isle of Man and the Republic of Ireland, if he will make a statement about why the Isle of Man Government and its Civil Service is entering into important and wide ranging agreements without (a) recourse to Tynwald; and (b) any public consultation about this matter?
26. The Hon Member for Michael (Mr Cannan) to ask the Minister for the Treasury –
- (1) What are the names of the 122 non-resident companies trading in the Isle of Man;
  - (2) whether any of these companies elect to pay Isle of Man tax on their profits generated in the Isle of Man; and
  - (3) if the Isle of Man Government made an Order imposing a 10% tax on profits generated in the Isle of Man by the 122 non-resident companies, what is the estimated tax income?

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

(a) In the last 12 months -

(i) how many non molestation orders; and

(ii) how many non occupancy orders were issued by the Family Court;

(b) how many of these orders were granted to a parent of children under the age of 16; and

(c) in each case who were the applicant's Legal Counsel?

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

What the total cost is for the 2008/09 financial year across all Government Departments and properties for -

(a) electricity;

(b) gas; and

(c) oil; and

what the estimated same costs are for the current period?

29. The Hon Member for Douglas North (Mr Houghton) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -

(1) How many Isle of Man residents receive a UK State retirement pension; and

(2) how many of these have paid at least 10 years National Insurance contributions in the UK during their working life?

30. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Watterson) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Security -

In his negotiations with the UK Government, if he will ascertain how much money the UK Government feels that it is losing as a result of having a reciprocal health agreement with the Isle of Man; and how this relates to other health agreements that the UK has?

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

If he will make a full statement about the issues, challenges, costs and failures of his probation service's electronic tagging programme?

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

If there is any compelling timescale to move some or all of the provisions of the Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2009 currently out for consultation; and if so, what is that timescale; and why?

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

If he can confirm that the Isle of Man Law Society and the Isle of Man Magistrates' Association have been fully consulted about the proposed Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2009?

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

If he is aware of concerns by the United Kingdom Magistrates' Association that the use of cautions in the United Kingdom has led to a situation where offenders are dealt with outside of the court system - if so, if he will make a full statement about the relevance of the Manx situation in such similar situations?

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

(1) If he is aware of any occasion in the United Kingdom where a caution has been given for the following offences -

- (a) domestic violence;
- (b) assault (eg a victim attacked with a broken glass);
- (c) domestic burglary;
- (d) inciting hatred;
- (e) rape/ attempted rape;

(2) if so, if he will he make a full statement about the above; and

(3) if not, why not?

36. The Hon Member for Rushen (Mr Watterson) to ask the Chairman of the Communications Commission -

Given the Island's links to the satellite industry and excellent broadband capacity between the Island and the UK, what consideration has been given to hosting a cable television company on the Isle of Man with a satellite relay station here?