

# 2024 ISLE OF MAN GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

## PROGRAMME

TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2024

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08:00 - 08:30 **REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST - Sponsored by Marbral Advisory**

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08:30 - 09:30 **BREAKFAST PRESENTATION & Q&A**  
Chief Minister Alfred Cannan MHK

In his welcome speech, Chief Minister Alfred Cannan MHK will lay the foundation for the 2024 Government Conference, outlining key topics that will address the redefined strategic priorities of the Island Plan and how the current challenges and opportunities facing the Island are being addressed.

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09:30 - 09:50 **PRESENTATION: Update on economic development in the Isle of Man**  
Enterprise Minister Tim Johnston MHK

Enterprise Minister Tim Johnston MHK will provide an update on the Isle of Man's economy and economic development initiatives. He will discuss recent progress on key projects, such as the Island Infrastructure Scheme, and future plans to develop the Island's economy in line with the long-term Economic Strategy.

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09:50 - 10:50 **ROUND-TABLE WORKSHOP: Enhancing our Island's proposition and advantages for business & the economy**  
Facilitated by Richard Slee, FCIM Chartered Marketer and Steve Billingham, IoD Isle of Man Chair

Hosted by IoD Isle of Man Policy Voice representatives, IoD Isle of Man Chair Steve Billingham, and Chartered Marketer Richard Slee, this session will explore how we can enhance the Isle of Man's international appeal. The purpose of the workshop is to generate ideas and develop action points that aim to strengthen both the Island's businesses and its economic position.

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10:50 - 11:10 **COFFEE BREAK**

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11:10 - 11:30 **PRESENTATION: National air & sea connectivity ambitions**  
Infrastructure Minister Tim Crookall MHK & Enterprise Minister Tim Johnston MHK

Ministers Tim Crookall MHK and Tim Johnston MHK will jointly present the Isle of Man's strategic ambitions for national air and sea connectivity. This session will outline plans to improve the Island's transportation links, vital for economic and social development.

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11:30 - 11:50 **PRESENTATION: IOM Airport service strategic updates**  
Gary Cobb - Airport Director, Isle of Man Airport

Airport Director, Gary Cobb, will provide an update on developments at the Isle of Man Airport. His presentation will focus on the future of the airport and initiatives to enhance operations and customer service with a clear emphasis on delivering a better experience for passengers.

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11:50 - 12:10 **PRESENTATION: Steam Packet service strategic updates**  
Brian Thomson - Managing Director, Isle of Man Steam Packet Company

Brian Thomson, Managing Director, will present an update on the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company's services and its role in delivering a cost-effective sea service that meets the needs of our community, supporting both businesses and the wider society.

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12:10 - 13:10 **PANEL Q&A: Future travel connectivity and customer experience improvements**

This panel discussion will gather key stakeholders to explore the future of travel both on and off the Island, focusing on enhancing customer experience across air and sea services. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and engage with the panel.

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13:10 - 14:10 **NETWORKING LUNCH**

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14:10 - 14:30 **PRESENTATION: Local Economy Strategy supporting vibrant retail, hospitality and leisure sectors in the Isle of Man**  
Tim Cowsill - Chief Executive Officer, Business Isle of Man

Tim Cowsill will present the draft Local Economy Strategy, highlighting initiatives to support the retail, hospitality, and leisure sectors. The strategy outlines goals and actions to boost community led decision-making, enabling initiatives that rejuvenate our Island's town centres. He will also discuss the development of policies and financial support mechanisms that reduce business risk, lower barriers to growth, and drive entrepreneurship.

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14:30 - 14:50 **PRESENTATION: Activating AI in the Isle of Man**  
Lyle Wraxall - Chief Executive Officer, Digital Isle of Man

Lyle Wraxall will present on the integration of AI within the Isle of Man and how both businesses and public services can leverage AI to foster innovation, enhance services, and unlock new economic opportunities, with the aim of increasing GDP by 10% by 2030.

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14:50 - 15:30 **PANEL Q&A: Isle of Man Skills Board & Strategy**

This panel will discuss the Isle of Man's Skills Strategy, which focuses on addressing workforce and skills shortages by both developing local talent and attracting skills and professions in demand. The Q&A session will offer insights into how the strategy seeks to develop the professions and workforce needed for the Island and aligned to the needs of industry.

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15:30 - 15:50 **COFFEE BREAK**

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15:50 - 16:50 **PRESENTATION FOLLOWED BY QUESTIONS: UNESCO Biosphere as a small Island: The 5 Es**  
Minister for Environment, Food and Agriculture Clare Barber MHK

Minister Clare Barber will present on the Isle of Man's status as a UNESCO Biosphere, emphasising the '5 Es'—Economy, Environment, Education, Engagement, and Enjoyment. This session will showcase our dedication to these principles and focus on how local businesses can support and leverage the Island's Biosphere status.

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16:50 - 17:00 **CLOSING REMARKS**  
Cabinet Office Minister Kate Lord-Brennan MHK

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# 2024 ISLE OF MAN GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

## PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2024

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08:00 - 08:30 **REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST - Sponsored by Marbral Advisory**

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08:30 - 09:30 **BREAKFAST PRESENTATION & Q&A**  
Treasury Minister Alex Allinson MHK

Treasury Minister Alex Allinson MHK will present on the financial outlook for the Isle of Man, followed by a Q&A session. His talk will focus on the economic challenges and opportunities facing the Island and the need for fiscal discipline in public sector expenditure.

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09:30 - 09:50 **PRESENTATION: The future shape of public service delivery**  
Andy Ralphs - Chief Executive Officer, IOM Government

Andy Ralphs will outline the future direction of public service delivery in the Isle of Man discussing how it could evolve and improve, recognising the potential for greater efficiency plus the need to consider what government does and doesn't do.

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09:50 - 10:50 **ROUND-TABLE WORKSHOP: The role of Government and what Government services mean to you**  
Facilitated by Andy Ralphs - Chief Executive Officer, IOM Government

This workshop will provide an interactive forum for participants to discuss the role of Government and what they expect from Government services. Andy Ralphs will facilitate discussions on enhancing service delivery.

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10:50 - 11:10 **COFFEE BREAK**

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11:10 - 11:30 **PRESENTATION: Keeping our Island safe**  
Minister for Justice and Home Affairs Jane Poole-Wilson MHK

Minister Jane Poole-Wilson will outline the strategy adopted to keep our Island safe from organised criminals looking to exploit free movement at our ports.

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11:30 - 11:50 **PRESENTATION: Immigration service – improvements and protections**  
Sandra Simpson, Head of Customs and Immigration Division

Sandra Simpson will update on the Island's immigration services, covering recent changes, challenges, and future strategies. She will highlight efforts to streamline processes, enhance customer services and strengthen protections and enforcement.

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11:50 - 12:50 **PRESENTATION & PANEL Q&A: What incentives and disincentives should shape inward migration to the Isle of Man?**

Dr Megan Mathias MBE, Chief Operating Officer Cabinet Office, will present the recently published Inward Migration Incentives & Disincentives, drawing out key proposals for discussion by the panel, and opening up to Q&A with attendees.

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12:50 - 13:50 **NETWORKING LUNCH**

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13:50 - 14:10 **PRESENTATION: Seeing the Island from a different perspective**  
Deborah Heather - Chief Executive Officer, Visit Isle of Man

Deborah Heather, CEO of Visit Isle of Man, will share her fresh perspective on the Isle of Man following her recent relocation to the Island. Her presentation will offer reflections on how to uniquely position the Island while highlighting and promoting what makes the Island unique and valued.

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14:10 - 14:50 **PRESENTATION: An update from Orsted**  
John Galloway - Development Director, Orsted

John Galloway will provide an update on Orsted's projects related to the Isle of Man, focusing on renewable energy initiatives and their impact on the Island's economy and environment.

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14:50 - 15:10 **COFFEE BREAK**

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15:10 - 16:10 **PRESENTATION & Q&A: Navigating opportunities in a new political landscape**  
Paul Harrison, Senior Counsel and Executive Director at Lexington, and former Downing Street Press Secretary

This session will explore the political and policy outlook for the UK and its implications for the Isle of Man. It will focus on navigating change and opportunity in a new political landscape, as well as identifying future milestones.

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16:10 - 16:30 **CLOSING REMARKS**  
Chief Minister Alfred Cannan MHK

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