

**CHOOSE
MY PCC**

CANDIDATES FOR THE CLEVELAND POLICE FORCE AREA

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On 5th 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 5th May, you will be able to vote for your police and crime commissioner (PCC). The job of the PCC is to oversee the police and ensure that they are prioritising what matters to you. Elections will be taking place in England and Wales, excluding London and Greater Manchester.

Police and crime commissioners are elected by you to ensure the policing needs of your community are met as effectively as possible and to oversee how crime is tackled in your area.

40 PCCs will be elected across England and Wales (excluding London and Greater Manchester). The PCC in your area holds your police force to account for delivering the kind of policing you want to see. Their aim will be to cut crime and to ensure your police force is effective. 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, and where necessary dismissing, the chief constable.

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.

The PCC does not 'run' the police force. Chief constables 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 ensure an effective policing contribution alongside other partners to national arrangements to protect the public from other cross-boundary threats.

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 PCCs can set out publicly their commitment to tackling their role with integrity. It reflects the commitment police officers make to serve every member of the public impartially and makes clear that they are there to serve the people, not a political party or any one section of their electorate.

Find your candidate

This booklet contains information on the candidates standing for election in Cleveland 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 **0800 1070708**.

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 5th May visit **www.aboutmyvote.co.uk**

Sultan Alam

Independent



Election statement:

I am a retired police officer with commendations for bravery, tenacity, saving life and decorated with the Exemplary Police Service Medal before retiring in 2009.

With 28 years knowledge of the police service and criminal justice system, I have what it takes to lead change in Cleveland Police, ***“Better policing for a safer Cleveland.”*** Only the right leadership, with passion and commitment, can drive change.

HMIC’s latest assessment puts Cleveland in the bottom 3 of all 43 police forces, in all areas of assessment:

- Keeping people safe and reducing crime – **Requires Improvement**
- Managing budgets & meeting service demand – **Requires Improvement**
- Conforming to the law – **Requires Improvement**

HMIC [25th Feb 2016]: “I have some serious concerns about the performance of Cleveland Police in keeping people safe and reducing crime, and how prepared it is to meet future financial challenges.

Officer numbers are down. Crime is soaring.

- 6457 more victims of crime compared to last year
- 177 fewer officers on our streets than 3 years ago

- £28.85m a year is going to private companies
- 9 police stations being closed to the public
- Seemingly never-ending scandals

My straightforward plan to deliver real improvements and ***better policing for a safer Cleveland:***

- More “Bobbies on the beat.” At Least 130 More officers on our streets = less crime.
- Protecting Victims and Witnesses – immediate steps to correctly identify vulnerable victims and integrate safeguarding systems.
- Terminate private contracts that fail to deliver value and quality of service.
- Better policing standards by strict enforcement of the Police Code of Ethics.
- Ensure as many stations as possible remain open to the public

No politics no excuses, just “better policing”

Contact details

www.sultanalam.co.uk

Facebook: Sultan Alam for PCC

Prepared by Sultan Alam, as his own agent, 17 Church Lane, Acklam, Middlesbrough, TS5 7EQ

John Barry Coppinger

Labour Party



Election statement:

As Police & Crime Commissioner I have attended over 330 local meetings across Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Stockton and Redcar and Cleveland, using feedback to draw up a policing plan reflecting public priorities.

Cleveland Police face extremely challenging financial circumstances. In the past six years we have seen a real term cut of £36m (33%) in Government grants resulting in the loss of 400 posts.

For some forces the answer to financial pressures has been to vastly reduce Neighbourhood Policing. I am pleased to say that, following considerable work by my Office and the Chief Constable, Neighbourhood Policing is being retained in Cleveland.

I will continue to fight against Government cuts to policing and will continue to have as my priorities the protection of the vulnerable and the strengthening of Neighbourhood Policing. I welcome collaboration with other forces, but will continue to campaign against the regionalisation of policing and will ensure command and control remains within the county.

I have overseen major efficiency savings. For example, my office costs 30% less than the Police Authority it replaced – that's about £350,000 a year to be ploughed back into frontline Neighbourhood Policing.

I am the Labour candidate but as PCC I represent all local people. Where there are areas for improvement I will hold the Chief Constable to account in making these improvements. I will do this whilst recognising the high level of professionalism and integrity of the vast majority of officers and staff. I will continue to support these officers and speak out against those who undermine Cleveland Police with unjustified and irresponsible attacks.

Contact details

To learn more about my campaign visit www.coppinger4pcc.org

As Election Agent I can confirm that I have prepared this statement. My contact details are, Nigel Cooke, 7 Queen Anne Terrace, Stockton-On-Tees, TS18 5HS.

Steve Matthews

UK Independence Party (UKIP)



Election statement:

I'm a former Police Detective with 27 years' police service, with 7 years' prior service as a Combat Medic in the British Army. I have served with numerous specialist Police units including the Drugs Squad, Murder Investigation Team, Special Branch and the Organised Crime Unit, during my career with Cleveland Police.

My last Police position was that of elected Cleveland Police Federation Chairman where I was responsible for running the local Police staff association, managing the office and a team of dedicated Police officers.

Since leaving the Police I have worked as a security consultant and close protection operative, although in recent months I have worked on a part time basis with young men with autism, teaching life skills and offering positive support through my experiences. I am also a member of the Home Office appointed Police Appeals Tribunal Panel which reviews serious police misconduct matters.

I have a strong interest in my local community being the Chairman of my local Parish Council for the past few years where I've continued to be passionate about securing frontline policing.

With continuous and deep cuts to Police services, bad strategic decisions and an ever changing and challenging working environment, **it's no surprise that morale within the local Police force is at an all-time low.** Cleveland

needs a Police and Crime Commissioner that not only understands the problems, but has the experience and expertise needed to provide a real and tangible solution.

I believe I can be that Commissioner.

With your support **I can** turn around the downward spiral within our Police force and give our determined frontline officers all of the tools they need to make our communities safer again.

Contact details

www.ukipne.org/pcc

Twitter: @tsfedchair

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Steve-Matthews-UKIP-210339422650924>

This address was prepared by Election Agent Steve Matthews of 3 Battersby Green, Carlton, Stockton on Tees, TS211PN.

Matthew Alexander Vickers

The Conservative Party Candidate



Election statement:

A study of official home office statistics reveals that last year you were more likely to be a victim of crime in Cleveland than anywhere else in the country, the force has been criticised in an independent inspection for the way it is spending public money and it desperately needs change. Matthew would deliver a force where victims are put first, money is spent wisely and more officer time is spent actually policing.

Matthew is a local lad, having lived in the area all his life. He was born at North Tees Hospital, attended local schools and graduated from Teesside University. He is a councillor in Stockton with a strong reputation of standing up for local people and fighting wasteful spending. Matthew has a background in local business. Having completed a business degree, he worked in retail management for major companies. He also takes a keen interest in his family's construction firm.

Matthew is passionate about law enforcement and crime prevention. He is a law graduate and has served on Stockton's Crime & Disorder Committee and Cleveland's Police & Crime Panel.

Matthew has a five-point plan to improve Cleveland Police:

- **Cutting Crime** will be his number one objective
- **Reducing paperwork & bureaucracy** and making use of technology to ensure our officers can spend **more time**

actually policing. He'd also look to recruit more special constables.

- Supporting **tougher community sentences** so justice can be seen to be done.
- Pushing for more visible and effective **neighbourhood policing.** He'd reduce the amount of money spent on senior officers' salaries and the back office to free up more resource to put more officers onto the streets.
- **Building trust** in our police force and cleaning up its tarnished reputation.

Contact details

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Prepared by Laura Tunney as Election Agent, 6a DTV Business Centre, TS19 0GD.

Statement by the Police Area Returning Officer for Cleveland

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 Cleveland.

Police and Crime Commissioner Elections will be held in Cleveland on 5th May 2016; the candidates standing in that election, alphabetically by surname (as they will appear on the ballot paper), are:

- Alam, Sultan (Independent)
- Coppinger, John Barry (Labour Party)
- Matthews, Steve (UK Independence Party (UKIP))
- Vickers, Matthew Alexander (The Conservative Party Candidate)

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