

**2025 General Election
Chris Clarke
Stanley Constituency**

Introduction.

Born in uk, 58 years old and came to the Falklands in 1987. For better or worse I think most of you know me.
I've opened and read other manifesto's and well done everyone, presentation excellent. I don't have that skillset and chat gpt is a mystery so mine is very dull sorry.
Well done to the previous assembly, but it's what's next that concerns me.
Let's hope the election is not a popularity vote and done on who can really make a difference.

Why am I standing and what do I want to see

I feel there needs to be a major change in the assembly, with more business minded MLA's with more will and drive to make decisions quicker.
FIG budget book for the last few years is showing eye watering figures and questions should be raised as well as some serious changes because although governments differ from private sector balancing the books with a healthy surplus should be paramount.
Surplus is non-existent and if nothing is changed there will be a huge draw down of our reserve.
Even worse to come if our fishing companies have a bad year.
Savings must be made where possible without affecting public services.
There is no accountability within FIG, mistakes are just lessons learnt. There should be accountability.
Numerous policies costing huge resource come ahead of developing land and housing for the people, wait until oil and gas revenue comes in before producing more policies telling us how to think.
This next assembly needs to take house building as a priority.
Hydrocarbon income is essential to our financial security but until the money comes in should we be investing large sums into renewables?, or should we wait until we can afford it?, or is this about looking good on the international stage?.

Priorities

Housing

Finance needs to be found to build a huge number of 1 and 2 bedroom terraced units ASAP.
That would give folk the opportunity to buy older FIG stock on a rent to buy scheme.
Money from sales going back in to subsidise building more housing.
FIG purchased land east of teaberry way at least 7 years ago but no works done.
Why?
Next sappers hill phase is 2 years away so above site could help ease a little bit the strain on housing and be delivered quickly.

Construction

More support and dialogue with our local builders and groundworkers to deliver projects before awarding to overseas companies.
We have the skills here to deliver and potential for big financial savings.

Taxation

Head of department wants a full review agreed, at least 3 million pounds spent because parts can be misinterpreted?
We can't afford this unless of course we get hit with big tax rises.

New housing policy proposed

Locals and status holders do not get any extra points over a PRP holder?, does that seem fair on lifelong or longterm residents?
I don't think so.

FIG Pay Structure

Tradesmen and plant operators to name a couple but there are more of course on low pay, it needs fixing.
It seems administration is more valuable than production.
Value skilled trades more and we may get more interest from the young.
Equally progressive management and training in all sectors reduces the need for so many contract officers.

PRP and Status

Should there be a slowdown in applications and extend the time before folk can apply?
A conversation assembly should be having.

How Can We Cut Expenditure

Look at overseas contractors and not renew contracts if not essential where possible.
Change contract terms to free flights every 2 yrs instead of every year.

Why limit contracts to 4 or 5 yrs?, recruitment costs are very expensive.
Cheaper to let them stay on contract and more likely to stay, not all but more than now.
Build our infrastructure with local companies as much as possible.
As in every community there are always residents that need financial .

support and of course that must continue
But are we also assisting overseas workers here?.
If so are there checks on their finances in regards to sending money overseas to
support their families?.
If it is happening it's wrong IMO.
I understand some will slate me for saying it but questions need to be raised.

Summary

There are many subjects I haven't covered but hopefully enough to get an
understanding of how I think.
Tried to keep it short as not to bore you.
Anyone that knows me will be confident I will be honest and truthful, no sugarcoating.
If you have questions feel free to send them.
If you made it this far thanks for reading.
Cheers
<tel:55579>
email:xs.cleaners@outlook.com