

THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY APPROVED CANDIDATE CV FOR WILTSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

Full Name: **Darren HENRY**

THE POLICE AUTHORITY: why I would make a good candidate for you:

- **I will be a visible, hands-on Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon.**
- **Strong local connections:** I want to serve the people of Wiltshire and Swindon as I know the area so well. Having chosen my last tour in the RAF to be at MOD Boscombe Down, we made our family home here. Since then I have been employed in both Wiltshire and Swindon, first at Great Western Hospital in Swindon and currently as a Wiltshire Councillor. The chance to represent a community I understand would be a pleasure and an honour.
- **Real world experience:** I am not a career politician but instead I had a long military career and my highest held values are loyalty and integrity. More recently, I have been the General Manager of a food distribution company and held project management roles. I have managed hundreds of people and multi-million pound budgets in my time. In essence, I have been in the 'real world' and believe I can offer leadership to the Wiltshire Police Authority with an ideal balance of Forces-style positive enthusiasm and delivery on promises.
- **Communication:** Rising from the ranks in the Royal Air Force to become a senior officer, I recognize the importance of delivering the appropriate messages at all levels as I did with the troops when deployed in Iraq and when I briefed Her Majesty The Queen on community support provided to military families. I also have a broad experience in media techniques.
- **Campaign ready:** I understand the importance of being highly visible so everyone knows your name and why they should vote for you. I have been active across the Country in all aspects of political campaigning and I will bring that energy and commitment to the role. Working closely with Conservative MPs, Councillors and Associations, I am certainly able to 'hit the ground running'.
- **Getting out the vote:** We should improve on the 25% turnout in Wiltshire and Swindon for the 2016 PCC election. I was selected by the local Conservative Association to compete against a very popular Lib Dem who had been a councillor for 35 years of which 26 years were in the division I was going for. I won this seat by campaigning door to door. In May 2017, I managed to get the highest local election turnout in Wiltshire at 58% (average turnout was 39%).
- **Connect with the community and deliver on promises:** We must ensure that every Wiltshire and Swindon resident understands the benefits of having a Conservative PCC. A pop-up Conservative stall for villages and events would be worth exploring. I recognize the need to compliment the traditional methods of 'wearing out shoe leather' campaigning with the latest online media techniques. Bluetree website - www.darrenhenry.org.uk; Facebook: VoteDarrenHenry; Twitter - @VoteDarrenHenry.

'As Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, I consider Darren Henry to be an exceptional candidate. His experience of logistics and of a uniformed service from his time with the RAF are highly relevant to such a role. He is also a charismatic, articulate and energetic individual who is likely to galvanise the electorate of all ages, in my view'.
Kathryn Holloway
Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire

'Darren is a committed and astute political campaigner, whose efforts have made a real difference to the Conservative cause locally in Salisbury'

John Glen MP for Salisbury & South Wiltshire
Economic Secretary to the Treasury & City Minister

MY POLITICAL PRIORITIES:

- **Take community relations seriously:** It is essential that people feel safe in our community so I would focus on communication to build public confidence. I see a key aspect of this role to be 'the voice of the people' and to do that effectively I expect to be engaging with the public with initiatives such as PCC surgeries. We need to promote effective working relationships with key stakeholders including: local and national media, strategic partners and politicians.
- **Making the money work:** As guardians of taxpayers' money, the Government have a right to demand efficiency. The purpose of the PCC is to be the democratically elected position to drive reform with the police on behalf of the Government. I shall take a robust view on allocation of resources; for example, I would have resisted spending £1.5 million on Operation Conifer to investigate a man who has been dead since 2005 and cannot be arrested, charged or prosecuted. I would also look to develop more partnership working with the other blue light services.
- **Collaboration:** The role would be a vital link between the community and the police and would set the strategic direction for policing in the County. Being a PCC would draw on my considerable training and success working at strategic level and my passion and experience working with communities.

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OCCUPATION AND SUMMARY CAREER DETAILS:

- **Wiltshire Unitary Councillor and Portfolio Holder for Spatial Planning:** Currently representing residents of Till and Wylve Valley and Wiltshire.
- **CCHQ:** I worked in Conservative Campaign Headquarters in 2016 placing Cabinet Ministers and members of the House of Lords on visits to various parts of the Country to campaign.
- **Commercial:** Since leaving the military I have had a varied career in business working at senior levels using my BSc degree in Logistics Management and experience.
- **Royal Air Force:** Served in the RAF where I performed a range of operational and staff roles from business manager working with industry managing a £21 million budget, to instructor at RAF College Cranwell. Some decisions I made in the military had lives at stake; for example, when I was deployed on operations in Iraq I had responsibility to make good judgements and there was no room for mistakes.

POLITICAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Parliamentary Candidate:** I was the Parliamentary candidate for Wolverhampton North East during the 2015 General Election. 10,174 people voted for me to be their Conservative MP. Whilst we did not turn the 'Black Country Blue' that time, we laid the foundations to be built on.
- **13% Swing Vote to be an Elected Wiltshire Unitary Councillor:** To meet residents needs and foster a community ethos I have introduced various initiatives including: Volunteer Awards; Traffic Forum to bring about mitigating measures against speeding and 'rat-running' traffic and Local Youth Network in secondary schools for 13 to 19 years of age young people to discuss and exchange ideas on 6 extracurricular topics - namely: Cyberbullying; Mental Health; Leisure; Keeping Safe; Diversity; Volunteering. Acting on concerns raised at my regular Councillor Surgeries, I became a dementia friend; co-founded Shrewton Youth Club; collaborated with Wiltshire Police Community Tasking Team and Wiltshire Council Trading Standards on rogue trading doorstep criminals often targeting vulnerable members of our communities - 'if in doubt, keep them out!'. **Portfolio Holder for Libraries, Campuses & Hubs:** In my tenure, I provided direction to Council officers who kept all 31 libraries open and increased their offering to the public by embracing new technology and rolled out more community hubs. **Portfolio Holder for Spatial Planning:** This is a new key role in which I have been asked to use my community engagement experience to join up strategic and neighbourhood planning - so currently using my professional knowledge of change management to communicate the National Planning Policy Framework which was revised this year.
- **Community Support:** As the Community Support Officer at RAF Marham, I was the Forces representative on local councils and responsible for wider engagement in Norfolk. To avoid military families being disadvantaged in the civilian community, I developed the Community Covenant with Norfolk County Council. I advised on the impact of the base closure debate 'Make it Marham' campaign and gained recognition from the MP for South West Norfolk, Elizabeth Truss. Daily challenges such as housing concerns were amplified as occupants lived away from their extended families. However, I felt I made a real difference to people's lives and this left me enthused about public service, communities and politics.
- **Overseas:** As Detachment Commander in Minhad, United Arab Emirates (UAE), regular liaison took place between the Defence Attaché in Abu Dhabi and leaders from the UAE and Allied Forces. When stationed in Philadelphia, I negotiated and forged relationships with US colleagues for Foreign Military Sales to the UK.

VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY WORK:

Conservative Party: On the voluntary side of the Party, I am Wiltshire Area Chairman and made it my mission to encourage local activists and Association members to campaign. I 'rallied the troops' across the County for Angus Macpherson's re-election success in 2016. Forging relationships with like-minded people at National Convention, SW Region, Wiltshire and Swindon MPs and Associations/ Federation is key. Furthermore, I gained great satisfaction from my contribution this year in encouraging Wiltshire activists to join me in supporting the successful Swindon local Government election campaign where I initiated Connect Calling locally - my highest national ranking was 53 when I finished the Eve of Poll session.

'I was greatly impressed with Squadron Leader Darren Henry and I hope that he is able to bring his experience, passion and patriotism to the service of the Conservative Party in the same way as he has brought to the service of his Country'

Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP

Secretary of State for International Trade

OTHER INTERESTS:

Rugby referee; walks in our beautiful countryside, which occasionally breaks into a canter, with Poppy our family dog.

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CANDIDATES SIGNATURE:

Signature: *Darren Henry*

Date: 15 November 2018