

Going...



Hen Harrier **AMBER**
Shirragh ny giark

(© Pete Hadfield)

Going...



Skylark **RED**
Ushag happagh

Gone.



Yellowhammer **RED**
Ushag wee

The Isle of Man House of Keys
General Election September 2021

Questions to ask your local candidates

Our wild birds and the habitats on which they depend are declining. Why not ask your candidates:

“What will you do to restore and protect native Manx bird life?”

You can then explore specific questions such as:

1. Will you use Manx BirdLife’s new evidence-based assessment, **Birds of Conservation Concern in the Isle of Man (BoCCIoM) 2021**, to inform your support for environmental initiatives and how resources are best targeted?
2. Will you seek to strengthen the Island’s Biosphere aspirations and Biodiversity Strategy by including **meaningful targets for habitat restoration and species populations**?
3. How will you seek to **improve bird protection** through site designations, the Isle of Man Wildlife Act and its effective enforcement?
4. What changes to the planning system might you explore to better **safeguard wild birds and protect important habitats from development**?
5. How will you ensure that increasing use of the countryside for amenity **does not further diminish the bird life it hosts**?

This leaflet is produced by the independent Isle of Man charity
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The Isle of Man House of Keys
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Manifesto for Manx Birds



Curlew **RED**
Crottag

How will your local candidates seek to protect the Isle of Man’s native birds and the habitats on which they depend?



Manx BirdLife

Where. For generations.

✓ Ask your local candidates to make their pledge to protect native Manx bird life.



Image: Puffins Pibbin RED

In Birds of Conservation Concern in the Isle of Man (BoCCIoM) 2021, Manx BirdLife has published the first ever comprehensive assessment of the conservation status of the Island's wild birds. Of 166 regularly occurring species:

- 48 are Red-listed as being of greatest concern
- 68 are Amber-listed
- 50 are Green-listed as being of least concern

As well as documenting significant losses of diversity and abundance of species, BoCCIoM 2021 highlights the wild birds for which the Isle of Man has an international responsibility. For example, the Island hosts 28% of the combined UK & IOM population of Chough!

In order to halt the continued diminishment of the bird life that visits and makes the Island its home, Manx BirdLife is asking elected representatives in Government to:

- ✓ Forge an inspirational vision of an exemplar Biosphere Island nation in which birds and other wildlife can thrive in vibrant living landscapes and flourishing seas.
- ✓ Ensure designation of sites (ASSIs, NNRs etc.) gives lasting protection to the habitats and species for which such special areas are designated.
- ✓ Always put native Manx birds and other wildlife first, protecting them from the negative impacts of non-native alien species deliberately or inadvertently introduced by man.

✓ Strengthen existing wildlife laws to protect wild birds and their homes throughout the year - by safeguarding traditional nesting and roosting sites and feeding and loafing areas from destruction and disturbance.

✓ Deliver the "targeted initiatives that produce conserved and cherished landscapes [and] enhance biodiversity" as promised in the Agri-Environment Initiatives Scheme (AES) - by targeting grant support at key habitats and priority species as, for example, assessed by BoCCIoM.

✓ Plan future development of the Island *in tandem* with safeguards to protect Manx bird life from the growing impact of its human population.

✓ Continue to set practical and up-to-date real-world learning outcomes in the curricula for Primary and Secondary education in order to equip young people to act as future guardians of our natural world.

Please help our wild birds by asking your local candidates what they will do to protect our wild birds and their habitats. Thank you.



“We forget, in a world completely transformed by man, that what we’re looking at is not necessarily the environment wildlife prefers, but the depleted remnant that wildlife is having to cope with.”

Frans Vera (Wilding, Isabella Tree)