

**CHOOSE  
MY PCC**

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# Candidates for the Durham Police Force Area

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On 6th May, you will be able to vote for  
your police and crime commissioner.

Find out who your local candidates are  
and how to vote



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# Contents

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About Police and Crime Commissioners	02
Joy Allen Labour and Co-operative Party	04
Anne-Marie Curry Liberal Democrats	06
George Jabbour Conservative Candidate – More Police, Safer Streets	08
Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Durham	10

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# About Police and Crime Commissioners

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**On 6th 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 hold the police to account. Elections will be taking place in England and Wales. In London, Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire, there will be elections at the same time for Mayors who exercise PCC functions.**

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.

39 PCCs will be elected across England and Wales, of which 4 are also responsible for overseeing the fire and rescue authority for their area and are called Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners (PFCC) – these PFCCs are found in Essex, Staffordshire, North Yorkshire and Northamptonshire). There will also be 3 Mayors with PCC functions elected in London, Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire.

PCCs are elected by you and aim to cut crime and hold the force to account on behalf of the public. PCCs bring a public voice to policing, and they do this by:

- engaging with the public and victims of crime to help set the policing priorities for the area and consulting on their 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.

## Work with others

PCCs, PFCCs and Mayors who exercise PCC functions also work with your council and other organisations to promote and enable joined up working on community safety and criminal justice.

The PCC, PFCC or Mayor who exercises PCC functions does not 'run' the police force or fire service. Chief Constables and Chief Fire Officers are operationally independent, and they are responsible for the day to day operations of the police, but they are accountable to the public via the Police and Crime Commissioner.

PCCs, PFCCs and Mayors who exercise PCC functions are single, directly elected individuals ensuring the public are protected, providing greater opportunities for collaboration and more effective scrutiny of public services.

They ensure that there is an effective policing contribution to national partnership arrangements to protect the public from other national and cross-boundary threats.

## **Represent the entire community**

PCCs, PFCCs and Combined Authority Mayors who exercise PCC functions 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 Durham 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](http://www.choosemypcc.org.uk)** or call **0808 196 2170**.

## **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).

In this election you can vote for a first and second preference of who you want to win.

For more information about your vote and other elections taking place on 6th May visit **[www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter)**

## Joy Allen

Labour and Co-operative Party



### **Election statement:**

I was born and raised in County Durham and my priority is to stand up for our communities, putting police back on the street and tackling the issues that matter to you.

For over 20 years my career has been spent serving and protecting the public, tackling crime and disorder, having worked for the Army, Fire, Police, Emergency Planning College and local authorities across County Durham and the Tees Valley.

If elected on 6 May, I will:

- **Put more Police on the street**

Durham Constabulary has lost nearly 500 officers over the last 10 years. My top priority is reversing this and getting more police and PSCO's back on our streets.

- **Prevent Crime**

I want to do all I can to prevent crime occurring in the first place. I will invest in neighbourhood policing, ensuring those working on the front line are increasingly focused on prevention.

- **Protect Communities and Victims**

I will put the needs of victims of crime at the centre of everything I do and improve how we protect the public and support vulnerable victims and witnesses.

- **Pursue Criminals**

I'll make sure our Police have the resources they need to identify, target and pursue those responsible for crime and anti-social behaviour and bring them to justice.

- **Put your Priorities First**

Residents identified anti-social behaviour, fly tipping, drug use/dealing, vandalism and speeding as their top 5 priorities. I will establish multi-agency, area-based problem solving groups to address these issues.

As your Police and Crime Commissioner you can be assured, I will utilise my skills, experience and expertise to tackle the issues that matter to you, making our communities safer, stronger and more resilient to crime and anti-social behaviour.

This statement has been prepared by Audrey Laing, Election Agent on behalf of Joy Allen, 100 Hatfield Place, Peterlee, SR8 5TD.

## **Contact Details**

[joy4durhampcc.com](http://joy4durhampcc.com)

## Anne-Marie Curry

Liberal Democrats



### **Election statement:**

- Back me to be the next Police and Crime Commissioner so that I can be an experienced voice fighting for you.
- Please use your first preference vote to elect me and I will work to improve the police and associated services for everyone. My key role will be to come out into the community regularly and listen to what you have to say about the local police service and how they tackle crime and anti-social behaviour affecting our lives.
- I have been a Lib Dem councillor for over 12 years and have worked very closely with the local police. Since the position of PCC was created, I have taken every opportunity to ask questions on improvement and better communications with the public.
- Two of my priorities will be to cut re-offending rates and to clamp down on anti-social behaviour that blights many of our communities. As a Councillor I find most of my complaints are about anti-social behaviour and I am sure it is the same in many neighbourhoods across the Force area. I will look to tackle some of the issues that lead to anti-social behaviour because I want communities to feel safer and free from harassment.

- I will aim to build a better working relationship with the Health Service to prevent crime, as many calls to the police are better dealt with by Health or Social Services. Many offenders use crime as a cry for help.
- I will work to confront the issues of delay in the justice system. Perpetrators and victims alike are let down with the very long delays to get due process.
- Remember, please make me your first preference. First and second preferences are going to be important in this election!

Prepared by Stephen White, Election Agent, 54 Donnini Place, Durham, DH1 1ES.

### **Contact Details**

[www.northeastlibdems.org.uk](http://www.northeastlibdems.org.uk)

## George Jabbour

Conservative Candidate – More Police,  
Safer Streets



### **Election statement:**

**As a local resident** who has lived in both County Durham and Darlington, I understand the issues facing every part of our police area.

**The crime community group that I started** has given local people a voice to highlight their concerns about crime, policing and community safety. Therefore, I know the priorities of the different neighbourhoods across County Durham and Darlington.

### **I am standing in this election to cut crime by:**

- Recruiting more police officers – to make the police more visible in our local community
- Reintroducing a tough approach to tackling crime – including drugs and anti-social behaviour
- Reducing back office functions – to provide more front-line police to make our residents safer

## **Actions speak louder than words**

When our country faced new challenges because of the Coronavirus pandemic, I set up a local charity to bring our community together. I managed dozens of teams and united Councillors from across the political divide to work with each other to support vulnerable residents. Due to its success, our charity won national recognition by Healthwatch England.

## **Business and technical skills**

After graduating from university with degrees in engineering, law and finance, I worked in the financial industry. I then founded a small business to help governments and public-sector organisations with their investments. As a result of this project, I was named as one of the 40-under-40 rising stars in my profession in the UK.

## **Proven leadership**

Whether it is the business I founded, the Coronavirus charity I set up or the community group I started, running such projects requires the same unique abilities that are necessary for an effective and credible Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner who is capable of holding the police to account and managing a multi-million-pound police budget.

Prepared by Neville Lishman, Election Agent, 30B Larchfield Street, Darlington, Durham DL3 7TE.

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Online: <https://www.georgejabbour.uk/contact>

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# Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Durham

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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 Durham.

Police and Crime Commissioner Elections will be held in Durham on 6th May 2021; the candidates standing in that election, alphabetically by surname (as they will appear on the ballot paper), are:

- ALLEN, Joy – Labour and Co-operative Party
- CURRY, Anne-Marie – Liberal Democrats
- JABBOUR, George – Conservative Candidate – More Police, Safer Streets

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