

**CHOOSE
MY PFCC**

Candidates for the Cumbria 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.

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are illiterate has increased from 500 million to 600 million.

There are many reasons for this. One is that the population of the world is growing so fast that the number of people who are illiterate is increasing. Another reason is that the quality of education is so poor that many people who are literate are unable to read and write. A third reason is that many people who are literate are unable to use their skills in a way that is useful to them.

There are many ways to improve the quality of education. One way is to provide more teachers. Another way is to provide more books and materials. A third way is to provide more training for teachers. A fourth way is to provide more opportunities for people to learn.

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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 Cumbria 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>.

Mike Johnson

Conservative Candidate –
More Police, Safer Streets



Election statement:

I have a track record of delivery. I have been Deputy PFCC over the last year. In that time, we've secured significant Government funding, crime is down, and average response times for both Police and Fire are the quickest on record.

We have more Police Officers in Cumbria than ever before. I have listened to your requests for greater visibility and have introduced Community Beat Officers (CBOs). In one area alone, anti-social behaviour fell by 47% following the introduction.

I've worked to protect our rural communities by establishing a dedicated rural crime team and have increased the number of 'safe and well' visits in rural communities undertaken by the Fire Service.

I've also launched a new dedicated Roads Policing Unit, only made possible through record police numbers, making our roads safer.

YOUR PRIORITIES ARE MY PRIORITIES:

- I will boost police numbers past the current record levels and further invest in CBOs, who will be visible to you, where it matters most.
- I will work to ensure that Cumbria remains a 'no go' zone for criminals and is as safe as it can be, with a focus on rural crime, roads policing and antisocial behaviour.
- I will ensure that victims are at the heart of what we do. No-one should be a victim of crime, but for those who are, I will ensure they receive the appropriate support.
- I will make our roads safer and will work with young people to educate them about the dangers. I will ensure the response to road traffic collisions is the best it can be.
- I will accelerate collaborative work between all blue light services, and I'm committed to maintaining front line services in an affordable way.

Prepared by the candidate's agent, Andy Pratt,
Boadle Ground, Carleton, Holmrook, CA19 1YX.

Contact details

Tel: 07557005573

Email: [**contact@mikejohnson.org.uk**](mailto:contact@mikejohnson.org.uk)

David Allen

Labour and Co-operative Party



Election statement:

I am the only candidate with 30+ years' experience in policing and law enforcement. My priorities are to save and improve our local Police and Fire Service, putting police back on the beat, re-engaging with the public they serve, making sure that they have the resources to protect our communities and tackle the issues that matter to you.

For 30 years I served in the Police, starting as a Constable in Carlisle and serving in different ranks throughout Cumbria before joining the National Crime Agency and running the Interpol Bureau, tackling serious and organised crime affecting the UK. For the last 8 years I have worked in our local NHS where I set up Cumbria's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

My career is one of public service. I have tackled crime and disorder, held Police Officers to account when working in anti-corruption and have represented the UK in International settings.

If elected on May 2nd I will:

- Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour – Returning named officers to every community in Cumbria.
- Fight Rural Crime – Working with rural communities to identify and tackle criminals.
- Ensure our Fire Service is fully funded – Resourced and fit for purpose.
- Carry out vital community work – Funding vital community projects in Cumbria.
- Tackle and reduce domestic abuse – Improving the criminal justice system to deliver help and justice swiftly.

As your Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner I will stop the £16 million worth of cuts that are planned to take place to Cumbria Constabulary by 2029. Communities in Cumbria deserve to feel safe and want to see visible policing back on the street.

If you lend me your vote on May 2nd, I will ensure that happens.

This statement has been prepared by Matthew Suddart, Election Agent on behalf of David Allen, 17 Spinners Yard, Fisher Street, CA3 8RE.

Contact details

Tel: 07562 928475

Email: davidallenforcumbriapfcc@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/DavidAllenCumbriaPFCC>

Adrian Waite

Liberal Democrats



Election statement:

The men and women who serve in our police and fire & emergency services do an incredible job working to keep us safe. But they, and the public they serve, are being let down by the Conservatives.

The **Conservatives have taken people in our county for granted** for far too long, especially people living in rural areas who rarely see a police officer anymore.

We need a return to **community-based policing** where officers are visible and trusted so that residents feel safe in their towns and villages.

We need proper resources put into the dedicated **rural crime unit** so that farmers are given peace of mind.

We need to be working with local agencies and organisations to help tackle issues like anti social behaviour, and we need a **youth investment fund** to help develop youth services.

Cuts and mismanagements from the Conservative Party have resulted in our police force being left with a **£16m black hole**.

This is an absolute disgrace and it will be local people and families who will be forced to pay the price for the Conservatives' neglect of Cumbria's police force.

It's time we did things differently.

As an accountant and a former finance director, if I was elected to be our next Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner on May 2nd, I would make sure that we get **value for money**, with a real focus on outcomes – preventing and detecting crime and ensuring that people in Cumbria are safe.

Prepared by Paul Trollope on behalf of Adrian Waite (Liberal Democrats) both at Acland House, Yard 2, Stricklandgate, Kendal, LA9 4ND.

Contact details

Website: <https://www.wfelibdems.uk>

Email: amhwaite@outlook.com

Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Cumbria

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 Cumbria.

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

- ALLEN, David – Labour and Co-operative Party
- JOHNSON, Mike – Conservative Candidate – More Police, Safer Streets
- WAITE, Adrian – Liberal Democrats

I can be contacted at:

Andrew Seekings
Allerdale House
New Bridge Road
Workington
CA14 3YJ

elections@cumberland.gov.uk

0300 373 3730

<https://www.cumberland.gov.uk>

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