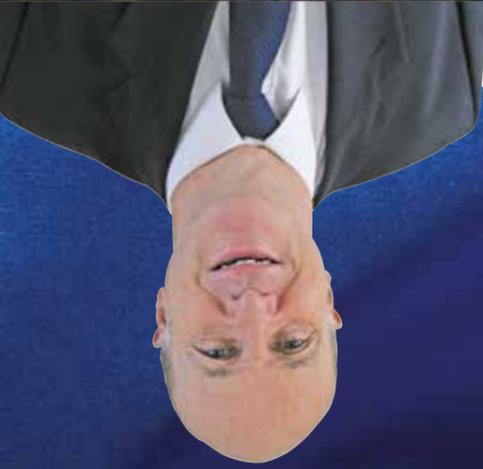




Theresa May supports Andy Pratt



Your priorities are my priorities



INSIDE: Putting Lancashire First!

Andy Pratt

Community Key to Tackling Crime

Conservative Police and Crime Commissioner candidate Andy Pratt has stated his belief that a strong community helps to reduce crime. By encouraging agencies and community groups to be vigilant and work together, Andy believes a lot of problems in our society can be tackled head on. This includes looking after the most vulnerable in society and educating our young people to respect those from other cultures to help bring our communities closer together.



Making you safer and more secure

I believe that security begins at home – the most important duty of any government is to keep its people safe. That's why we've taken the steps to cut crime and protect the frontline, even as we reduce the deficit. And it is why, for the next four years, we have protected the overall police budget. As Conservative PCs have shown, it's only with the Conservatives that taxpayers, citizens and communities can get value for money and safer places to live, work and do business.



Andy Pratt talks exclusively to about his plans for Lancashire

Why do you think the role of Police and Crime Commissioner is so important to the people of Lancashire?

Police and Crime Commissioners have responsibility for multi-million pound policing budgets and help set the priorities for their force, so clearly the role is important. Commissioners are there to hold the police to account on behalf of the public. That's why I would be a proactive Commissioner – holding regular public meetings to make sure I know exactly what each community want their local policing team to focus on.

You have a policing background how useful is this in preparing you for the role?

I started off as a bobby on the beat, working my way up to Superintendent before retiring. I've helped set up the first multi-agency team to tackle child sexual exploitation and have more recently been working with counter terrorism officers across the country. So I know the Police Force inside out, and I want to use this track record and knowledge to support our police officers and make sure residents have a strong and effective force that will protect our communities.



▲ Andy discusses his priorities for Lancashire with the Prime Minister.

Is it an advantage to have a Police and Crime Commissioner from the same party as the Government?

I would work closely with Theresa May and a Conservative Government to ensure that decision makers are pulling in the same direction in the interests of Lancashire and our police force. With me, there won't be any political point scoring or sniping from the sidelines – just hard work and a commitment to putting our local area first.

So what's the choice for Lancashire voters at this election?

I offer Lancashire residents the opportunity to have a retired senior policeman as their Police and Crime Commissioner, holding the police force to account and making sure it works in the interests of local people. I'll work with the Conservative Government to deliver for the people of Lancashire. The choice is very clear – it's either me or soft on crime Jeremy Corbyn's Labour Party candidate.

