

## **UK Rural Policy and Practitioners Group**

### **Note on Country Convener Role – for discussion at September 2012 meeting**

The UK RPPG group is (by definition) intended to be a pan-UK grouping of rural interest organisations. Indeed, its remit includes that of bringing experience from around the UK to the table and generating learning through comparing policy and practice in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The Rural Services Network, which has hosted the first two meetings of UK RPPG, is only an England-wide organisation. There would therefore be logic in having representatives from the other parts of the UK who could take a lead in helping the group to function effectively. For want of a better title, that role is described here as country convener.

There is an agenda item for the group's 5<sup>th</sup> September 2012 meeting about this role. The proposed specification for the role is as follows:

- To represent [the country's] rural policy issues on the UK Rural Policy and Practitioners Group;
- To share information about the UK RPPG with other organisations and individuals in [the country] and to recruit new members as appropriate;
- To submit information on rural policy in [the country] and to inform discussions within the Group regarding rural policy developments across the UK;
- To submit information on good practice examples of rural service delivery from [the country] to the UK RPPG;
- To encourage external organisations in [the country] to 'think rural' when gathering data and information, and to highlight instances where there are similarities and differences in rural areas/issues across the countries of the UK.