

**CHOOSE
MY PCC**

Candidates for the Kent Police Force Area

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

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 Kent 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** 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** 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>.

Graham David Colley

Liberal Democrats



Election statement:

Caring for Our Community

Caring for Our Police

Caring for Each Other

About Graham:

President of the Liberal Democrat Lawyers

Studied Law (Aberystwyth) and European Law (College of Europe).

Has an MBA (City University Business School) and a research degree in Banking Reform (University of Kent).

Worked in the City and as a Legal Aid lawyer in Lambeth, Westminster, and Chatham.

Former Kent County Councillor and co-chair of the Kent Fire & Public Protection committee.

Previously lived in Maidstone and Lenham, now lives in Rochester with a 15-year-old cat, Crackers.

Graham stands for:

Neighbourhood Policing – from the ground up, not the top down.

Looking for radical solutions – tackling the root of problems faced by our police.

Seeking efficiency but caring for the police force who serve us.

Graham and Liberal Democrats believe:

- Crime policy must be based on the evidence of what works to prevent and solve crime.
- Strengthening neighbourhood policing as a local policing presence gives people confidence that their safety is being cared for. Anti-social behaviour has to be eradicated.
- More preventative work is required, particularly through joined-up working with other public services.
- Too many victims of crime have a negative experience in the system.
- Too many criminals are not required to confront their behaviour.
- More action required to tackle violence against women and girls.
- Too few prisoners receive effective pre-release support. Re-offending rates remain unacceptably high.
- A new preventative, health-based approach is required to tackle drug and alcohol misuse.
- Stop and Search remains a source of deep mistrust between the police and the public and requires reform.

- Kent Police have a large budget. The PCC must be vigilant to ensure that it is well spent. Bureaucratic waste means fewer frontline services.

Prepared by election agent, Lynn Ibeji, 155 Sturla Road, Chatham, ME4 5QH.

Contact details

Website: <https://www.southeastlibdems.org.uk/pcc-elections-2024/graham-colley-for-kent>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GrahamforKentPCC>

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Lenny Rolles

Labour and Co-operative Party



Election statement:

I am standing as the Labour and Co-operative candidate for Police and Crime Commissioner to bring safer streets to Kent and Medway.

We need a change from 8 years and over £90m of cuts imposed on Kent Police by the Conservatives. Talking to residents around Kent and Medway, they feel crime is ignored, not investigated, not prevented, response is slow and justice for victims even slower. I hear their frustration, we need a change to keep our communities safe.

As your PCC I will:

- Fight for vital funding to tackle crime and invest in policing.
- Develop a police plan in partnership with residents that delivers on your priorities.
- Prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Tackle Domestic Abuse and Violence against Women and Girls.
- Tackle retail crime.

- Improve road policing.
- Tackle rural & coastal crime.
- Deliver new initiatives to prevent serious organised and knife crime.
- Focus on getting drugs off our streets.

I am a local resident living in Kent with my wife and daughter, I want to make our communities safer for my family, and yours.

I have the experience and passion to deliver on my pledges and will work with you to make our streets safer. I am an experienced campaigner, I brought enforcement agencies together to fight and reduce organised crime. I am a councillor in Kent, representing residents for over 10 years, have chaired companies delivering social change and have served as a trustee for charities.

Please vote for me on 2nd May, a vote for me as the Labour and Co-operative candidate is the only way to deliver positive change in this election.

Prepared by Shane Mochrie-Cox (Agent) c/o SE Labour, Unit 6, Gamma House, Laser Quay, Rochester, ME2 4HU.

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Facebook: **@Lenny4KentPCC**

Matthew Richard Scott

The Conservative Party Candidate



Election statement:

I am standing for Police and Crime Commissioner to cut crime, support victims and build trust. I have a strong track record of delivering for Kent.

Police numbers have increased and we now have more Officers than ever. As a result, crime has been falling. Burglary is down by over 40%. The number of county line drug gangs has been reduced substantially.

I will use the extra Officers I have recruited to bolster neighbourhood policing, make our streets safer and bring more criminals to justice. This will include:

Neighbourhood Policing Pledge: every ward will have a named Beat Police Officer, listening to you and dealing with problems that you want fixed.

Making women and girls safer: there will be a relentless focus on tackling perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Hotspot patrols: investing in higher visibility to stop antisocial behaviour and drugs in every District.

Rural Safer Streets Programme: funding to make our villages and rural businesses safer.

Immediate Justice: making those who commit antisocial behaviour payback to our neighbourhoods.

More prevention: teams dedicated to preventing crime and making retailers safer.

Better technology: using new software to improve contact between victims and the Officer in charge of their case and communication with the public.

In the last eight years, I have worked with Kent Police and the Government to secure millions of pounds of extra support for policing, victims services and community safety in Kent.

The choice at this election is clear. I hope you will vote for my positive vision, that will make Kent safer for everybody.

You can find out more about me and my plans at
www.matthewscott.org.uk

Prepared by election agent Robert Findon, Campaign HQ,
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Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Kent

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 Kent.

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

- COLLEY, Graham David – Liberal Democrats
- ROLLES, Lenny – Labour and Co-operative Party
- SCOTT, Matthew Richard – The Conservative Party Candidate

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