

**CHOOSE  
MY PCC**

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# Candidates for the Lancashire 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 Lancashire 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.choosmypcc.org.uk](http://www.choosmypcc.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>**.

# Andrew Snowden

The Conservative Party Candidate



## **Election statement:**

For three years I have been delivering a back-to-basics approach to policing. Recruiting over 600 more officers and getting them out on the beat, reopening police stations to the public and sending a clear message – the police are here to fight crime and protect people.

From funding one of the largest rural policing teams in the country, the new Roads Policing Unit, the Anti-Social Behaviour Target Team, or the Task Forces busting up criminal gangs – the changes and investments I have made are working.

Lancashire Constabulary have launched two Operations with the extra resources I have made available to deliver the priorities I set of getting tough on antisocial behaviour and to relentlessly target criminal gangs:

1. Since Operation Warrior was launched – over 1,400 gang suspects have been arrested, 286kg of class A&B drugs seized, and over £1million of criminals' cash taken off them.

2. Since Operation Centurion was launched – over 14,000 extra hours of foot patrols have taken place in antisocial behaviour hotspots, with over 1,500 stop checks and searches taking place and over 140 repeat offenders arrested.

But I know there is much more to do.

That's why I have committed £1million a year, for the next three years, to recruit even more officers to join the ranks of local neighbourhood teams across Lancashire. It's why I've set out plans to expand the Roads Policing Unit to target 'boy racers', and to fund a further rollout of the anti-social behaviour foot patrols.

But I can only deliver all this if re-elected in May. A vote for me is a vote to continue to focus on the basics, leading the fight against crime.

Statement prepared by George Rear on behalf of Andrew Snowden, both of 72c New Court Way, Ormskirk, L39 2YT.

### **Contact details**

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## Clive Grunshaw

Labour and Co-operative Party



### **Election statement:**

I'm Clive Grunshaw, and under my watch as Lancashire PCC from 2012 to 2021, I had to deal with Conservative Government cuts of over 25% to our budget. We lost over 800 police officers whilst Rishi Sunak proudly proclaimed how he'd changed Labour's funding formulas to take money away from areas such as Lancashire and give it to places like Royal Tunbridge Wells!

More recently, whilst police officer numbers are returning, we are not seeing more police, but fewer. Police officers are being placed in desk jobs, answering phones and doing paperwork, while the number of police staff is being cut.

Lancashire Constabulary had a proud reputation and my management ensured that we were rated, by government inspectors, as outstanding for our use of resources – not any longer.

Working with an incoming Labour Government committed to neighbourhood policing and fair funding, I will put bobbies back on our streets, not sat behind desks. I will deliver on:

- Domestic abuse – tackling violence against women and girls.
- Visibility – rebuilding the connection between the public and the police, tackling anti-social behaviour and targeting drug gangs.
- Prevention – working with partners to reduce youth offending and steer young people away from the criminal justice system.
- Value for money – removing waste, improving productivity and using every penny effectively.
- Improving our service to the public – from **crime prevention** to local policing, from **call handling** to **response times**, and from **investigations** to **regular updates**.

Elect me as your PCC and I will restore leadership and competence. I will ensure you get the service that you want, to the standards that you expect... and more bobbies back on our streets!

Together – Let's Get Lancashire Policing Back!

This statement has been prepared by James Groves, Clive Grunshaw's election agent, of 1 Cobble Court Yard, Carr House Lane, Lancaster, LA1 1SW.

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## Neil Darby

Liberal Democrats



### **Election statement:**

As a councillor in Preston, Neil is very familiar with the need for our local police to work well within our communities to protect our neighbourhoods. We need first and foremost to restore proper community policing, to have police officers visible, trusted, and approachable in our neighbourhoods. Meanwhile, we need the wider force to be focused on preventing and solving crimes.

It is vital that we build a well-rounded approach for local policing to both care for victims and reduce repeat offences which currently takes up so much police time. By working with other local bodies such as social services, health workers and teachers, the police can work with the wider community to head off many crimes such as antisocial behaviour at the source. We can also reduce reoffending by working closely with the Prison Service to improve rehabilitation and strengthen supervision of offenders in the community. These approaches can prevent many issues from becoming greater problems over time.

Neil will also press for Lancashire police to work closely with mental health services. If police are trained to spot incidents where someone is suffering a mental health crisis, they should have a target of one hour to handover to mental health services who are best placed to help. This would help save lives as well as police time.

Finally, as the Police & Crime Commissioner, Neil would push for this position to be scrapped altogether and allow existing elected representatives of our communities to provide a much greater and locally-based oversight of our police forces, freeing up the resources of funding the office of Police & Crime Commissioner to be used to fund front-line policing instead.

Published and promoted by Claire Craven on behalf of Neil Darby, Liberal Democrats, all at Hillcrest, Fulwood Row, Preston, PR2 5RU.

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# Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Lancashire

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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 Lancashire.

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

- DARBY, Neil – Liberal Democrats
- GRUNSHAW, Clive – Labour and Co-operative Party
- SNOWDEN, Andrew – The Conservative Party Candidate

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