Eden Council District Elections 2019
Labour Party Candidates

Lissie Sharp (Alston Moor) was born and bred on Alston Moor where she lives with her partner and three children and is currently District Councillor there. Her Council work on *Increasing Participation* is aimed at making EDC more democratic, representative, open and accountable and she is also involved in supporting and developing community projects that focus on sustainability, health and wellbeing, isolation, community engagement and volunteering. She is on the local PTA, chairs the Fairhill Recreation committee and is a member of the Alston Moor footpaths and conservation network. Lissie's professional experience is in housing, mental health and youth work.

Hilary Snell (Pategill) has worked as local education manager for 25 years and is actively involved in local community issues. She is part of the coordinating group for the Save Penrith Beacon, campaigning to ensure that local plans do not have a negative impact for the people of Penrith. She is also a member of the Patient Participation Group at her GP surgery and part of the Integrated Community Care Delivery Group for Eden. She is a volunteer for a number of groups in Penrith such as Penrith Welcomes Refugees and The Talking Newspaper.

Ian Simkins (Kirkby Stephen) has lived in Kirkby Stephen for thirteen years. During that time he has taught music and been a staff governor at Kirkby Stephen Grammar School, conducted and played in the Silver Band and been involved in various community activities and now runs a brewery business in Settle. He is active in the local community currently acting as treasurer for both Kirkby Stephen Silver Band, and Winton United Church. He is also musical director for Kirkby Stephen Silver Band. He is a volunteer driver for Western Dales Bus.

Dave Knaggs (Penrith West) has worked in education, children's services and youth and community work as a departmental head; he has over 25 years experience of working with Councils and local Councillors. He has served as a trustee of a housing charity working with homeless young people and supported several voluntary sector groups. Dave has recently researched his family history in the Eden Valley who he has, so far, traced back around 200 years. Since taking early retirement he has been involved in voluntary work. Dave is currently secretary of the Penrith & The Border Labour Party.

Neil Thompson (Penrith West) is a retired Police Officer now running a local training business, married with two grown up children and a teenager at school in Penrith. He was previously elected as a District Councillor in a neighbouring area which faced similar challenges to those facing Penrith today. Neil was the spokesperson for the Council for regeneration and as such part of the successful development of the town. Neil has a track record which demonstrates that he is open minded, pragmatic and willing to listen to all sides of an argument.

Neil Cleeveley (Kirkby Stephen) is active in the local community as a volunteer driver and director with Western Dales Bus. He also chairs Brough Show's organising committee and is a trustee of Northern Viaducts Trust. After a career as an IT specialist, he became a policy adviser for the TUC and NAVCA, a national charity, subsequently becoming chief executive.

Michael Hanley (Alston Moor) qualified as a doctor in Dublin in 1980 and came to work as a GP in Alston in1992. He has fought for keeping local health services such as the semi-voluntary ambulance service and the beds at Alston Community Hospital and has also chaired the Local Medical Committee for Cumbrian Community Hospitals. Michael is married to Hazel, a recently retired Health Visitor and one of the people who founded Alston Moor Community Transport. Both Michael and Hazel are involved with the local music scene playing in various bands.

Chris Cheetham (Brough)
A lifelong Labour Party member and with over 25 years experience as a County Councillor Chris has lots of knowledge to offer and a commitment to working with local people to make the area a great place for all. Outside of his work as a Councillor he has been involved in a variety of roles in community groups as diverse as allotment societies, Tenant and Resident Associations and as a charity trustee. A graduate of Strathclyde University outside of politics his passions are Liverpool FC, photography and animal welfare.

James Fallows (Penrith East) has worked in housing and support services for over 20 years, and for the last 9 of those years in Cumbria. He grew up in Liverpool, has lived and worked in the United States and Mongolia before settling to raise his family in Penrith. He is a lifelong Labour supporter and a steward for the public service trade union Unison. He is a keen banjo player, a lover of the great outdoors, and a proud father of three.

John Potts (Kirkoswald) moved to Cumbria from the Isle of Jura having lived there for 10 years after leaving the offshore oil industry. On the Isle of Jura he was the Chairman of the Development Trust, a voluntary post and oversaw a series of successful community projects including the setting up of a community owned shop and passenger ferry service. John is currently Treasurer and Campaigns Coordinator for the Penrith & The Border labour Party.

Nicola Hawkins (Penrith South) is a lifelong Labour supporter and currently Vice Chair fn the Penrith & The Border Constituency Labour Party. She has over 20 years experience working in Education in Cumbria, including as Literacy Consultant for Cumbria County Council and as Governor for a Penrith school. Nicola is a leading campaigner in the ‘Save Our Post Office’ campaign and is currently working on a project with ‘Register To Vote’. She is a passionate advocate of participation in local democracy.

Tony Myler (Appleby, Appleby) was a lecturer for the University of Cumbria at Newton Rigg for almost 10 years. He has worked with students with learning and behavioural difficulties and is also a foster carer. He runs a local garden landscaping design company based in Appleby where he lives with his family. He recently completed a Lands End to John O'Groats cycle ride in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance.