

**Local Authority Election  
Onchan District Commissioners - Thursday 22nd July 2021**

**VOTE  
KATHRYN  
WILLIAMS  
FOR ONCHAN**



Dear Voter,

My name is Kathryn Williams. I am standing as a candidate in the forthcoming Onchan District Commissioners Election. I was born on the Isle of Man and have had the pleasure of calling Onchan home all my life.

Aged 41, I was educated at Onchan Primary School, QE II High School and the Isle of Man College. I also had the opportunity to study in the North-West of England, where I gained a good honours degree and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Broadcast Journalism.

Since 2005, I have been involved in various disability organisations and I am currently a director of Crossroads Care. I also attend St Ninian's church.

I am a member of the Friends of Manx National Heritage. I have a wide variety of interests including people's history, travel, music and theatre. Many people would agree though that one of my main enthusiasms is for cricket!

For the past 9 years, I have had the privilege of serving the people of Onchan as a Member of Onchan District Commissioners. During that time, I have been Vice-Chairman twice, as well as being Lead Member for Properties and Amenities (now Housing) for a number of years. Being a commissioner is challenging but also rewarding as it has given me the opportunity to hopefully make a positive contribution to the community. I believe that Onchan Commissioners should have representatives from as many different backgrounds as possible, working as a team, to serve in the best interests of the people of Onchan.

I will always be a keen advocate of our democratic right to vote, therefore, I would really appreciate your support on polling day. It is impossible for me to visit you all but if you would like to discuss any issues, please do not hesitate to contact me on 667844, 257348 or [onchankathryn@outlook.com](mailto:onchankathryn@outlook.com) Follow me on Twitter: @onchankathryn and find me on Facebook.

Yours sincerely

*Kathryn Williams*

**REMEMBER: You have 7 votes in this election.  
Please consider using one of them for me.**

**Onchan District Commissioners Election:  
Polling Station 8am to 8pm The Hub, School Road, Onchan.**

## Community

The Covid pandemic has had a profound effect on everyone over the last 18 months. While there has been plenty of evidence of community spirit during this time, there has also been understandable concern about the behaviour of a small minority in recent months. The new Board must build on positive relations with the police and be willing to look again at facilities for the youth of Onchan. Improvements to venues like 'The Hub' as well the refurbishment of the excellent library have been welcome. Further investment into Onchan Park should be considered, as well as other open spaces in the district.

## Communication

During the last nine years, there is no doubt that communication between the Members of the Commissioners and our MHKs in Onchan and now also Garff, has improved. Regular meetings are held and these are constructive. I hope the new Board and MHKs will continue to build on these going forward, as they are a good tool and provide a link between local and national politicians and the community they represent.

## Housing

Onchan is very fortunate to have good quality local authority housing. In the last few years, there has been a small increase, with the purchase of the Marion Road site and the former police station. There have been improvements too, with roof replacements and the ongoing work with the Kitchen Framework Agreement, two examples. Plans are also progressing for much needed refurbishment work at Springfield Court. The Commissioners have faced challenges over the last few years, with the Government changing the way housing budgets have to be managed. However, I believe it is vital that Onchan keeps control of its housing and it should not become part of a regional body. It is important to remember that the housing budget is entirely separate from Onchan Commissioners general budget and there is no financial impact on the ratepayer.

## Rates

In the last nine years, the Board has managed to keep the rates to realistic levels, while dealing with increased costs from Government in relation to waste disposal fees. We must accept that rates have to increase to be able to maintain good community services. The key is to make sure they remain realistic.

## Finally

There is no doubt the Commissioners will face many more challenges in the coming years. I believe my skills and experience will help build on what the Board has achieved in the last nine years. By working together, we can ensure Onchan remains a great place to live!