

High Sheriff of Surrey

The High Sheriff of Surrey is appointed by the Queen to hold office for one year. In March, Her Majesty is offered three names in nomination, which have previously been announced in the Royal Courts of Justice. In a ceremony that follows centuries of tradition, Her Majesty uses a silver gilt bodkin to 'prick' the name of the High Sheriff for the following year (April to April).

The High Sheriff is The Queen's representative of the Judiciary in the County. In practice today it is largely a ceremonial role but still the oldest secular office in England and Wales other than the Crown. It dates back to Saxon times, more than 1,000 years ago, when the name was 'Shire Reeve'. At that time the Sheriff was appointed to look after the Kings' interests in the County and had extensive powers to enforce law and order and collect taxes. Sheriffs are mentioned throughout the Magna Carta and were clearly fundamental to the running of the Shires. Many of the original powers are now taken by the Lord Lieutenant, High Court Judges, Magistrates, Coroners, local authorities, the Inland Revenue and Police.

Members of both Houses of Parliament, clergymen and certain other government officials are disqualified from taking office. Historically, the prospective High Sheriff must hold sufficient land within the County 'to answer the Queen and her people'. Other than that, there is no formal qualification for the role. The office is unpaid and the High Sheriff's expenses are covered by the incumbent and not the public purse.

High Sheriff 2018-2019

The High Sheriff of Surrey for 2018-2019 is Mr Jim Glover. The office is an independent, non-political Royal appointment for the year of office. As the Queen's representative of the Judiciary, Mr Glover will uphold the ancient office by actively encouraging those organisations that support law and order throughout Surrey. This will include the Courts, Police, Prisons, Emergency Services and supporting statutory and voluntary agencies. His role is The Queen's representative of the judiciary, and the office is unpaid, with each Sheriff covering his own expenses. Mr Napier will support organisations that uphold law and order, including the courts, police, prisons, emergency service and voluntary bodies.

He intends to do what he can to support, encourage and celebrate the work of the charities, faith groups, youth groups and others who are working in some of the more economically and socially challenged areas in Surrey, formerly known as Priority Places.

He will wear the historic badge of office for Surrey, which shows a green star with eleven points, one for each of the eleven boroughs and districts in the County, and will attend members of the Royal family when they are in Surrey.

Mr Glover will be promoting and supporting the work of the High Sheriff Youth Awards in the County, which have the purpose of helping to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour among young people. It also supports positive organised activities

and projects that target vulnerable groups with known risk factors within some of the deprived areas of the County.

His predecessors have undertaken a wide range of high-quality support across the County and he intends to continue this work. Mr Glover will support the work of philanthropy, and the charitable and voluntary sectors, all of which play an integral and important part in Surrey. Mr Glover hopes that in reaching out to a wide range of organisations he will be able to make a meaningful contribution to the County during his year of office. Additionally, Mr Glover's priority is to support the professionals and charities working to reduce the number of pupils permanently excluded from schools across Surrey.

Please email Mr Glover to discuss a meeting or visit:

jimglover@highsheriffofsurrey.com

Judicial Service

At the start of the legal year, the High Sheriff will lead the procession of Her Majesty's Judges and Magistrates up Guildford's High Street to the Judicial Service in Holy Trinity Church, Guildford. This maintains links with the original first duty of the High Sheriff, which is the ancient task of looking after High Court Judges, and the maintenance of law and order in Surrey.

Correspondence and invitations should be sent to:

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