

VOTE LAMARA CRAINE



**ELECTION DAY
THURSDAY 25TH
NOVEMBER 2021**



Regeneration



Wellbeing & recreation



Parking solutions

**Choose Lamara to be a
commissioner for you**



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Lamara Craine -
RTC Candidate



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ISLE OF MAN
**GREEN
PARTY**



**POLLING STATION:
Ramsey Town Hall
Open 8am to 8pm**

**PROACTIVE
DECISIVE
CARING**

Dear fellow Ramsey resident,

I would like to firstly introduce myself. I am Manx born; a Ramsey resident who grew up in Jurby village as a child. A passionate volunteer and activist who has been keenly involved in our community for many years. I'm a playworker for the children's charity, Isle of Play; a Ramsey Youthie Girls' Football coach and Deputy Leader of the Isle of Man Green Party. I have a degree in Biological Sciences and a Masters' in Wildlife Conservation. Please kindly take a look at my ideas and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to let me know.



Regeneration

Derelict and dilapidated buildings are an unsightly issue in Ramsey. We need to ensure property owners are disincentivised to leave properties unoccupied by amending rates, imposing restrictions and implementing mandatory purchase orders. Rates can be reformed to support new local businesses. We must lobby MHKs to change laws on rates and property owning so landlords are registered and meet minimum standards and also prevent covenants from being imposed on property sales. Encouraging pedestrians into the town centre by making our high-street safer, cleaner and more accessible will increase footfall and local spending. Encouraging outdoor hospitality by relaxing street furniture by-laws, planting more urban greenery and more street art will boost local hospitality business and increase spending. Dog fouling, littering and cigarette waste can be reduced by changing public attitudes with campaigns, installing corporate sponsored dog poo bag dispensers and cigarette bins. Re-thinking our social spaces where people can gather will ensure everyone feels welcome in our town and will spend longer perusing and visiting shops.



Housing

Affordable housing is a necessity particularly during the current housing crisis. Investing and diversifying social housing by building more one and two bed properties which meet 'passive' (carbon neutral) standards will reduce housing demand, make houses more affordable whilst reducing heating costs and 'fuel poverty'. Better insulation, low carbon heating, solar panels and active travel provisions should be installed with every new build. Commissioners should lobby central government for funding for retrofitting existing properties and building new energy efficient social housing on brownfield sites.



Parking solutions

Reducing the demand for car parking spaces is key to finding a solution to parking shortages as space is finite in our town centre and new car parks would take up valuable space. Improved and wider pathways, more efficient and reliable public transportation, supporting active travel by providing dry bicycle storage and safe cycleways will all help to reduce the demand for car parking. Working with central government to provide safer, healthier streets and investigating the potential for the provision of town shuttlebuses and underground parking may also prove useful.



Inclusivity

Accessibility and fairness should be standard in our town. Pathways, kerbs and roads should be reduced-mobility friendly. Paths should be undamaged, suitably wide and with dropped kerbs which make it easy for prams, wheelchairs and mobility scooters to navigate. Organising our streets appropriately for pedestrians whilst working with the DOI will help bring this about. Wheelchair-friendly picnic tables, curved social benches and a disabled park swing would make our town fairer. Working with local businesses and organisations to provide large print menus will also benefit those with sight impairments.



Waste and recycling

Our rates pay £96 per tonne to burn waste in the Energy From Waste plant, incinerator, which equates to a significant overall cost to the town. Recyclables such as glass and metal don't combust so require additional fuel to burn. Fortnightly kerbside recycling teamed with alternating fortnightly waste collection would save money on gate fees and make money on the sale of recyclables such as metal, glass, cardboard and plastic. Ensuring recycling bin storage is detailed on all planning applications will help prevent issues with bin placement. Lobbying central government for an amenity site expansion to allow cardboard and plastic recycling will increase recycling rates which in turn will conserve natural resources, reduce emissions and increase economic security. The amenity site could also function as a 'tool library' where tools are borrowed so items can be fixed not discarded.



Health and well-being

Children have a right to play on safe streets, in green spaces and parks. Allowing communities the right to temporarily close streets for play or street parties should be encouraged to nurture communities. Many older children struggle to find suitable places to socialise due to loss of social club venues. Investment in 'hang-outs' for teenagers would allow positive socialisation, improve physical and mental health, and encourage a sense of community. Utilising current town assets to provide a local community hub for family planning and health clinics. Outdoor public music installations can unite generations in public spaces and improve engagement. Free outdoor fitness classes, together with the centralisation of the park's gym equipment, could provide physical and mental health benefits to lower income households. Increasing urban nature can also help improve health and wellbeing.



Leisure and recreation

Sports, leisure and recreation boost all round health and wellbeing, creates a safe environment for all members of society both young and old, whilst fostering intergenerational relationships. The creation of a community sports centre would be a fantastic addition to our town. Commissioners could obtain funding from the government to build a sports centre, create an urban fitness park and basketball court/small football pitch. Other small scale improvements such as BBQ stands, beach huts, water fountains, public seating, shelters and picnic benches will increase facility usage and benefit us as community residents.



Environment

Protecting green spaces, rewilding vital interconnecting habitats and supporting pollinators helps boost biodiversity which will ultimately help mitigate the negative effects of climate change. Wildflower schemes, such as 'Plan Bee', are beneficial to wildlife and are also beautiful additions to our landscape. Urban trees provide shelter from weather, habitat for wildlife and cleaner air. Building on brownfield rather than greenfield sites will protect our biodiversity. Diverting pension investments from fossil fuel companies, 'divestment', is ethical and better for pensions and our environment.

