Ian Chisnall – Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner 2012-16

“The People are the Police and the Police are the People”
Sir Robert Peel

I am delighted to present my manifesto for this significant election, free from Party Political ideology and control. There are no big expensive ideas below; instead I offer accumulative incremental change. Together these will achieve far more than one unaffordable idea. I do however pledge to focus extensively on the involvement of volunteers in crime prevention services which will increase personal and community confidence and enables the Police to be the Police. I am committed to the use of Restorative Justice in all areas where this improves victim satisfaction & reduces reoffending. The PCC must strengthen public confidence in the Police and the morale of dedicated Police Officers and their families.

Sussex is a safe place in which to live & work. As residents we can reduce crime levels and help keep our neighbourhoods safe.

I will be active & accountable in all communities

Sussex Police to strengthen links with Surrey. A more effective Criminal Justice System. Stronger links with statutory, voluntary & private sector agencies.

I will invest resources in order to prevent crime

The professionalism of Sussex Police to inspire excellence & tackle law breakers must be protected; However the internal culture can act as a barrier to wider understanding & acceptance. This barrier must be lowered.

I will promote professional working, not politics

I will collaborate to fix complex problems, not try to blame others
In addition to the main themes shown above, I have identified three priority areas where I will focus my energy and resources:

- Anxiety, the fear of crime and support for Victims of Crime - Sussex is an area with low levels of crime but not all of us feel safe.
- Abuse including Domestic Violence, Hate Crime & Trafficking - These crimes impact on the weakest in society and on our public services.
- Alcohol and Drug support services and a focus on Alcohol sales - Alcohol & Drugs are major factors in crimes against people & property.

I will invest resources in order to Prevent Crime
Sussex Police is a public body that spends £300M each year, yet is poorly funded when compared to comparable areas. As we deal with current and any future cuts my approach will be to focus on preventing crime. This means focusing on the part that we can play together.

a) Supporting volunteering - I will
- Create a volunteering portal for crime prevention activities.
- Establish an annual focus to help recruit and celebrate volunteers.
- Reduce barriers & increase acceptance for volunteers.
- Promote volunteer initiatives working well in other areas.
- Identify innovation and encourage its wider use.
- Facilitate opportunities if skills and willingness are present.
- Work with partners to establish effective community reporting.

b) Commissioning of services - I will
- Support the Young Witness Scheme.
- Honour current funding arrangements/contracts for 2013/14 unless there is a compelling reason for change.
- Establish 3 Yr funding as part of the commissioning process.
- Utilise a prospectus approach for integrated commissioning.
- With Sussex Community Foundation set up a crime prevention fund.

I will be Active & Accountable in Communities
Effective policing of Sussex depends on all residents playing their part in order to reduce crime below the current low levels. My commitment is to make myself available and accessible throughout Sussex. In addition I will:

- Promote greater involvement in crime prevention by residents.
- Develop an early intervention Anti Social Behaviour reduction scheme.
- Work to create Safer Pavements Streets and Roads.
- Promote Restorative Justice across the Criminal Justice System.
- Work to provide suitable support mechanisms for victims of all crimes.
- Work to encourage fair treatment of residents and travellers.
- Support work to deal with cybercrime & cyber bullying.
- Work to reduce Violence Against Women and Girls.
- Work to reduce all forms of Domestic Violence.
- Support the extension of sexual exploitation services across Sussex.
- Support self help groups in order to assist addicts in their recovery.
- Focus on early interventions to address Addiction & Domestic Violence.
• Measure confidence in the Police amongst specific communities.
• Help young people in Sussex improve their life chances.
• Support diversionary work with young people.
• Ensure the needs of businesses are understood by Sussex Police.
• Increase the involvement of businesses in crime prevention.
• Support the work of challenging loan sharks in Sussex.

I will collaborate to fix complex problems
Many of the crimes which impact Sussex have complex causes, or have been triggered by circumstances which should in any event have been addressed for us all to have a better quality of life. As Police & Crime Commissioner I will help build strategic partnerships and I will:

• Work to establish White Ribbon status throughout Sussex.
• Champion an Independent Hate Crime Reporting System.
• Work with partners to address people trafficking.
• Support the establishment of a permanent Mental Health Court.
• Reduce the impact of the nighttime economy in our communities.
• Support work to establish a Family Drug & Alcohol Court for Sussex.
• Establish a Drug Aware scheme for use in Sussex Schools.
• Help link drug and alcohol partnerships & children and family services.
• Work to fill any gaps in Alcohol & Drug services.
• Support the licensed on-trade to professionalise their work.
• Support the establishment of Alcohol Free Pubs.
• Work to stop holding Young People & Women in custody o/side Sussex.
• Establish strong links with the Sussex Health & Well Being Boards.
• Support the use of shared premises and services (eg Seaford).
• Support partnership working between Sussex Police & statutory bodies.
• Work with environmental groups, animal welfare Charities and those involved in country sports to improve understanding and reduce crime.

The PCC promoting professional working
The Police & Crime Commissioner must approach the governance of Sussex Police with fresh eyes, which makes the election of someone from outside the existing Police Authority vital. I have had 8 years experience of acting as a critical friend to Sussex Police, this new role will enable me to bring that experience into the role of Governance working with the Chief Constable who remains responsible for the operational aspects of Policing. I will:

• Establish a new, Restorative Justice based complaints system.
• Ensure mistakes are dealt with in an open and transparent manner.
• Achieve best value procurement by purchasing with other services.
• Champion local suppliers & Fairtrade procurement where appropriate.
• Strengthen the preferred partner status with Surrey Police.
• Explore greater shared services with other organisations in Sussex.
• Adopt Reward and Recognition for people participating in consultation.
• Enhance communication between the Justice System and Victims.
• Support the work of Specials and other volunteers within Sussex Police.
• Work to improve the reporting mechanism for victims of crime.
• Identify groups (eg young people) who could help train officers.
The role of the Police and Crime Commissioner
The way in which I will carry out the role as PCC distinguishes me from all other candidates for this post. I will:

- Continue the public ‘road-shows’ begun to explain about the PCC role.
- Establish online consultations and regular public meetings.
- Establish mechanisms to meet with young people in a meaningful way.
- Meet regularly with Police Officers and Police Staff.
- Meet with Town and Parish Councils, Neighbourhood Watch, Voluntary Sector and Business networks in a transparent manner.
- Meet regularly with the Sussex Community Safety Partnerships.
- Sign up to the Compact.

The PCC to campaign for change
The role of Police and Crime Commissioner is locally focused and does not include legislative powers. However decisions taken by Governments of all parties will impact on the work of Sussex Police and my role as PCC. It is therefore vital that as your PCC I do campaign for changes that will help make Sussex a safer place. These changes will include:

- **A standard measure for Domestic Violence cases for national use.**
- Support responsible minimum pricing of Alcohol sales.
- Challenge changes to benefits where this will increase homelessness.
- Advocate for the best use of technology within Criminal & Civil Justice.