

**CHOOSE
MY PFCC**

Candidates for the Staffordshire Police Force Area

On 2nd May, you will be able to vote for your
Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC).

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

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About Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners

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

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners (PFCCs) are elected to hold the police force and fire and rescue service to account for delivering the kind of policing and fire and rescue service you want to see. In addition to their role overseeing the police, a PFCC is also the Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) for their area. PFCCs bring a public voice to policing and the fire and rescue service and they do this by:

- Engaging with the public and victims of crime to help set police and crime plans;
- Setting the fire and rescue objectives for their area through a fire and rescue plan;
- Ensuring the police force and fire and rescue service budgets are spent where it matters most; and
- Appointing the chief constable and chief fire officer, holding them to account for delivery of their objectives and if necessary, dismissing them.

PFCCs are responsible for both the police force and the fire and rescue service within their area and are responsible for delivering efficient and effective services.

The PFCC does not “run” the police force or the fire service. Chief constables and chief fire officers continue to be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the police force and fire service respectively, but they are accountable to the public via the PFCC.

In some Police Force Areas, a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is elected instead – this is similar to a PFCC, but is only responsible for the police force in their area – they are not the FRA for their area. 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

PFCCs 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, PFCCs also have regard to national cross border threats, and ensure there is an effective policing response.

With a single directly elected individual overseeing both police and fire and rescue services, there are greater opportunities for blue light collaboration.

Represent the entire community

PFCCs 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 Staffordshire Police Force Area and Fire and Rescue Service 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).

PFCCs 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>.

Ben Adams

Conservative Party –
More Police, Safer Streets



Election statement:

Since 2021 I have worked hard as your Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner and kept my promises.

Staffordshire Police are more local, visible and responsive. Boosted by more than the 250 extra officers I promised, we now have over 2000 officers patrolling public spaces, protecting the vulnerable and tackling violence and abuse.

Staffordshire is a safe place. ASB is 47% lower than before the pandemic. 999 calls are 29% up, but with response teams back in every local policing area, average emergency response is under 15 minutes.

Arrests are up 16%, stop & search 22% and vehicle searches 20% on 2022. This pro-active policing is key to tackling organised criminals, often from outside Staffordshire, dealing drugs and targeting our houses, farms, businesses, and vehicles.

Staffordshire Fire & Rescue are fit for the future.

Responding to 8200 incidents, making 13,000 'safe and well' visits and supporting the NHS by rescuing over 1000 people who fell at home.

My team secured over £4m for Safer Streets, Safer Women at Night and ASB hot-spot patrols. We commissioned **support for thousands of victims of crime, ASB and domestic abuse** and programmes to reduce re-offending, treat addiction and protect children.

I set sound £310m budgets – **keeping council tax low** – appointed your Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer and my Local Plans reflect your priorities. This job requires experience – experience that I have after 40 years in business and 20 years representing people across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

THIS IS NOT A NATIONAL ELECTION it is your opportunity to choose who can best support your local Police and Fire & Rescue services. Good progress has been made but there is more to do. **Back Ben to keep Staffordshire safe.**
Thank you.

Prepared by Dave Evans of Staffordshire Conservatives,
Castle Street, Stafford, ST16 2ED.

Contact details

Website: <https://www.benadams.org/>

Alec Sandiford

Liberal Democrats



Election statement:

As your Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner candidate, I want to bring a new vision for our community's safety and security, with a plan rooted deeply in the principles of community policing.

My commitment is to ensure that every resident, whether in bustling town centres or our most remote rural areas, feels seen, heard, and protected. Policing strategies in a large county like ours need to be tailored to the unique needs of all communities, fostering an environment where trust between the police and the people we serve is rebuilt and strengthened.

I stand for increasing the number of frontline police officers, ensuring their presence is visible and impactful on the streets. This approach is not just about improving safety; it's about building a rapport with the community, enhancing our officers' ability to serve effectively and empathetically.

The question before us is clear: Why should we continue on the current path when Staffordshire Police faces the challenge of being under special measures? This situation calls for leadership that is not only prepared to address these issues head-on but is also committed to implementing long-term solutions that prevent future crises.

Rewarding past failures with another Conservative term is a risk we cannot afford. It's time for a change.

My pledge to you is leadership that embodies integrity, innovation, and inclusivity. A vote for me is a vote for a proactive approach to community safety, enhanced support for rural policing, and a visible, accessible police force that serves all communities with respect and dedication. Together, we can chart a new course towards a safer, more united Staffordshire.

Promoted by Alex Wagner on behalf of Alecander John Sandiford at 11 St Julians Crescent, Shrewsbury, SY1 1UD.

Contact details

Website: <https://www.stonelibdems.org.uk/>

Alastair Watson

Labour & Co-Operative Party



Election statement:

Staffordshire is my home and I want it to be the best it can be. My plan is simple; we need to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour and make our streets safe again.

Under the Conservatives crime is up, prosecutions are down, and too many of our neighbourhoods feel neglected and unsafe. You don't need to be a victim of crime to be impacted by it.

I've built a reputation for rolling my sleeves up and putting in the hard work to make change happen – and after 14 years of the Conservatives, change is exactly what Staffordshire needs.

Our communities feel less safe than ever before. This is my plan to take back our streets. I have identified five main pledges:

More Visible Policing

I will back Labour's plan for town centre patrols and get our share of the promised increase in number of Police and PCSOs for Staffordshire.

Tough on Crime and the Causes of Crime

I will champion prevention wherever possible and support tougher action and sentencing for offenders.

Tackle the tragedy of violence against women and girls

I will target repeat offenders with tactics normally reserved for serious crime investigations, to get perpetrators off our streets.

Clamp down on drugs and drug dealing

I will use data-driven policing to hit drug dealing sites, which is a known and proven method to tackle local crime.

Support Our Fire Services

I will back our Fire & Rescue Service and staff as they adapt to the changing demand faced by our emergency services.

I hope I can count on your support on May 2nd.

Many Thanks
Alastair Watson

Prepared by Catherine Parry of the Labour & Co-operative Party, UNISON Office, Bevan House, Epworth Street, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 1NU.

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Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Staffordshire

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 Staffordshire.

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

- ADAMS, Ben – Conservative Party – More Police, Safer Streets
- SANDFORD, Alec – Liberal Democrats
- WATSON, Alastair – Labour & Co-Operative Party

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*This is published by the Secretary of State for the Department of Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF*