

Lisa Townsend

Having lived in Surrey for over 12 years with my husband Ben, I know how vital it is that we have a Police and Crime Commissioner who listens to residents and works with our local police to prioritise tackling the issues they have raised, that is exactly what I promise to do if elected on May 6th.

Throughout my campaign, I have been speaking with residents across Surrey, hearing your concerns and listening to what communities see as the challenges we face coming out of this pandemic.

Neighbourhood Watch plays an extremely important role in building the bridge between our local police and the community. As Police and Crime Commissioner, I would ensure NHW is able to continue the work it does in supporting and facilitating ongoing dialogue between the police and local communities across Surrey.

As part of **my 6-point plan for a safer Surrey**, I have set out a range of measures that will empower our local police while holding them to account. This includes working with our local police to deliver:

- 1. More visible policing.**
- 2. Less anti-social behaviour.**
- 3. Greater police accountability.**
- 4. Improved road safety and enforcement.**
- 5. A tougher stance on County Lines.**
- 6. Local policing priorities.**

So how can NHW help me deliver a safer Surrey and what will I do to support NHW?

In each of my priorities, by empowering our communities with the voice to speak up about issues that matter to them, NHW can make a significant contribution to my plan for a safer Surrey. In particular, with helping to deliver:

- 1. More visible policing.** One of the issues residents have raised with me the most has been the lack of visible policing on our streets, making residents feel unsafe and our police seem detached from the community. This is not good enough. Working with NHW I will be able to liaise with local groups to ensure residents feel there is a more visible police presence and feel safer in their communities. I would like to see NHW expanded across all communities and groups throughout Surrey, something I would support in my role as PCC.

1. Local policing priorities. As I have set out from the beginning of my campaign, it is the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner to listen. If elected on May 6th, I am committed to listening to residents across Surrey to set local policing priorities which put residents' views, concerns and interests at the heart of our plans. Working with NHW Coordinators I would like to see NHW play an important role in this process, facilitating conversation between residents, bolstering a sense of community, and helping to establish and communicate the shared policing priorities for residents across Surrey.

1. Less anti-social behaviour. Having spoken to many residents, anti-social behaviour, no matter how big or how small is a priority that needs more attention. As Police and Crime Commissioner, I will make sure that our police are working with communities across Surrey to better understand and identify hotspots of anti-social activity and targeting offenders. It goes without saying that NHW plays a huge role in helping our police identify this kind of activity. As PCC I will be in regular communication with NHW groups across Surrey, to ensure that the police are being made aware of all anti-social behaviour and acting accordingly to reduce these kinds of activities across our county.

In short, Neighbourhood Watch is an extremely important organisation to us here in Surrey and I truly value the role you play in helping communicate the issues and concerns of residents. This is why as your Police and Crime Commissioner I will be listening to NHW groups across the county, taking into consideration their concerns and working with them to help establish local policing priorities. I am determined to make sure Neighbourhood Watch plays an integral role in helping me deliver on my plan for a safer Surrey.