

**CHOOSE  
MY PCC**

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# Candidates for the Kent 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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# 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 Kent 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)**

# Graham David Colley

Liberal Democrat



## **Election statement:**

### **About Graham**

President of Liberal Democrat Lawyers and studied Law at Aberystwyth and European Law at the College of Europe. MBA from City University Business School and a research degree in Banking Reform at the University of Kent.

Graham worked in the City and has been a Legal Aid lawyer in Lambeth, Westminster, and Chatham.

Parliamentary candidate for Mid-Kent (twice) and for Rochester & Strood in the 2019 General Election. He is a former Kent County Councillor and co-chair of the Kent Fire & Public Protection committee.

Has lived in Maidstone and Lenham and now lives in Rochester, with two cats, Schnapps & Crackers.

### **What Graham is standing for:**

- **Neighbourhood Policing - from the ground up, not the top down.**
- **Looking for radical solutions - tackling the root of the problems that face our police.**
- **Seeking efficiency but caring for the police force who serve us.**

## **Graham believes:**

- Crime policy must be based on the evidence of what works.
- Strengthening neighbourhood policing as a local policing presence gives people confidence that their safety is being cared for.
- More preventative work is required, particularly through joined- up working with other public services.
- Too many victims of crime still have a negative experience in the system.
- Too many criminals are not required to confront their behaviour.
- More action is required to tackle violence against women and girls.
- Too few prisoners receive effective pre-release support and re-offending rates remain unacceptably high.
- A new preventative, health-based approach is required to tackle drug and alcohol misuse.
- Stop and Search remains a source of deep mistrust between the police and the public.

Kent Police have a large budget, and the PCC must be vigilant to ensure that it is well spent.

Prepared by election agent John Castle, 155 Sturla Rd,  
Chatham, ME45QH

## **Contact details:**

<https://grahamforkentpcc.org.uk/en/>

## Lola Oyewusi

Labour and Co-operative Party



### **Election statement:**

This election is a choice between Lola Oyewusi, the Labour and Co-operative candidate who is serious about tackling the Tory rise in violent crime or the Conservatives who have slashed police numbers and let violent crime rise here in Kent and across the country.

As someone with strong experience working for a housing association, leading a local charity, serving on her local parish council and being active within her church—Lola has the life experiences to ensure the concerns of residents across Kent are at the heart of policing and community safety.

Labour's top priority is to keep you, your family and your community safe. Every day our Police and Crime Commissioners work hard to drive down crime and antisocial behaviour, tackle its root causes and ensure that criminals are brought to justice. They also ensure that their local police are effective, efficient and accountable.

### **Lola has five clear pledges**

- Tackling knife crime and county lines
- Getting the resources Kent needs
- Supporting the Chief Constable with a constructive but independent relationship

- Supporting rural and coastal communities
- Creating a police force for all

**The Conservative party are toughening up sentences for people who attack statues but have done nothing to increase sentences for men who attack women.**

Labour will toughen sentences for rapists and end the injustice which means someone can get ten years less for murdering their partner at home, than for murdering someone on the street.

If she is elected, **Lola will always be on the side of victims and the voice for the voiceless across Kent**

Thank you for taking time to read this statement and please vote Lola Oyewusi - the Kent Labour & Co-operative Candidate

Prepared by election agent Vince Maple, 29 Chalk Pit Hill, Medway, ME45SU

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## Matthew Scott

The Conservative Party Candidate



### **Election statement:**

As your local Police & Crime Commissioner, my focus has always been on making Kent safer.

I have recruited 665 more Police and 50 more PCSOs. As a result, crime has been falling. This includes reductions in burglary, knife crime and antisocial behaviour. Drugs gangs have been shut down. More offenders are being charged and brought to justice. And there has been substantial investment in resources to tackle violence.

I want to do more to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour. So I will:

- **Recruit another 300 Police Officers and ensure they are active in our urban, rural and coastal areas**
- **Work with residents, businesses and communities to prevent and reduce crime and antisocial behaviour**
- **Expand the popular Police Cadets scheme for young people and bringback teams of Schools Officers**
- **Make our streets safer for all road users**
- **Boost the support available for all victims of crime and abuse**

- **Tackle gangs and county lines and get drugs and weapons off our streets**

I live in the county with my wife and two children. From a policing family, I understand what Officers and Staff need –and having run a community association, served as a School Governor and been an active local councillor, I have the experience of speaking up for neighbourhoods and delivering improvements.

I am a successful mental health campaigner. I advise the Government on issues relating to mental health and policing and have secured changes in the law that will better support those living with mental health conditions.

I also have experience of setting up a business and am the Chairman of a national company.

Help make Kent safer - please vote for me to be your Police and Crime Commissioner on Thursday 6 May.

Prepared by Andrew Kennedy (Agent), Conservative

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**Contact details:**

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# Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Kent

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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 Kent.

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

- COLLEY, Graham David – Liberal Democrat
- OYEWUSI, Lola – Labour and Co-operative Party
- SCOTT, Matthew – The Conservative Party Candidate

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