

**CHOOSE
MY PCC**

Candidates for the Northumbria 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 Northumbria 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>.

John Christopher Appleby

Liberal Democrat



Election statement:

John Appleby lives in Whitley Bay, and has lived in the North-East for forty years. Formerly Head of Mechanical Engineering at Newcastle University, responsible for 1,000 staff and students and a £14m budget, he continues to be a popular teacher of maths for engineers.

John served as a Lib Dem councillor in Newcastle, has stood for Parliament and in Mayoral elections in North Tyneside, and has been a trustee of several charities, a school governor, and a trade union branch President. He has served on local and national church committees, and is a member of several environmental groups and a keen user and supporter of 'car-clubs'.

“As Chair of a local charity in a deprived area, I am conscious of how poverty and experience of crime are often linked. To make residents feel safe, we need to address poverty and work with young people at risk of being drawn into antisocial and criminal behaviour. We need our police to be valued and trusted, and to spend more of their time on crime and its

prevention, to build a strong and caring society. And we need to listen more to residents and victims of crime and ensure we respond to their priorities too.”

“If you want a Police and Crime Commissioner who is honest about what’s possible, who seeks solutions that everyone can see the sense of, then please give me your vote on May 2nd! I hope you will vote for me so that I can represent your interests and the interests of each and every person and each and every community across the Northumbria Police area.”

Prepared by Thom Campion, election agent, of
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Susan Elizabeth Dungworth

Labour and Co-operative Party



Election statement:

Safer Streets. Stronger Communities.

Everyone should feel safe in their own homes and businesses, on their local streets, and in their communities.

- **Reduce serious and violent crime.**

I will work with partners in education, health and the voluntary sector and invest in programmes to reduce violence against women and girls, knife crime, county lines and rural crime. Prevention, protection and prosecution will be the priorities for Northumbria Police.

- **Tackle the menace of Anti-Social Behaviour.**

Too many people do not feel safe in their communities, businesses and on public transport. I will ensure that the Police have a pro-active presence to deter those who spoil our environment through vandalism, shoplifting and illegal riding of motorbikes and electric bikes.

- **Restore neighbourhood policing.**

I will invest in more neighbourhood police officers and PCSOs, to patrol our villages, towns and cities, restoring visibility, trust and confidence in our Police. By building relationships with residents and business owners, we will ensure that local issues and concerns are addressed.

- **Communicating with and listening to you.**

I will hold regular consultation events in every local authority area to enable you to inform our policing priorities and hold the Police to account. This will ensure that you feel properly represented and protected by the Police and confident reporting crimes and knowing criminals will be pursued.

- **Properly funded Police and Public Services.**

I will fight for the restoration of sustainable police funding to invest in the personnel and modern technology needed to fight crime in the 21st century and for properly funded public services, so the Police are freed up to do the job they signed up for.

Prepared by Arlene Ainsley, election agent, of Labour North, King's Manor, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6PA on behalf of Susan Dungworth.

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Ros Munro

Conservative Candidate –
More Police, Safer Streets



Election statement:

With crime in Northumberland, Tyne and Wear rising, trust in Northumbria Police reducing, and the policing element of our Council Tax having more than doubled since 2012, we need a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) that listens to local people and police officers, gets the best out of the Force, and is robust enough to hold the Chief Constable to account.

I'm highly qualified for this role, having been legally educated, worked in criminal justice, and having an ex-police officer as a husband. I also have substantial management experience in my professional career.

As your PCC, I will:

- **Get tougher on offenders** by ensuring that our hardworking officers have the numbers, cell space, and resources to fight crime. I will recruit more officers, invest in crime-fighting technology, and reopen custody suites across Northumbria.

- **Take a no-nonsense approach to crime.** I will work with the Chief Constable to reduce common crime types including theft, anti-social behaviour, serious violence, knife crime, and violence against women and girls.
- **Ensure that police time and resources are focused on keeping our communities safe**, rather than on policing social issues like spats on social media or virtue-signalling projects that fail to reduce crime.
- **Boost trust in Northumbria Police** by holding the Chief Constable to account, making the Police more accessible by reopening police station front desks, and giving residents and officers more opportunities to feedback to me.

I will ensure that local policing creates consequences for offending and discourages crime.

On 2nd May, join me in putting more police on our streets and making Northumbria safer by voting for me as your PCC.

Prepared by Barry Flux, election agent, of 39 Langdale Drive, Cramlington, Northumberland, NE23 8EE, on behalf of Ros Munro.

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Mustaque Rahman

Independent



Election statement:

I'm a former Crown Prosecutor. I understand how our criminal justice system operates.

Before I was a prosecutor, I was a legal adviser to the magistrates. Since leaving the CPS, I've been doing private work.

There are too many incidents where the Police are failing the public. The responsibility for this lies with the PCC, not the front line officers.

According to ONS statistics, since 2019, knife crime in England and Wales has decreased by 8%. In Northumbria it has risen by 43%. 100% of Burglaries reported in whole wards in Northumbria remain unsolved. Over 60% of police desks have been closed. 64 Northumbria Police officers have been accused of domestic violence and sexual assault. A shoplifting epidemic is blighting our high streets causing local businesses to go under. 100,000 anti-social behaviour calls have not been attended.

Yet we've been charged a 36% increase in council tax. This isn't good value for money.

The public have lost confidence in their political leadership. National Parties treat this role as a career stepping stone. We need someone with experience, independent of political control, to put things right.

I will focus on getting criminal cases processed. Wheels of justice are too slow, taking years for a case to come to court. Too many criminals believe they can offend without consequences, then ask for other offences to be taken into account.

I will focus on rehabilitation. Far too many petty criminals serve short sentences, and then go back into crime. We need to help them get off drugs, find jobs and homes, and get their lives back on track.

Party Politicians treating rising crime as a “public health issue”. It’s not. It’s about enforcing the law to keep people safe.

Prepared by Habib Rahman, 2 Friars Street, Newcastle, NE1 4XA, Agent for Mustaque Rahman.

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Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Northumbria

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 Northumbria.

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

- APPLEBY, John Christopher – Liberal Democrat
- DUNGWORTH, Susan Elizabeth – Labour and Co-operative Party
- MUNRO, Ros – Conservative Candidate – More Police, Safer Streets
- RAHMAN, Mustaque – Independent

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