

Election manifesto – Camp Constituency - December 2025



Dorothy
Gould

I moved to the Falkland Islands in 1979 with my family when I was just five years old. My parents were employed at Port Stephens on a three-year contract with the Falkland Islands Company. During the Argentine invasion my parents were asked if they would like to be repatriated back to the UK, they declined and I'm very grateful that they did.

I was raised in the Camp and during my childhood I experienced Camp education and boarding at Stanley House. I left school in 1990 and my first job was at Port Howard Lodge. After the season came to an end I was fortunate enough to get a job at the King Edward Memorial Hospital as an auxiliary nurse. After three years of working on the wards I was sent away to train as a medic to work in the Casualty department.

In 1996 I joined the Royal Falkland Islands Police where I served as a Police Constable for 4 years. After this I moved to the UK where I joined Devon and Cornwall Police where I served as a Police Constable for 6 years. During my time in the medical and police services I gained a lot of experience in dealing with people, problem solving, community issues and at times some very serious incidents. I learned to be part of a team and to act alone. I have empathy and a good understanding of how political issues can affect communities in a number of ways. I'm fully aware of the importance of confidentiality, accountability and accurate records being kept.

I am now farming, along with my husband Alex, I love my life here and I am excited about the future. I am however concerned about how decisions are made for our country including the order of priorities and the huge responsibility when taking on a massive debt to enable development. My main worry is the impact this debt has on all the other budgets with the potential of the smaller issues within our community being overlooked if we're not careful. It is imperative that we look after our people and their basic needs.

Self determination

Our right to self-determination is paramount. We are British - we always will be. I for one would fight tooth and nail to keep it this way. We owe it to those who fought for our liberation and to each and every one of the 255 unfortunate souls who paid the ultimate price to give us back our freedom. I would be very honoured to defend our right to self-determination in any setting.

Shipping

Workboat Services Ltd provide the best service that they can in challenging conditions. I can empathise entirely with the issues and frustrations when the service is delayed, cancelled or the schedule does not meet ones needs. I think it's evident that we do require a second boat to allow businesses to thrive. I understand that this is a heavily subsidised service but it's crucial economically, socially and politically to keep people in Camp. The money isn't there at the moment, but should things change then this is a critical issue to be addressed.

Roads

It goes without saying, everybody needs a decent road network, I know exactly what it's like to tow a heavy trailer in the middle of winter with your heart in your mouth as you slip and slide in the ever-deepening ruts. We need the roads to haul our produce, and we should be able to do it as safely as possible using local contractors to maintain them as they know the roads so well. I get concerned when I learn of budgets being cut for road maintenance, they are our lifeline.

FIGAS

This is an essential service -we mustn't let things slide. We need to support all the staff at FIGAS, the pilots are exceptional as are the operations staff and engineers and they do their very best to keep everything running smoothly. I understand that there are issues when sourcing spares, increases in costs and at times, additional pressures to keep aircraft

operational. I think it's important to consider the cost to the customers using this service and try to avoid any increases unnecessarily.

Abattoir

The new Beef working group is now up and running. I support any initiatives to encourage more animals being produced for our local population especially. FIMCO has always been heavily subsidised but it's really encouraging to see the improvements last season - long may that continue for us all. I would like to see more work being done in respect of marketing, more consideration given to the reality of the running costs and the need to replace outdated equipment and infrastructure.

Wool market

These last few years have been tough and lower wool prices have meant tightening the purse strings for farmers. A decrease in wool income of up to 40% is no laughing matter. We haven't received any extra support from the Government, and this continues to concern me as I know people are struggling. I feel there is room to provide more assistance.

Cost of living

I am aware of the daily struggles to make ends meet. The private rental rates in Stanley are eye watering; the electricity rates are depressing. We must look after our people, particularly our elderly and vulnerable. When it comes to retirement and pensions, we seriously need to look at increasing the pension to allow retirees to feed themselves properly, keep warm and enjoy their senior years as they so deserve.

Housing

The housing situation in Stanley is a concern - how do people manage to pay their rent and save at the same time to buy or build their own homes? We must ensure that we have services and housing to cope with the ever-increasing population. I've always been a great supporter in allowing the local tenants in FIG housing to buy their property if they wish to. This would then free up more money for FIG to build more purpose-built properties for single occupancy and it would take the pressure off resources within FIG being used to maintain the properties.

Immigration

I have concerns about the number of people entering the islands. I know we need a workforce, but I would like to see more careful consideration given to recruitment and such. We need to be cautious in our selection to avoid placing undue strain on our services particularly health and education.

Medical

Tussac House is an impressive building, but it wasn't cheap - it should be fully utilised by all who qualify to use it. I fully support any medical needs for our community and would like to see an increase in staffing on local contracts rather than oversees contracts and agency staff. Our social services have improved over the years however we must not lose focus on care for the more vulnerable residents in our community.

Environment

We live in an impressive and pristine environment which includes our coastal waters. We owe it to ourselves to keep it this way and be proud. We are seeing the effects of climate change every season. As a farmer I know all too well of the impacts. We have reduced our stock numbers significantly and have taken a financial hit. I'm a great believer that farmers are the best managers of the land - please support them, do not dictate.

Tourism

Tourism is crucial to our economy; we must look after this industry and support all those involved in making it work. We live in such a wonderful part of the world, we should be proud. I'm keen to work towards encouraging more visitors, both land based and on cruise vessels.

Telecoms

Telecoms are at times appalling and other times non-existent. I'm really pleased that Starlink have been issued a license to provide services. I think we need to consider every part of legislation when it comes to telecoms contracts. I would be hesitant to renew SURE's contract having seen how they have dealt with their customers over the years - now they have increased their rates again which is through no fault of their customers.

Port facilities

The contract has been signed for the new replacement port facility. My biggest concern is that this project be allowed to go over budget. We must manage and monitor the progress vigilantly. I am led to believe this could increase to £150 million plus and we have no idea of the full costs of decommissioning the current facility or the shipping costs relating to the delivery of the new facility to the islands.

Oil

The oil industry is on everyone's mind right now; it involves a lot of legislation and infrastructure. I won't pretend to know a lot about this industry and I'm pretty sure that is the truth of the majority. We need expert advice in this industry if we are to benefit from it, I'm more than willing to learn and be guided by those in the know and to keep an open mind whilst considering the impact of this industry.

Fisheries

Our fishing Industry has been the backbone of these islands for a number of decades now; we must continue the good work of monitoring the fish stocks and supporting the fishing industry who invest in the islands. I am looking forward to meeting up with representatives of this industry next week.

Education

I've experienced Camp education, Stanley House boarding and both schools. My children have done the same so I have plenty of experience from both sides. Many of our children in Camp are either receiving their education through travelling teachers or they are now boarding at Stanley House and I know how difficult it is to watch your child head back to school away from the farm. They grow up pretty much without you and it's tough I know. What I will say is that my children have grown into independent confident young adults who have gone off to further their studies without any issues. My biggest concern is that when students want to return to the islands having gained their qualifications, what support do they get in returning to jobs and accommodation? I think that maybe we could find a way to do more to support them with this.

I stand to be corrected on any issues I have raised and I'm more than happy to discuss any issues or concerns with you personally in Camp or Stanley, after all IF I am fortunate enough to be elected I will be representing us all.

So why vote for me?

I am 'walking the walk' out here in Camp. I have a very good understanding of our needs and concerns. I would love to be given the opportunity to represent us all behind closed doors at public gatherings and even overseas. I feel that some who have stood to represent Camp previously have had no actual life experience of the sometimes – harsh reality of the business of Camp life – all that I am very familiar with.

A few have asked me how I'll manage if I am successful in this election. My answer is this; Alex is 100% behind me in this and I'm very grateful to him. We have things put in place to help run our business in my absence and we have support from great friends - I will be fully committed to serving the community.

I'll only make one promise; I'll give it my all. If you've made it this far thank you for reading and don't forget to vote!

Mobile 54202

Home tel 41094

