

**CHOOSE
MY PCC**

Candidates for the Suffolk Police Force Area

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

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 Suffolk 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 **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** 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**

Elizabeth Patricia Hughes

Labour and Co-operative Party



Election statement:

I strongly believe that effective policing is a two-way covenant between the community and the police. It's important to have a shared vision, achievable key performance indicators, strong quality culture, and firm political leadership, and, if I'm elected, I will provide this. Crime and anti-social behaviour have soared in Suffolk but 10 years of cuts by the Conservative Government means there aren't enough police to tackle it.

At the General Election, the Conservatives promised a huge increase in police numbers, but Suffolk looks set to lose out. Despite hundreds of police officers being cut from Suffolk over the last decade, the County has only been promised 75 more officers.

And it's not the Government paying for these officers – it's you and me, and the residents of Suffolk, through a massive 6.7% increase in council tax.

The Conservatives have let drug dealing and anti-social behaviour get out of control in urban Ipswich, Lowestoft and Bury St Edmunds, but also in smaller market towns across Suffolk. Now they are denying us the resources to bring it back down – while making us pay for the privilege.

I will work with communities across the county to tackle crime and its causes and work closely with my counterpart in Norfolk. I will be uncompromising in the fight against sexual violence against women, violence in the home, and all forms of modern slavery. I will not allow gang culture, drug dealing and county lines abuse to destroy young and vulnerable lives and damage our communities. I will work to make sure all our front-line officers and staff feel properly supported and valued.

[Promoted by J Cook on behalf of E Hughes, both of 33 Silent St, Ipswich, IP1 1TF.]

Contact details

suffolklabour.com

Tim Passmore

The Conservative Party Candidate



Election statement:

I was privileged to be elected as Suffolk's PCC in 2012. We are fortunate to have one of the best police forces in the country. Suffolk remains one of the safest areas in England good policing supports economic growth and inward investment.

There is a clear link between higher levels of deprivation and low social mobility, and increases in crime, abuse, addiction and anti-social behaviour.

If re-elected I will continue to prioritise:

- Putting Suffolk first.
- Protecting homes and businesses.
- Focus on victims' needs.
- Cut crime through greater officer recruitment and increasing police visibility.
- Improve public communication and engagement.
- Work and listen to suggestions for improving community safety, including children.
- Target drug gangs and organised crime groups.

Much has been achieved recently in reducing violence, robbery, business crime and burglary. Work will continue to tackle domestic abuse, anti-social behaviour and serious sexual offences; making our streets safer for all is my major priority.

Many challenges cannot be resolved solely by policing. That's why I continue to be committed to working collaboratively with all agencies, including the charitable and voluntary sectors.

Crime patterns are changing and becoming more complex. With many people now working from home, the digital threat is rising rapidly. Over 96% of crimes now have a digital footprint, so investment into our cyber-unit is another priority.

There will be new initiatives to support young people, and fight fraud, serious violence, rural and waste crime. Investment will continue to maintain road safety and keep the traffic moving. By working together, we must also improve the criminal justice system. Recorded levels of hidden harm such as domestic abuse, serious sexual offences, slavery and exploitation continue to rise. They also require further investment.

[Promoted by Mark Bee on behalf of Tim Passmore both of WCCA, Heathlands, London Road, Kessingland, Suffolk. NR33 7PJ]

Contact details

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Andrew Patmore

Green Party candidate



Election statement:

The Police are vital to our society and communities. From major towns to the smallest village, we rely upon them to protect us from harm but for them to do this, we as a county need to protect them. We all need to see beyond the uniforms and get to know the individual behind them. Officers need to be recognisable and active members of the communities they serve. Knowing your local Police Officer on-sight or even by name, something that was often quite normal thirty or forty years ago, is now missing and this can give a disjointed and faceless impression of them.

Drug flow via county lines operations must continue to be vigorously investigated and the lines broken. We must support the most vulnerable in our communities who may find themselves targeted by these criminals. Helping the addicts will reduce the demand for these operations and helping those who may find themselves trapped within them will further weaken these criminal activities.

Over the last year, the rise in environmental crimes such as fly-tipping has seen the county spoiled. The formation of a countywide task force to tackle this and other such crimes would deliver a clear message to those who think little of our natural environment and the financial burden upon local councils tasked to deal with such issues.

Our young people have been largely neglected by us as a county for many years. Issues with petty crime, gang related activities and antisocial behaviour have risen due to the lack of support and facilities for them. We must all ensure that young people are given every opportunity to lead productive lives and support those that fall between the cracks.

[This statement has been prepared by Nick Hardingham, Carr Cottage, Creeting St Mary, Suffolk, IP68LY, Election Agent]

James Sandbach

Liberal Democrat



Election statement:

James has spent 20 years working in justice charities, and is a Town Councillor in Saxmundham. He believes that the policing strategy for Suffolk should be based on community policing, focussing resources to ensure that the police are engaged and visible in all of Suffolk's communities. If elected he intends to:

- ensure more open points of contact at local police stations or other community venues, and work to improve the responsiveness of the 101 call system
- build new PCSO posts into the Constabulary's police officer recruitment drive, and increase the number of officers deployed on the beat
- fight for fairer funding from the Home Office for Suffolk Constabulary
- encourage local restorative justice schemes to deal with low level offending, putting victims' rights at the heart of the system
- develop systems for referral and diversion of people with mental health and addiction issues for other agencies to support them, and away from the criminal justice system

- support youth services focussed on preventing youth offending and avoid criminalising young people through early intervention and use of police cautions
- prioritise women’s safety, domestic violence response and safeguarding – guided by an expert advisory panel; encourage reporting with a public information campaign, establish a dedicated unit and helpline staffed by specialist officers and improve support for victims.
- deliver an integrated plan with Suffolk Highways to improve road safety and tackle speeding
- establish a Community Justice Partnership with the Magistrates courts, Citizens Advice, voluntary organisations and victims groups

The PCC role should be all about building partnerships, partnerships between the police, county and local councils and communities, voluntary organisations and victims’ groups. James pledges to listen to all of our community voices urban to rural and coastal communities.

[Promoted by J Shreeve on behalf of J Sandbach both at 9 Marsh Lane, Somerleyton, NR32 5QX]

Contact details

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Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Suffolk

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 Suffolk.

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

- HUGHES, Elizabeth Patricia – Labour and Co-operative Party
- PASSMORE, Tim – The Conservative Party Candidate
- PATMORE, Andrew – Green Party candidate
- SANDBACH, James – Liberal Democrat

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