

**CHOOSE
MY PCC**

Candidates for the West Mercia 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.

Contents

About Police and Crime Commissioners	02
John-Paul Campion The Conservative Party	04
Henry Malcolm Thomas Curteis English Democrats – “More Police – catching criminals!”	08
Julian David Geoffrey Dean The Green Party candidate	12
Sarah Philippa Jane Murray Liberal Democrat	14
Richard Andrew Overton Labour and Co-operative Party	16
Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for West Mercia	18

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 West Mercia 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-Paul Campion

The Conservative Party



Conservatives

Election statement:

I have overseen a **fall in crime** in West Mercia and the recruitment of **500 additional Police Officers**, taking the force to record numbers.

I am determined that communities must now feel the full benefit; where crime falls further, victims are better supported and people feel safer.

I will focus on:

Cutting Crime

- **Safer Town Centres** – Expanding Town Centre Policing Teams.
- **Safer Homes** – Targeting offenders of domestic abuse, sexual violence and exploitation.
- **Safer Businesses** – Preventing crime and ensuring a robust response when it does happen.
- **Safer Countryside** – Enhancing rural crime fighting teams.
- **Tackling Drugs** – Pursuing drug dealers and the harm they cause in our society.

- **Prompt Investigations** – Ensuring West Mercia Police respond promptly to reports of crime and conduct thorough investigations.

Supporting Victims & Survivors

- **Advocacy** – Putting the voice of victims at the heart of policing in West Mercia.
- **Creating a Victims Hub** – Ensuring victims get the support they need by specialist training for officers delivering regular and meaningful updates.

Putting Policing back into the Heart of the Community

- **Visible Policing** – Redirecting funding for 100 more police officers to Safer Neighbourhood teams – more visible in communities fighting crime.
- **Responsive Policing** – Ensuring the police respond quickly to the public and keep them informed about crime in their area and what action is being taken.
- **Accessible Policing** – Improving the responsiveness of both 101 service and online crime reporting.
- **Safer Roads** – More specialist roads policing teams.

West Mercia Police is made up of hard-working officers and staff; **I am resolute in the belief that they and the communities of West Mercia deserve a hard-working Commissioner who is focused on fighting crime, supporting victims and putting policing back at the heart of the community.**

Yours sincerely,
John-Paul Campion
The Conservative Party Candidate

Prepared by Election Agent M Bayliss, 28 Bewdley Road
North, Stourport, DY13 8PS.

Contact details

Website: <https://www.campion4westmercia.com>

Email: john@campion4westmercia.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/campion4westmercia

Instagram: www.instagram.com/campion4westmercia

This page is intentionally left blank

Henry Malcolm Thomas Curteis

English Democrats –
“More Police – catching criminals!”



Election statement:

Henry Curteis from Shropshire has been announced as the English Democrats Party candidate for the Police and Crime Commissioner election in West Mercia.

Vote – Henry Malcolm Thomas Curteis.

English Democrats – “More Police – Catching Criminals!”

The claim being made that crime is down by 15% in West Mercia flies in the face of experience. West Mercia is a low performing Police area in national statistics.

Henry Curteis is a renowned jewellery manufacturer, and has directed medium sized business organisations. He is The Creative Director of The English Democrats Party (TEDS). Formerly Chairman of a Parish Council, he stood for Parliament in Shrewsbury & Atcham in 2000. He fronted campaigns on national Radio and Television.

He achieved a First in Criminal Law in Oxford University Law Moderations, and is a published author on Organisational Change. The IOD – ‘Successful Change Strategies’ and Henley Management College – ‘Building a Creative Culture for a Growing Organisation’.

Vote Curteis on May 2nd – to stop police budget being used to fund gay pride, painting rainbows on officers, and focus on – “More Police – Catching Criminals!”

Stop the growth of ‘thought crime’ – police spying on social media.

Prioritise catching criminals like burglars, rapists and muggers.

Ensure budgets are spent on front line policing.

Scrap ‘diversity targets’ and ensure the best candidates get the job.

Police Officers should not be selected on the basis of their ethnicity, religion, gender or sexuality – “Diversity” targets reduce efficiency.

White, English, male and Christian applicants should not face discrimination.

We can and must do much better.

If you want West Mercia Police refocused on protecting people from criminals; on traditional policing; on maintaining Law and Order; and on supporting the rights of victims to defend themselves,

Vote Curteis on the 2nd May!

Written and Promoted by Henry Curteis, 14 Mill Meadow,
Shrewsbury, SY2 6EU.

Contact details

Tel: 07506989004

Website: <https://www.Englandcalling.co.uk>

Email: hmtcurteis@gmail.com

Twitter: [@henrycurteis](https://twitter.com/henrycurteis)

This page is intentionally left blank

Julian David Geoffrey Dean

The Green Party candidate



Green Party



Election statement:

My name is Julian Dean and I am your Green Party candidate to be the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia. I was born in Shropshire and have been a Shropshire councillor since 2017.

Our police service is under serious pressure. Cuts from central government have weakened their ability both to respond to crimes and to work with communities and businesses to reduce levels of crime. Police officers are left plugging the gaps left by inadequate mental health, care and youth services, and a court system struggling to cope.

If elected I would resist further cuts to our critical police service in Shropshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Telford & Wrekin. This would send a message to the government that our communities need better support to feel safe and secure, and that officers need to feel supported, resourced and valued to do the best job they can.

I would also seek to stand up for marginalised communities whether that is women suffering domestic violence or people of colour being targeted by stop and search. Last but not least, I would make environmental and wildlife crime a higher

priority, seeking to protect the unique local environment that I know people are passionate about protecting here in West Mercia.

A vote for me is a vote to tell central government that our communities need adequate funding and investment in policing and crime prevention to keep us all safe and secure.

This statement has been prepared and promoted by my election agent, Peggy Wiseman, c/o 10 Ellesmere Road, Shrewsbury, SY1 2PJ.

Contact details

Tel: 07939121607

Email: **Juliandean251@gmail.com**

Sarah Philippa Jane Murray

Liberal Democrat



Election statement:

Having worked extensively in law, education and mental health, I am acutely aware of the impact of declining services on those who struggle with education, and how it can result in criminality, and how vulnerability can lead to young people being targeted by County Lines gangs. My life's work, criminal law and education, have led me to take an active interest in this role.

I would like to see:

- A return to community policing;
- Proactive intervention in the root causes of crime;
- A burglary response guarantee;
- Greater diversity and inclusivity in the PCC and deputy roles.

A passionate advocate for ending violence against women and girls, I want to see more done to support victims of male violence – including timely prosecutions. I am also aware of male victims of domestic abuse and will work to reduce the stigma surrounding this. No victim should feel unheard, even if they wish to remain unseen.

The Police and Crime Commissioner role encompasses all my interests and passions: criminal justice, social accountability and being an active community role model who listens to the needs of the community and works to improve the area.

As we saw in North Shropshire, many Conservative voters are switching to the Liberal Democrats as a sensible alternative that won't squander public money and will offer fair solutions that meet the growing needs of communities, both rural and urban.

I hope you will put your trust in me on 2 May. I will work to serve you and bring Liberal values to West Mercia Police Force, and ensure your police are given the time and resources to make you feel safe.

Published and promoted by Alex Wagner on behalf of Sarah Philippa Jane Murray at 7 Maypole Court, Wem, Shropshire, SY4 5AA.

Contact details

Website: <https://worcesterlibdems.org.uk>

Facebook: [Facebook/@sarahmurraylibdem](https://www.facebook.com/sarahmurraylibdem)

Richard Andrew Overton

Labour and Co-operative Party



Election statement:

Telford born, raised and educated, Richard manages a community hub and volunteers as a UEFA C Football coach.

Richard's priorities include investing in community policing, combating violence against women & girls and domestic abuse, tackling violent crime, including knife crime and supporting projects that stop young people from becoming victims of crime, criminal exploitation or offenders.

As an elected councillor Richard has a record of action for residents: tackling rogue landlords, reducing anti-social behaviour and taking on the fly-tippers.

Richard will be a highly visible commissioner working with communities on local plans to focus police efforts on residents' issues. Richard is keen to work with communities in creating his police and crime plan.

For too long people have felt let down by the lack of visible police officers on our streets, and the time taken to respond to calls to 101 and 999, Victims feel let down and not supported. It's time to take back our streets.

Richard has 5 key pledges:

- Focus on the prevention and detection of crime and support for victims
- A complete review across the force area to put 'more bobbies on the beat'
- Action to prevent and prosecute violence against women and girls
- A community lead action plan for each neighbourhood to tackle drugs, shoplifting, speeding and rural crime
- New rapid response teams to hit anti-social behaviour and crime hotspots

Only Labour will punish criminals, protect victims and prevent crime.

Promoted and prepared by Alexander Latham-Reynolds on behalf of Richard Overton both at Telford Labour, PO Box 371, Telford, TF1 9FF.

Contact details

Tel: 07592150607

Website: <https://labour.org.uk/missions/safe-streets/>

Email: Richard_Overton@labour.org.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rich4stgeorges>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Rich4StGeorges>

Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for West Mercia

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 West Mercia.

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

- CAMPION, John-Paul – The Conservative Party Candidate
- CURTEIS, Henry – English Democrats – “More Police – catching criminals!”
- DEAN, Julian David Geoffrey – The Green Party candidate
- MURRAY, Sarah Philippa Jane – Liberal Democrat
- OVERTON, Richard Andrew – Labour and Co-operative Party Candidate

I can be contacted at:

David Sidaway
Darby House
Lawn Central
Telford
TF3 4JA

David.sidaway@telford.gov.uk
01902 383219
<https://www.telford.gov.uk>

This page is intentionally left blank

This page is intentionally left blank

This booklet is printed on 100% recycled paper.

When you have finished with this, please recycle it.

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