

**CHOOSE  
MY PCC**

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# Candidates for the Devon & Cornwall Police Force Area

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Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)  
elections are taking place on 2nd May in  
England and Wales.

Find out who your local candidates are  
and how to vote.





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# About Police and Crime Commissioners

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**On 2nd May, you will be able to vote for your Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). The role of the PCC is to be the voice of the people and to hold the police to account.**

Police and Crime Commissioners are elected to hold your police force to account for delivering the kind of policing you want to see. PCCs are responsible for the totality of policing in their force area and aim to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service. PCCs bring a public voice to policing and they do this by:

- Engaging with the public and victims of crime to help set police and crime plans;
- Ensuring the police force budget is spent where it matters most; and
- Appointing the chief constable, holding them to account for delivery of their objectives, and if necessary, dismissing them.

The PCC does not “run” the police force. Chief constables continue to be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the police, but they are accountable to the public via the PCC.

In some Police Force Areas, PCCs are also responsible for Fire and Rescue Services, and are known as Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners (PFCCs). Furthermore, in some areas, neither a PCC nor PFCC is elected – instead there will be an election for a Mayor who will hold the PCC, PFCC or equivalent powers.

37 PCCs will be elected across England and Wales, of which 4 will be PFCCs – PFCCs are found in Cumbria, Essex, Staffordshire, and Northamptonshire.

## **Work with others**

PCCs also work with your council and other organisations to promote and enable joined up working on community safety and criminal justice. As directly elected individuals, they provide opportunities for greater collaboration and effective scrutiny of public services. In doing so, PCCs also have regard to national cross border threats, and ensure there is an effective policing response.

## **Represent the entire community**

PCCs are required to swear an oath of impartiality when they are elected to office. The oath is designed so that they can publicly set out their commitment to: serve all of the people in their Police Force Area; act with integrity and diligence; give a voice to the public; act with transparency so that they may be effectively held to account; and not interfere with the operational independence of police officers.

## **Find your candidate**

This booklet contains information on the candidates standing for election in the Devon & Cornwall Police Force Area. You can also order a copy of this booklet in the following formats: large print, braille and audio.

To place your order visit **[www.choosemypcc.org.uk](http://www.choosemypcc.org.uk)** or call **0300 1311323**.

## **About your vote**

You need to be registered to be able to vote.

If you are not registered visit **[www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)** or contact your local council.

If you are registered, and eligible to vote you can either vote in person at a polling station, by post, or by proxy (allowing someone you trust to vote on your behalf).

PCCs are elected using the first past the post voting system, where the candidate with the most votes, wins. Voters will vote by choosing a single candidate on the ballot paper. This is the same system as UK Parliamentary elections.

For more information about your vote visit:

**<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections>**.

# Alison Hernandez

Conservative Candidate –  
More Police, Safer Streets



## Election statement:

Dear Voter,

### More Police, Safer Streets

I have worked and delivered on the issues that you told me mattered:

- Devon and Cornwall Police has a **record number of police officers** with an extra 686 since I took office. That's thanks to our council tax payers and the government uplift. This enabled Operation Loki to be created to tackle anti-social behaviour.
- We remain one of the **lowest crime rate** areas in the country but our police force still needs to be more efficient and effective. Complacency is our enemy.
- I have **re-opened 13 police station enquiry offices** with 5 more to go if re-elected. Better access to policing where you live

- My office has **won national awards** for creating affordable new homes built by prisoners to reduce reoffending. And for the successful campaign of Operation Scorpion which improved the reporting of drug dealing.
- Established Vision Zero to **take dangerous drivers off our roads** and invested £5million into road safety.
- **Secured £5.5million of Safer Streets** funding to improve CCTV, street lighting and help women and girls feel safer.

I still have the energy and strength to drive improvements so that we have less crimes, less victims and less offenders. Along with a police force we can all be confident in.

Please vote for me to continue being your voice in matters of policing and crime.

Yours sincerely  
Alison Hernandez

This election address has been prepared by myself as the candidate's election agent.  
Lucille Baker, NDCA, The Strand, Barnstaple,  
Devon, EX31 1EU.

### **Contact details**

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# Steve Lodge

Liberal Democrats – For a fair deal



## **Election statement:**

Steve Lodge is your Liberal Democrat candidate for Police & Crime Commissioner in Devon, Cornwall, and the Isles of Scilly.

Steve will rebuild trust, unity, and accountability in the fight against crime – engaging senior officers, communities, and other agencies, with a renewed focus on community policing and reform.

If elected, Steve’s focus will be on:

- **Prevention** – tackling the root causes of crime
- **Effectiveness** – smarter policing for a safer tomorrow
- **Trust** – rebuilding trust through transparency



Steve's priorities will include:

- A return to genuine community policing, where officers are more visible and integrated into our communities and are trusted to deliver
- Supporting officers to work with integrity and prevent discrimination
- A renewed focus on “broken windows”: small crimes that damage confidence and trust in the police

Together, we can steer a return to proper community policing and people feeling safe – but only by voting for Steve Lodge and the Liberal Democrats.

Address prepared by Todd Olive acting as Agent for Stephen Lodge (Liberal Democrats), both at The Hive, School Hill, Whimble, Exeter, Devon, EX5 2TS.

### **Contact details**

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## Daniel John Steel

Labour and Co-operative Party



### **Election statement:**

Wherever we live in Devon, Cornwall or the Isles of Scilly, one thing that connects us all is the need to feel safe.

Anti-social behaviour, violence particularly against women and girls, drug-crime, and alcohol abuse continue to seriously harm our communities. Too many urban and rural crimes go unchecked, damaging our families and businesses.

That's why I'm standing for election as Police & Crime Commissioner.

After 14 years of Tory mismanagement, Labour is committed to taking back our streets, halving serious violent crime and restoring confidence in our police and criminal justice system. I am too. This is where I grew up and where I'm proud to call home.

My career in public service has taken me to challenging and dangerous places including Afghanistan. It cemented my belief that law and order is the bedrock of our society.

I will bring strength, integrity and honesty to the role, and pledge to:

1. **Put police back on the streets:** More police officers and PCSOs on our streets to prevent crime, catch offenders, and tackle anti-social behaviour.
2. **Tackle the levels of violence against women and girls:** By creating new police specialists to tackle violence and rape.
3. **Prevent youth crime:** Knife crime is soaring. I'll ensure the police crack-down on serious violence and prevent young people getting drawn into crime.
4. **Boost crime prevention and victim support:** To make it more local, and better focused on the challenges that face our rural areas and towns.
5. **Crackdown on illegal sewage dumping:** I'm backing Labour's tough plans to ensure water bosses overseeing repeated illegal sewage dumping are prosecuted.

## **Vote for me, Daniel Steel on 2nd May for stronger policing and safer streets!**

Statement prepared by the Election Agent Gareth Derrick, Lockyer Hall, Alfred Street, Plymouth, PL1 2RP.

### **Contact details**

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# Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Devon & Cornwall

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This booklet contains more information about those candidates (where provided) and other information useful to voters. The information provided by a candidate is their responsibility, and may not reflect the opinions of myself or my council.

As Police Area Returning Officer I am responsible for coordinating the election and announcing the result in Devon & Cornwall.

Police and Crime Commissioner Elections will be held in Devon & Cornwall on 2 May 2024; the candidates standing in that election, alphabetically by surname (as they will appear on the ballot paper), are:

- HERNANDEZ, Alison – Conservative Candidate – More Police, Safer Streets
- LODGE, Steve – Liberal Democrats – For a fair deal
- STEEL, Daniel John – Labour and Co-operative Party

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