

## Research Briefing

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# PCC Elections 2021

## Summary

- 1 Background
- 2 Summary of results
- 3 Results by party
- 4 By Elections
- 5 Candidates and turnout information
- 6 Appendix

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# Contents

<b>Summary</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1 Background</b>	<b>7</b>
What are PCCs?	7
Why 39 PCCs?	7
What do PCCs do?	8
Electoral Process and Timing	8
Who can stand?	9
<b>2 Summary of results</b>	<b>10</b>
Winners and second place by party	12
<b>3 Results by party</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4 By Elections</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>5 Candidates and turnout information</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>5.1 Candidates</b>	<b>21</b>
Candidates by gender	21
<b>5.2 Turnout</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>6 Appendix</b>	<b>23</b>

## Summary

On Thursday 6 May 2021 the third elections for Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) took place in 39 PCC areas in England and Wales. The election in Wiltshire was re-run in August because the candidate with the most votes was disqualified for having a driving related conviction taking the total number of PCC elections to 39.

The first PCC elections were held in 2012 and the [supplementary vote system](#) has been used for all three election cycles.

## Results

Of the 39 PCC elections which elected a candidate in 2021, 35 were in England and four in Wales. Eight of these candidates were female (21% of successful candidates).

In England, 30 of the 35 successful candidates were Conservative (86%), and five of the successful candidates were Labour (14%).

Of the four PCC elections in Wales, three Labour candidates were successful, and one from Plaid Cymru.

The Conservatives were the only party to gain any PCCs compared to 2016 (+10), Labour lost six, Plaid Cymru lost one, and independents lost all three of their PCCs to Conservative candidates.

## Candidates and turnout

The 39 elections were contested by 165 candidates: 39 Conservative, 39 Labour, 39 Liberal Democrat, 4 Plaid Cymru, 6 Green, 18 independents and 20 others. The Democracy Club estimated that 22% of candidates were female.

Turnout averaged 33.2% across the 38 PCC elections held in May (measured as valid first preference votes as a proportion of the electorate). Turnout was on average much higher in the Welsh PCC elections compared to the English.

### PCC successful election candidates

	CON	LAB	LD	GRN	PC	Oth
2016	20	14	0	0	2	3
2021	30	8	0	0	1	0
Change 2016 to 2021	+10	-6	0	0	-1	-3

## Comparisons with 2016 PCC election results

Comparisons with 2016 are made with the same 39 PCCs that successfully elected candidates in 2021. For full detail on the results of the 2016 PCC Election which includes West Yorkshire and Wiltshire please refer to the House of Commons Library briefing, [Police and Crime Commissioner Elections 2016](#)

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# 1 Background

## What are PCCs?

Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) are directly elected individuals responsible for securing an “effective and efficient” police force for their area.<sup>1</sup> Their main purpose is to set the strategy for the police force and hold it to account. They can hire and, if necessary, fire, chief constables.

There are currently 39 PCCs in England and Wales. Five of them, the PCCs for Essex, Staffordshire, West Mercia, Northamptonshire and Cambridge, also hold responsibilities relating to their local Fire & Rescue Service. These PCCs are technically known as Police, Fire & Crime Commissioners (PFCCs). Throughout this briefing the term PCC includes PFCCs.

PCCs were created by the [Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011](#) to replace Police Authorities in England and Wales. The first elections were held in 41 police force areas in November 2012.

The previous PCC elections took place in 40 police force areas in 2016. The election results are set out in the Library’s briefing [Police and Crime Commissioner Elections: 2016](#).

Further information on PCCs is given in Commons Library Briefing Paper, [Police and Crime Commissioners](#).

## Why 39 PCCs?

There are 43 geographic police forces across England and Wales, however four of these did not hold PCC elections in 2021.

In London, the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime took over from the Metropolitan Police Authority in January 2012, while the City of London Police retained a police authority.

Similarly, in Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire, as part of the devolution deal, the elected mayors there have taken over PCC functions and so PCC elections were not held in 2016 and 2021 in Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire respectively.

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<sup>1</sup> [s1\(6\), Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011](#).

## What do PCCs do?

PCCs have three core functions:

- **Police governance:** They set an annual budget and a five-year police and crime plan for their force.<sup>2</sup> As part of their budgetary responsibilities they set the council tax precept for their police force area. They are also responsible for appointing a chief officer to lead their force.<sup>3</sup>
- **Police oversight:** They are responsible for scrutinising their force's performance and holding their chief officer accountable for the delivery of their police and crime plan.<sup>4</sup> They also play a role delivering the local police complaints system.
- **Commissioning criminal justice services:** They are responsible for commissioning victims' services and some crime prevention programmes in their police force area.<sup>5</sup>

The remit of PCCs has expanded since their introduction. For example, PCCs took over commissioning for the majority of victims' services in October 2014. The [Conservative Party Manifesto 2015](#) promised to develop the role further. The [Policing and Crime Act 2017](#)<sup>6</sup> enabled police and crime commissioners to take on responsibility for fire and rescue services where a local case is made. It also gave PCCs a much greater role in the police complaints system.

## Electoral Process and Timing

On Thursday 6 May 2021 the third elections for Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) took place in England and Wales. These elections were due to take place in May 2020 but were postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.<sup>7</sup>

PCC elections (usually) take place every four years. People who are registered to vote at local government elections are entitled to vote for the PCC in that area. The Supplementary Vote system is used; the same system is used for directly elected mayors in England, including the Mayor of London.

There are two columns on a ballot paper. Voters can mark an X in the first column for their first choice candidate and another X in the second column for

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<sup>2</sup> s41, *Police Act 1996* & s5, *Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011*. **Note:** The version of the 1996 Act on [www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) is not up to date with latest amendments and therefore weblinks to the 1996 Act have been omitted throughout this briefing. MPs and their staff can access an updated version of the 1996 Act via [Library resources](#).

<sup>3</sup> s38, *Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011*

<sup>4</sup> s1(7-8), *Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011*

<sup>5</sup> s143, *Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014*

<sup>6</sup> The *Policing and Crime Bill* is a carry-over Bill currently going through Parliament

<sup>7</sup> Cabinet Office, [Postponement of May 2020 elections](#), 13 March 2020

their second choice. A candidate who receives more than 50% of the first preference votes on the first count is elected.

If no candidate reaches 50% in the first round, the two candidates with the highest number of votes are retained. The ballot papers showing a first preference for eliminated candidates are checked for their second preference. Any second preference votes for the two remaining candidates are then added to the candidates' first preference votes. The candidate with the most votes then wins.

## Who can stand?

Candidates must be:

- at least 18 years old on the day of nomination;
- a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of any other member state of the European Union; and
- registered as a local government elector in a local council area that is within the police area in which the candidate wishes to stand, both at the time of nomination and on polling day.

There are a number of disqualifications. For example, individuals cannot stand if they:

- are a police officer or are directly or indirectly employed by the police;
- have ever been convicted of an imprisonable offence; or
- are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Sections 64-69, *Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011*, as amended. See also Electoral Commission, *Police and Crime Commissioner Elections in England and Wales Guidance for Candidates and Agents* [Part 1 of 6: Can you stand for election?](#)



## 2 Summary of results

In 2021 there were 39 PCC elections which successfully elected a candidate: 35 in England, and four in Wales. 21% of these successful candidates were women.

The first preference vote share of the Conservatives increased +14.4 percentage points (compared to 2016) to 43.8%. The first preference vote share of the Conservatives increased in every PCC apart from Gwent (-1.9 percentage points) and Surrey (-1.8 percentage points).

In contrast Labour's vote share decreased in most PCCs (23 out of 38). Labour's vote share overall decreased 2.8 percentage points to 30.7%.

The largest overall decline in vote share was from independents and other parties, which decreased 16.8 percentage points to 7.7%. In 2016, UKIP received 13.6% of first preference votes but did not stand any candidates in 2021.

### Results by party, May 2021

	Number of first preference votes	Percentage of first preference votes	Number of candidates	Number elected	Percentage of PCCs elected
<b>CON</b>	4,797,300	44%	39	30	77%
<b>LAB</b>	3,362,610	31%	39	8	21%
<b>LD</b>	1,478,792	13%	39	0	0%
<b>GRN</b>	257,530	2%	6	0	0%
<b>PC</b>	247,519	2%	4	1	3%
<b>Oth</b>	873,185	8%	38	0	0%
of which:					
Independent	537,533	5%	18	0	0%
Reform UK	118,987	1%	12	0	0%
Zero Tolerance Policing	59,554	1%	1	0	0%
English Democrats	46,218	0.4%	2	0	0%
Lincolnshire Independents	18,375	0.2%	1	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,016,936</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note: In some PCCs more than one independent candidate stood.

Source: House of Commons Library

The Conservatives were the only party to gain PCCs in 2021 (+10), Labour lost 6, and Plaid Cymru lost one leaving it with one (Dyfed-Powys). Independents lost all three of their PCCs (Avon and Somerset, Dorset, and Gloucestershire)

to Conservative candidates. This was the first time that no independent candidates were elected. As in 2016, the Liberal Democrats and the Green Party did not win any PCC elections.

PCC successful election candidates						
	CON	LAB	LD	GRN	PC	Oth
2016	20	14	0	0	2	3
2021	30	8	0	0	1	0
Change 2016 to 2021	+10	-6	0	0	-1	-3

Note: Excludes West Yorkshire for comparison purposes

Source: House of Commons Library

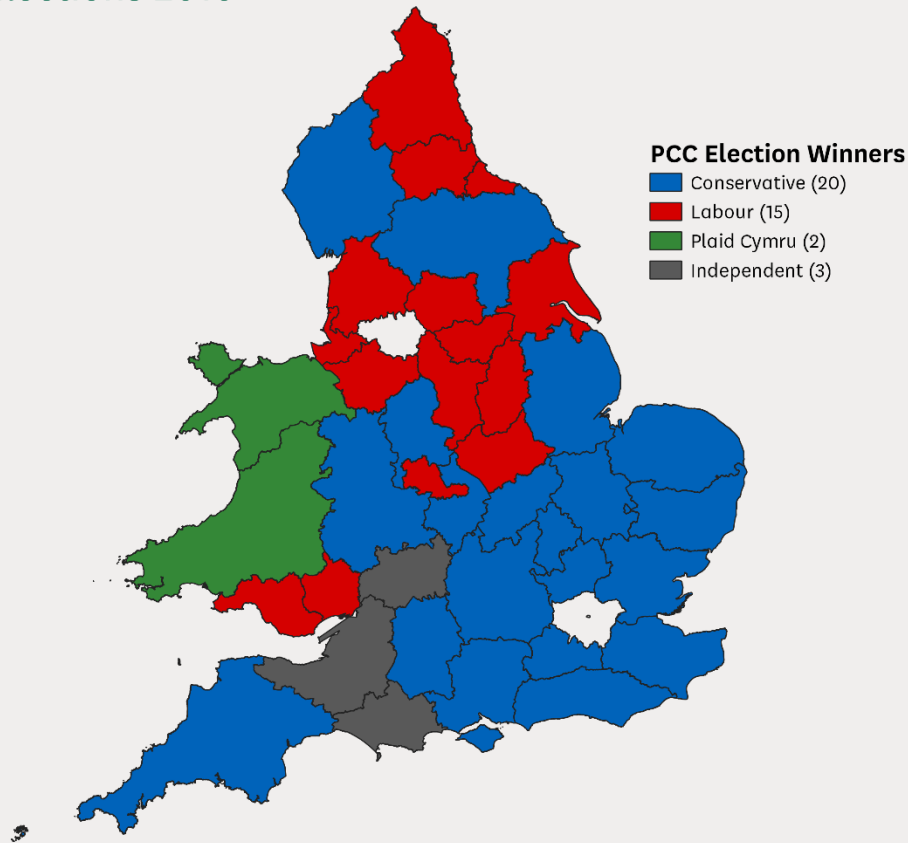
In England, 30 of the 35 successful candidates were Conservative (86% of successful candidates), and 5 of the successful candidates were Labour (14% of successful candidates).

Of the four PCC elections in Wales, three returned Labour candidates, and one a Plaid Cymru candidate.

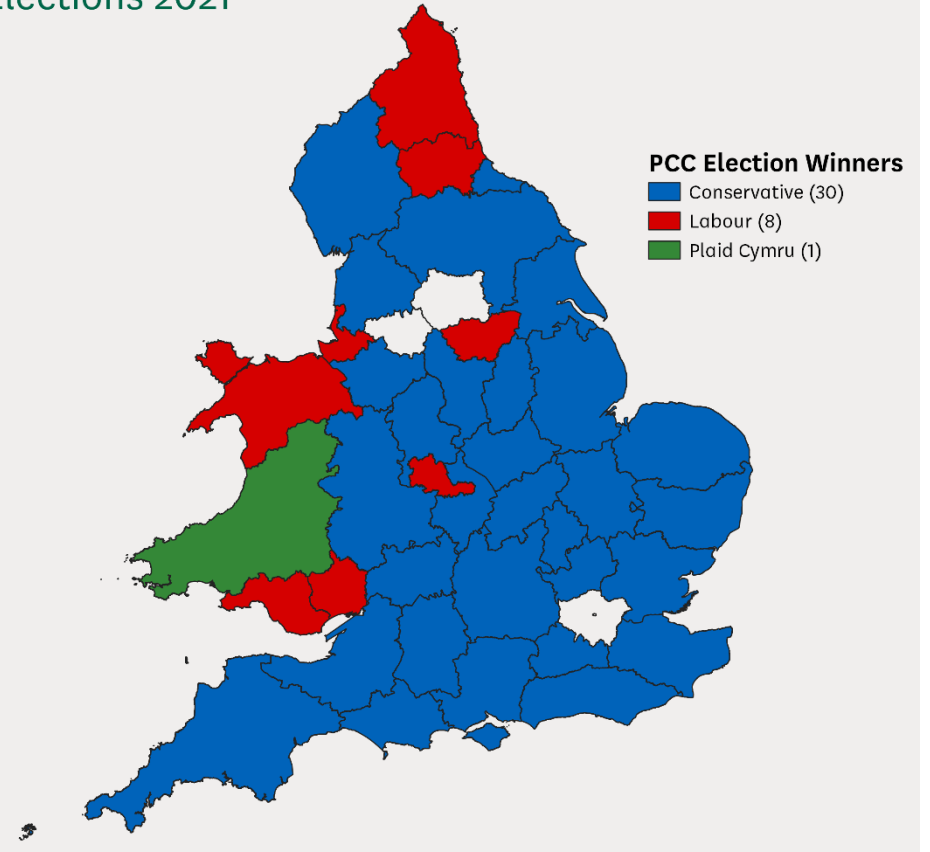
In England and Wales combined, the Conservative party received 44% of first preference votes but successfully elected 76% of the 38 PCCs. The opposite trend was observed for every other party, for example, Labour received 31% of first preference votes but only successfully elected 21% of the 38 PCCs, while the Liberal Democrats received 13% of first preference votes and returned no successful candidates.

The difference in the total number of PCC elections in England in 2016 and 2021 is because one authority – West Yorkshire – has a new metro mayor that also assumes the role of PCC.

## PCC Elections 2016



## PCC Elections 2021



Note: 2016 includes Wiltshire and West Yorkshire

Source: House of Commons Library

## Winners and second place by party

Of the 39 PCC elections that successfully elected a candidate:

- 13 candidates achieved more than 50% of the first round vote (10 Conservative candidates and 3 Labour candidates). This means that second preference votes are not counted and therefore not published.
- 26 PCCs were elected without achieving more than 50% of the first round vote. This means that second preference votes were counted for the two candidates with the highest number of votes. In these elections the Labour and Conservative candidates were in first and second place 80% of the time.
- Two Conservative candidates that won the highest proportion of first round votes were not successfully elected following the second round. Both of these elections were in Wales (Dyfed-Powys and North Wales).
- Where the Conservatives won, Labour came second in 24 out of 30 seats (80%). Where Labour won, the Conservatives came second in all 8 of these seats.
- Overall, the Conservatives came second in 24% of all the seats, Labour 66%, Liberal Democrats 5%, and Independents 5%. The Green Party and Plaid Cymru did not come second in any seats.

## 3

## Results by party

## Conservative

- The Conservatives won 30 PCC seats, over three quarters of all available.
- The Conservatives won the greatest share of the first preference vote compared to any other party (44%), an increase of 14.4 percentage points compared to 2016.
- The Conservatives performed best in Lincolnshire (59.9% of first preference votes) and worst in Merseyside (22.9%).
- The biggest increase of first preference vote share occurred in Cleveland (+31.4 percentage points) and the largest drop in Gwent (-1.9 percentage points).

## Summary: 2021 and changes 2016-2021

	Elections won		First preference votes		
	2021	Change	Number	%	% pts change
All areas	30	+11	4,797,300	43.8%	+14.4

## Vote shares and changes

	Highest/lowest share of first preference votes		Largest/smallest increases in share of vote from 2016 (% pts)	
<b>Highest/largest</b>	1 Lincolnshire	59.9%	Cleveland	+31.4
	2 Kent	57.8%	Devon & Cornwall	+25.6
	3 Staffordshire	57.1%	Kent	+24.7
<b>Lowest/smallest</b>	1 Merseyside	22.9%	Gwent	-1.9
	2 Durham	23.6%	Surrey	-1.8
	3 South Wales	23.7%	Durham	0.0

## Labour

- Labour won 8 PCC seats, 21% of all available.
- Labour won 31% of first preference votes, a decrease of 2.8 percentage points compared to 2016.
- Labour performed best in Durham (64% of first preference votes) and worst in Dorset (11%).
- The biggest increase of first preference vote share occurred in Kent (+6.2 percentage points) and the largest drop in Cleveland (-12.1 percentage points).

## Summary: 2021 and changes 2017-2021

	Elections won		First preference votes		
	2021	Change	Number	%	% pts change
All areas	8	-6	3,362,610	30.7%	-2.8

## Vote shares and changes

	Highest/lowest share of first preference votes		Largest/smallest increases in share of vote from 2016 (% pts)	
<b>Highest/largest</b>	1 Durham	63.8%	Kent	+6.2
	2 Merseyside	56.9%	Dyfed-Powys	+5.1
	3 South Yorkshire	53.9%	North Wales	+3.4
<b>Lowest/smallest</b>	1 Dorset	10.9%	Cleveland	-12.1
	2 Surrey	12.1%	Leicestershire	-11.4
	3 Gloucestershire	16.1%	Northumbria	-8.7

## Plaid Cymru

- Plaid Cymru won 1 PCC seat, 3% of all available.
- There were 4 Plaid Cymru candidates standing.
- Plaid Cymru won 2% of the first preference vote in England & Wales, a decrease of 0.5 percentage points.
- Plaid Cymru performed best in Dyfed-Powys (34% of first preference votes) and worst in Gwent (16% of first preference votes).
- In Dyfed-Powys the Conservative party candidate received the highest proportion of first preference votes, however after second preference votes were taken into account, the Plaid Cymru candidate was declared the winner.

### Summary: 2016 and changes 2012-2016

	Elections won		First preference votes		
	2021	Change	Number	%	% pts
All areas	1	-1	247,519	2.3%	-0.5

### Vote shares and changes

	Highest/lowest share of first preference votes		Largest/smallest increases in share of vote from 2016 (% pts)	
	Rank	Share	Rank	Change
<b>Highest/largest</b>	1 Dyfed-Powys	33.6%	Dyfed-Powys	+5.6
	2 North Wales	28.4%	South Wales	+1.1
	3 South Wales	19.0%	North Wales	-3.1
<b>Lowest/smallest</b>	1 Gwent	16.2%	Gwent	-6.7
	2 n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	3 n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

## Independents and other parties

- Independents and other parties did not win any of the available PCC seats.
- There were 17 independents candidates and 19 other parties candidates.
- Independents and other parties won 8% of the first preference vote in England & Wales, a decrease of 16.8 percentage points. The decrease was mainly driven by UKIP which did not stand any candidates.
- Independents and other parties performed best in Surrey (34%) and worst in Cambridgeshire (3%).

### Summary: 2016 and changes 2012-2016

	Elections won		First preference votes		
	2021	Change	Number	%	% pts change
All areas	0	-3	873,185	7.7%	-16.8

### Vote shares and changes

	Highest/lowest share of first preference votes	
	Rank	Share
<b>Highest/largest</b>	1 Surrey	33.6%
	2 Wiltshire	27.5%
	3 Dorset	20.6%
<b>Lowest/smallest</b>	1 Cambridgeshire	3.5%
	2 Lincolnshire	3.6%
	3 Cheshire	3.7%

## Liberal Democrats

- The Liberal Democrats did not win any of the available PCC seats.
- The Liberal Democrats won 13% of the first preference vote, an increase of 5.0 percentage points from 2016.
- The Liberal Democrats performed best in Hertfordshire (27% of first preference votes) and worst in Gwent (4% of first preference votes).
- The biggest increase of vote share occurred in West Mercia (+9.0 percentage points) and the largest drop was in Dyfed-Powys (-2.4 percentage points).

### Summary: 2021 and changes 2017-2021

	Elections won		First preference votes		
	2021	Change	Number	%	% pts change
All areas	0	0	1,478,792	13.4%	+5.0

### Vote shares and changes

	Highest/lowest share of first preference votes		Largest/smallest increases in share of vote from 2016 (% pts)	
<b>Highest/largest</b>	1 Hertfordshire	27.4%	West Mercia	+9.0
	2 Cambridgeshire	22.3%	Kent	+9.6
	3 Surrey	20.7%	Hertfordshire	+11.2
<b>Lowest/smallest</b>	1 Gwent	4.2%	Dyfed-Powys	-2.4
	2 North Wales	4.3%	Derbyshire	-1.7
	3 Staffordshire	4.5%	South Wales	-1.6

## Green

- The Greens did not win any of the available PCC seats.
- Green candidates stood in 6 PCC seats.
- The Greens won 1.3% of the first preference vote in England & Wales, an increase of 1.0 percentage points.
- The Greens performed best in Avon and Somerset (16% of first preference votes) and worst in Norfolk (10% of first preference votes).
- The Greens outperformed the Liberal Democrats in 3 PCC seats: Avon & Somerset, Dorset, and Suffolk.

### Summary: 2021 and changes 2017-2021

	Elections won		First preference votes		
	2021	Change	Number	%	% pts change
All areas	0	0	257,530	2.4%	+1.0

### Vote shares and changes

	Highest/lowest share of first preference votes	
<b>Highest/largest</b>	1 Avon & Somerset	16.4%
	2 Dorset	14.1%
	3 Suffolk	13.6%
<b>Lowest/smallest</b>	1 Norfolk	10.2%
	2 Devon & Cornwall	12.0%
	3 Sussex	13.4%

## Results by PCC, May 2021

	Name of winner	Party	% of total first preference vote	Turnout	Incumbent/ Not incumbent	Gender	2016 result
Avon & Somerset	Mark Shelford	Con	34.7%	30.2%	Not Incumbent	Male	Ind
Bedfordshire	Festus Akinbusoye	Con	42.4%	26.1%	Not Incumbent	Male	Con
Cambridgeshire	Darryl Preston	Con	42.9%	36.2%	Not Incumbent	Male	Con
Cheshire	John Dwyer	Con	44.5%	23%	Not Incumbent	Male	Lab
Cleveland	Stephen Turner	Con	54.2%	32.8%	Not Incumbent	Male	Lab
Cumbria	Peter McCall	Con	53.6%	27.1%	Incumbent	Male	Con
Derbyshire	Angelique Foster	Con	49.4%	34.7%	Not Incumbent	Female	Lab
Devon & Cornwall	Alison Hernandez	Con	50.0%	36.1%	Incumbent	Female	Con
Dorset	David Sidwick	Con	42.5%	25.1%	Not Incumbent	Male	Ind
Durham	Ron Hogg	Lab	63.8%	16.9%	Incumbent	Male	Lab
Dyfed-Powys	Dafydd Llywelyn	PC	33.6%	50.6%	Incumbent	Male	PC
Essex	Roger Hirst	Con	54.0%	50.6%	Incumbent	Male	Con
Gloucestershire	Chris Nelson	Con	40.6%	39.7%	Not Incumbent	Male	Ind
Gwent	Jeff Cuthbert	Lab	41.8%	41.0%	Incumbent	Male	Lab
Hampshire	Donna Jones	Con	49.8%	35.2%	Not Incumbent	Female	Con
Hertfordshire	David Lloyd	Con	48.5%	36.3%	Incumbent	Male	Con
Humberside	Jonathan Evison	Con	45.6%	22.4%	Not Incumbent	Male	Lab
Kent	Matthew Scott	Con	57.8%	31.0%	Incumbent	Male	Con
Lancashire	Andrew Snowden	Con	44.8%	33.7%	Not Incumbent	Male	Lab
Leicestershire	Rupert Matthews	Con	49.3%	30.2%	Not Incumbent	Male	Lab
Lincolnshire	Marc Jones	Con	59.9%	30.2%	Incumbent	Male	Con
Merseyside	Emily Spurrell	Lab	56.9%	29.7%	Not Incumbent	Female	Lab
Norfolk	Giles Orpen-Smellie	Con	45.1%	32.9%	Not Incumbent	Male	Con
North Wales	Andrew Dunbobbin	Lab	29.1%	45.4%	Not Incumbent	Male	PC
North Yorkshire	Phillip Allott	Con	47.0%	24.9%	Not Incumbent	Male	Con
Northamptonshire	Stephen Mold	Con	53.2%	24.9%	Incumbent	Male	Con
Northumbria	Cara McGuinness	Lab	46.6%	35.9%	Not Incumbent	Female	Lab
Nottinghamshire	Caroline Henry	Con	47.9%	33.2%	Not Incumbent	Female	Lab
South Wales	Alun Michael	Lab	41.0%	43.9%	Incumbent	Male	Lab
South Yorkshire	Alan Roy	Lab	53.9%	30.2%	Not Incumbent	Male	Lab
Staffordshire	Ben Adams	Con	57.1%	28.2%	Not Incumbent	Male	Con
Suffolk	Timothy Passmore	Con	54.7%	35.8%	Incumbent	Male	Con
Surrey	Lisa Townsend	Con	33.5%	37.9%	Not Incumbent	Female	Con
Sussex	Katy Bourne	Con	47.3%	34.9%	Incumbent	Female	Con
Thames Valley	Matthew Barber	Con	42.5%	34.9%	Not Incumbent	Male	Con
Warwickshire	Phillip Seccombe	Con	52.1%	36.9%	Incumbent	Male	Con
West Mercia	John-Paul Champion	Con	55.3%	33.0%	Incumbent	Male	Con
West Midlands	Simon Foster	Lab	45.5%	30.2%	Not Incumbent	Male	Lab
Wiltshire	Philip Wilkinson	Con	35.6%	16.6%	Not Incumbent	Male	Con



## 4

## By Elections

### North Yorkshire (25 November 2021)

A by election was held for the position of North Yorkshire Police and Crime commissioner following the resignation of Phillip Allot (Conservative) after comments made about the murder of Sarah Everard<sup>9</sup>.

#### Results

The election was won by the Conservative candidate Zoë Metcalfe with 40% of first preference of votes and a total vote majority of 14,865<sup>10</sup>. Full results are presented below.

North Yorkshire PCC by election results				
First preference votes				
Candidates	Party		First preference votes	%
Zoë Appleton-Metcalfe	Conservative		34,385	40.1%
Emma Scott-Spivey	Labour		18,094	21.1%
Keith Tordoff	Independent		14,988	17.5%
James Barker	Liberal Democrats		9,499	11.1%
Hanna Barham-Brown	Womens Equality Party		8,837	10.3%

Source: [Selby district council first round declaration](#)

North Yorkshire PCC by-election final results				
Second round preference votes				
Candidate	Party	First Preference	Second Preference	Total votes
Zoë Appleton-Metcalfe	Conservative	34,385	7,375	41,760
Emma Scott-Spivey	Labour	18,094	8,801	26,895

Source: [Selby district council second round declaration](#)

<sup>9</sup> [Sarah Everard: Commissioner Phillip Allott resigns](#)- BBC News 14 October 2021

<sup>10</sup> Total vote refers to the sum of first and second preference votes-

## Turnout

Turnout for the by-election was 13.9%, this was 11% lower than in the election in May. It is also the lowest of all PCC elections in 2021, however it is common for turnouts in by-elections to be significantly lower. The full turnout statistics are presented below:

North Yorkshire by-election turnout	
	Count
Total number of ballot papers verified	86,973
Invalid votes (first preference)	1,165
Electorate	623,821
<b>Turnout</b>	<b>13.9%</b>

Source: [Selby district council results declaration](#)

## 5 Candidates and turnout information

### 5.1 Candidates

A total of 165 candidates stood in the 39 PCC elections which successfully elected a candidate on 6 May 2021 or 19 August (Wiltshire). Of these, 39 candidates were Conservative, 39 Labour, 39 Liberal Democrat, 4 Plaid Cymru, 6 Green, 18 Independents, and 20 others.

Of the same 39 PCCs that were elected in 2016, 21 stood for re-election (12 Conservative, 1 Independent, 7 Labour, and 1 Plaid Cymru).

The number of candidates standing in each of these 38 elections ranged between three and six. The mode (most common) number of candidates standing was four.

#### Candidates by gender

The Democracy Club and the Fawcett Society estimated that across the 2021 local elections, Police and Crime Commissioner elections were the least representative of women. Women made up an estimated 22% of PCC candidates. This is broadly in line with the proportion of successful candidates that were women (21%).

In 11 of 39 PCC elections (over a quarter) no female candidates stood at all.

### 5.2 Turnout

Turnout figures were collated from each PCC individually where this information was not publicly available. Four PCCs did not respond to requests for data and so have been excluded.

Turnout averaged 33.2% across the 38 elections that took place in May (measured as valid first preference votes as a proportion of the electorate). Turnout was on average much higher in the Welsh PCCs compared to the English PCCs.

As in 2016, the three police areas with the highest turnout were all in Wales Dyfed-Powys (50.6%), North Wales (45.4%) and South Wales (43.9%). The

three police areas with the lowest turnout were Wiltshire<sup>11</sup> (16.6%) Durham (16.9%), Humberside (22.4%) and North Yorkshire (24.9%). In 2021, PCC elections coincided with several other local elections. This may have had a positive impact on turnout.

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<sup>11</sup> Wiltshire election was held later (August) than all other PCC elections, hence turnout is likely to be affected by lack of national attention that was surrounding the first PCC elections in May

## 6 Appendix

### Detailed results by PCC, May 2021

	2016 result	2021 result	Turnout	% of first preference votes							% of second preference votes						
				Con	Lab	PC	Lib	Green	Ind	Other	Con	Lab	PC	Lib	Green	Ind	Other
Avon & Somerset	Ind	Con	30.2%	35%	24%	-	13%	16%	12%	-	32%	68%	-	-	-	-	-
Bedfordshire	Con	Con	26.1%	42%	35%	-	13%	-	7%	3%	50%	50%	-	-	-	-	-
Cambridgeshire	Con	Con	36.2%	43%	31%	-	22%	-	-	3%	53%	47%	-	-	-	-	-
Cheshire	Lab	Con	23%	45%	37%	-	14%	-	-	4%	43%	57%	-	-	-	-	-
Cleveland	Lab	Con	32.8%	54%	29%	-	5%	-	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cumbria	Con	Con	27.1%	54%	26%	-	20%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Derbyshire	Lab	Con	34.7%	49%	38%	-	9%	-	-	4%	48%	52%	-	-	-	-	-
Devon & Cornwall	Con	Con	36.1%	50%	20%	-	18%	12%	-	-	37%	63%	-	-	-	-	-
Dorset	Ind	Con	25.1%	43%	11%	-	12%	14%	21%	-	34%	-	-	-	-	66%	-
Durham	Lab	Lab	16.9%	24%	64%	-	13%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dyfed-Powys	PC	PC	50.6%	34%	24%	34%	9%	-	-	-	24%	-	76%	-	-	-	-
Essex	Con	Con	32.5%	54%	23%	-	13%	-	-	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gloucestershire	Ind	Con	39.7%	41%	16%	-	19%	-	18%	-	34%	-	-	66%	-	-	-
Gwent	Lab	Lab	41.0%	29%	42%	16%	4%	-	8%	1%	33%	67%	-	-	-	-	-
Hampshire	Con	Con	35.2%	50%	19%	-	18%	-	-	13%	55%	45%	-	-	-	-	-
Hertfordshire	Con	Con	36.3%	49%	24%	-	27%	-	-	-	21%	-	-	79%	-	-	-
Humberside	Lab	Con	22.4%	46%	39%	-	15%	-	-	-	45%	55%	-	-	-	-	-
Kent	Con	Con	31.0%	58%	25%	-	17%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lancashire	Lab	Con	33.7%	45%	42%	-	9%	-	-	5%	45%	55%	-	-	-	-	-
Leicestershire	Lab	Con	30.2%	49%	33%	-	17%	-	-	-	41%	59%	-	-	-	-	-
Lincolnshire	Con	Con	30.2%	60%	20%	-	6%	-	-	4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Merseyside	Lab	Lab	29.7%	23%	57%	-	17%	-	-	4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Norfolk	Con	Con	32.9%	45%	22%	-	14%	10%	9%	-	46%	54%	-	-	-	-	-
North Wales	PC	Lab	45.4%	32%	29%	28%	4%	-	7%	-	34%	66%	-	-	-	-	-
North Yorkshire	Con	Con	24.9%	47%	26%	-	13%	-	14%	-	47%	53%	-	-	-	-	-
Northamptonshire	Con	Con	34.8%	53%	28%	-	15%	-	-	4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northumbria	Lab	Lab	35.9%	31%	47%	-	11%	-	12%	-	44%	56%	-	-	-	-	-
Nottinghamshire	Lab	Con	33.2%	48%	43%	-	9%	-	-	-	38%	62%	-	-	-	-	-
South Wales	Lab	Lab	43.9%	24%	41%	19%	5%	-	9%	3%	34%	66%	-	-	-	-	-
South Yorkshire	Lab	Lab	30.2%	32%	54%	-	14%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staffordshire	Con	Con	28.2%	57%	28%	-	4%	-	8%	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suffolk	Con	Con	35.8%	55%	23%	-	9%	14%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surrey	Con	Con	37.9%	34%	12%	-	21%	-	16%	18%	50%	-	-	50%	-	-	-
Sussex	Con	Con	34.9%	47%	19%	-	14%	13%	7%	-	41%	59%	-	-	-	-	-
Thames Valley	Con	Con	34.9%	42%	28%	-	17%	-	12%	-	44%	56%	-	-	-	-	-
Warwickshire	Con	Con	36.9%	52%	28%	-	16%	-	-	4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Mercia	Con	Con	33.0%	55%	24%	-	16%	-	-	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Midlands	Lab	Lab	30.2%	39%	46%	-	6%	-	5%	3%	45%	55%	-	-	-	-	-
Wiltshire	Con	Con	16.6%	36%	14%	-	20%	-	28%	2%	35%	65%	-	-	-	-	-

Notes: “-” represents where a candidate from that party did not stand, or did not qualify for second preference votes to be counted

Source: House of Commons Library

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