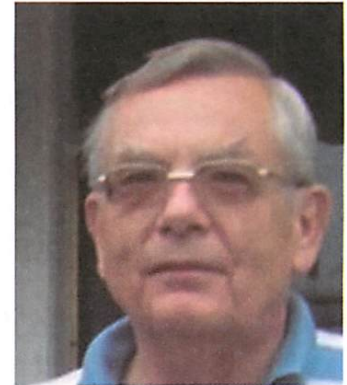


John Pye

Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Candidate's Statement



About Me

I'm known as JP. My RAF career was split between operational, planning and strategic roles, including ten years in Whitehall. I did 17 different jobs in working my way to becoming an air commodore. About a third were about starting and shaping something brand new – as the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has to do.

I left the RAF early to join the British Antarctic Survey, where I was the Board Member responsible for most of the non-science activities - from business planning to the operation of bases, ships and aircraft on the other side of the world.

I think strategically, I get things done and I am used to leading change in a complex environment. These are the skills that I have brought to my community activities in recent years - and they are the skills I bring to the role of PCC.

You can find out more about me and my thinking at: www.jpforcambridgeshirepcc.co.uk

My Commitment

Preserving the operational independence of the police is a constitutional must for me. I am Conservative through to my bones – but I'm also non-political. My conviction is that the PCC must be, and be seen to be, non-political and impartial. And that is the position I will take.

It should help win votes as a strong theme, in local website comments and to those whom I speak, is that people do not want don't want political policing. The partisan statements from the Labour candidate illustrate the conflict between political imperatives and the bounden duty of the PCC to provide effective and efficient policing for the community.

I am very encouraged that the Party wants to consider people like me to find the right candidate. See what the Party says at

http://www.conservatives.com/Get_involved/Police_and_Crime_Commissioner_Elections.aspx

The PCC Role

The PCC is a special role. Being the voice of people is representative, but the role of governing the police and reducing crime is an executive one. It requires an understanding of the local issues, business skills and credibility. We will all agree that it is vital to make a success of this flagship Conservative policy.

Read about what it takes to be a PCC at

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/have-got-what-takes/got-what-it-takes>

The Challenges

Improving Police Performance.

Crime has never been lower locally. The Force is in good shape. The Chief Constable has grasped the challenges of austerity by reorganising and working collaboratively. Unlike other Forces, we do not have the spectre of front line cuts.

At my request, the Chief Constable included in this year's policing plan his personal commitment to maintain local policing numbers. Our police performance issues are about continued improvement and changes in emphasis, especially the raising of public confidence and doing more to tackle antisocial behaviour.

A bigger puzzle - how do we get better at reducing re-offending and the number of entrants to the criminal justice system?

This is complicated and relies on working effectively with the community safety partnerships. And here, the PCC's new commissioning role offers a great opportunity to make progress.

Engaging the public is the trickiest challenge?

Even by the best measure, only 4% of the more than 360-thousand households have signed up to E-cops. There are pessimistic predictions about election turn out – some as low as 10%.

We all have a role to play to excite the public's interest if the PCC is to have a credible electoral mandate. I'll work with and learn from the Associations in the campaign.

I'll also seek the Party's advice about choosing a part time deputy and the setting up a small advisory panel to help me in office to test ideas and understand what the public want.

The PCC will have to hit the ground running.

At best, there are only 86 working days between taking office and the end of the financial year. There is a lot to be done in that time, including the technical and statutory business of becoming what is called a Corporations Sole.

More important, will be establishing effective relationships, producing and consulting on the Police & Crime Plan, and deciding the precept – and both the Plan and precept decision will have to go through the Police and Crime Panel. Only someone with both the executive ability and current knowledge of the policing scene can get the PCC off to an effective start.

Choosing Me

I'm the candidate if you want someone who:

- Has a wealth of experience, with the executive and communication skills.
- Knows the local policing scene and the character of disciplined organisations.
- Will set the priorities the public want.
- Has a clear practical vision of what the PCC needs to do to.
- Will make a success of their first term to put the Party in the best electoral position next time round.