



Court View Chambers,
14 Albert Street,
Douglas,
Ellan Vannin IM1 2QA
Our Ref: IK/MC/MISC-2024

Tel: 611117
Fax: 617779
Email: mail@ik.im
Website: www.ik.im

28th May 2024

Mr A. Cannan MHK
Chief Minister
Legislative Buildings
Finch Road
Douglas
Isle of Man
IM1 3PH

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Mr Cannan

Re: Register of Members' Interests

We have been contacted by a number of your constituents in the constituency of Ayre & Michael with regard to your entries on the Tynwald Register of Members' Interests.

As you will be aware, the Register identifies interests and monetary circumstances which could reasonably be regarded by the public as having a bearing upon the way in which a Member of Tynwald carries out his/her duties.

This means that Members of Tynwald have a clear duty to publicly declare past or present interests, including financial interests such as stocks and shares, directorships, receiving sponsorship money or gifts or benefits in kind or accepting hospitality.

This personal requirement to register financial interests arises from the overriding duty of political representatives to be transparent and accountable to the general public. It also allows for significant conflicts of interest, apparent obligations and/or vested interests to be readily identified.

You will no doubt be aware that interests generally have to be declared within one month of that interest arising.

In addition, there is no minimum value or amount of gift or benefit in kind which should be registered and failure to register an interest can lead to serious sanctions being recommended by the Tynwald Standards & Members' Interests Committee.



(2)

We have recently perused the on-line Register of Members' Interests for all members of the House of Keys and Legislative Council.

It appears that the vast majority of Members of the House of Keys and Legislative Council have properly provided up to date information on multiple interests arising or ceasing to the present date. For example, there are numerous entries by other Manx Parliamentarians in relation to receiving free tickets to events in 2022 or acquiring shares in 2023 or attending complimentary dinners in 2024.

However, we note from your individual entry on the Register of Members' Interests that there are no entries at all since 2016. For instance, the only shares notified by you are in McKenzie Fox Limited. A copy of your entry as at 28th May 2024 is enclosed.

On the face of it, this means that you have had no new financial interests, gifts or benefits in kind requiring registration in the last 8 years.

For the avoidance of doubt, please can you confirm whether since 26th September 2016:

- 1) Have you jointly or in your sole name acquired any stocks or shares in any company?
- 2) Have you become a director or partner in any company?
- 3) Have you received any dividends from any company not previously recorded on your Register entry?
- 4) Have you or your spouse rented out any property, whether residential, commercial or tourist?
- 5) Have you joined any association, institution, club or other organisation as a member or trustee?
- 6) Have you become the owner of any business?
- 7) Have you become the sole or joint owner of or acquired any interest in any land or premises (business or private)?
- 8) Have you published any articles (on a paid or unpaid basis) in any local or international media?
- 9) Have you accepted any complimentary services or hospitality including free lunches or dinners from any person, company or body in the Isle of Man, UK or outside the UK?
- 10) Have you accepted any free tickets to any event, ceremony or function?
- 11) Have you offered loans to any person or received loans from any person not being a licensed lender?
- 12) Have you received any sponsorship money in any form from any person or body?
- 13) Have you been an invited guest at any function, ceremony, party, concert or launch ceremony in the Isle of Man, UK or outside the UK?
- 14) Have you received any self-employed income or paid employment income of any sort, save for your salary as an MHK and Chief Minister?
- 15) Have you become a member of the Freemasons?



(3)

- 16) Have you received any monetary donation towards political expenses e.g. election costs regarding the 2021 General Election?
- 17) Have you entered into any paid or unpaid consultancy roles or received any consultancy fees?
- 18) Have you managed any holding of investment funds?
- 19) Have you received any money, gift or present of any kind and of any value e.g. foodstuffs, bottled beverages, glassware etc. from any persons (other than from your immediate family) in the Isle of Man, UK or outside the UK?
- 20) Have any of the interests that you previously registered up to 26th September 2016 changed or ceased?
- 21) Have you or your companies or your immediate family received any grants, loans or any form of financial support from the IOM Government?

If the answer to any of the above questions is yes, please can you provide a detailed list of the undeclared interests and also explain why such interests were not contemporaneously entered on the Register of Members' Interests.

For the avoidance of doubt, at this stage we are merely seeking clarification in respect of the above issues and do not make any assertions regarding the accuracy or otherwise of your Register entry.

Please may we receive a response from you no later than Friday 14th June 2024.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

Ian Kermode Advocate
Email: ian@ik.im

Enc: Entry on Register of Members' Interests