

New Board members strengthen team at Eden Housing Association

Eden Housing Association has welcomed 5 new Board Members to the team - all of whom bring a range of skills to support the Association and its residents.



The new Board members are Christine Kearse, Ian Bruce, John Denwood, Henry Barker and Keith Duncan. Most of the Board members are Eden residents with the exception of Henry Barker who is from Allerdale District. Henry lives in Fletchertown, and was previously a Board Member with Derwent & Solway and Chair of the Cumbrian Tenants & Residents Forum. He also has a particular specialism in ICT.

Ian Bruce, who is a qualified Architect, was formerly Chief Executive of Eden District Council and a long standing trustee/member of the Cumbria Rural Housing Trust. Christine Kearse is resident in Little Salkeld and has valuable business and health care experience. The fourth new face on the Board is Keith Duncan who lives in Dufton, he has a background in education and a sound understanding of the Associations activities.

The final new member of the Board is John Denwood who is an EHA tenant in Penrith. Born in Patterdale he has a good knowledge of the issues that face the Association's customers and is a keen supporter of ECHO - the resident forum. John recently revisited Patterdale Primary School with members of ECHO to present the school with a grant cheque for £300 towards the development of a kitchen garden.

Paul Davies said "Our new Board members are recruited on the basis of their skills, experience and knowledge and to reflect the communities the Association serves. They are drawn as widely as possible to reflect the Association's responsibility to all of its stakeholders, including tenants, residents and others interested in furthering social housing objectives locally.

We are pleased that we have attracted five new members who have a range of skills and experience in rural housing, health care, and education as well as previous experience with other housing associations. Their knowledge and support is invaluable and I am sure they will help steer the organisation in our drive to improve the service we provide our residents and partners."

The Board consists of voluntary unpaid Members (maximum number 10) and unpaid tenant Members (maximum number 6) elected by the Tenants' and Residents' Forum, ECHO - there are currently 13 Board Members. The Association is keen to hear from tenants interested in the welfare of local residents and the rural housing issues they face, who could fill the current tenant member vacancy. Anyone wanting to find out more can contact Paul Davies at Eden Housing Association on 01768 861 400 or email paul.davies@edenha.org.uk

Picture Caption: Welcoming new Board members. L to R Ian Bruce, John Denwood, Paul Davies EHA C.E. Joan Johnstone EHA Chair, Henry Barker and Keith Duncan. Missing from the picture is Christine Kearse.