



**Rural Economy & Regeneration  
Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
13:30-15:30**

**AGENDA**

13:25 Event Opens to Delegates

13:30 Welcome and Introduction to the RSN National Rural Conference  
[Kerry Booth](#), Chief Executive, [Rural Services Network](#)

13.40 [Laura Dyer](#), Deputy Chief Executive Places, Engagement & Libraries,  
[Arts Council](#)  
*Cultural services in the rural economy: driving inclusive growth*

14.00 [Ross Lowrie](#), Principal Manager (Low Carbon Growth & Net Zero),  
[North East Combined Authority](#)  
*Rural Delivery & Devolution – A Combined Authority perspective*

14.20 [Sean Hughes](#), Senior Manager, [PwC UK](#)  
*AI skills and the rural economy*

14.40 Panel discussion and Open Forum featuring our featured speakers and additional panellists:  
Cllr Roger Phillips, [Chair of the RSN](#)  
David Lydiat, Head of External Affairs, [Plunkett UK](#)

*This will be led by **Kerry Booth**, Chief Executive, Rural Services Network and is an opportunity for speakers and delegates to debate the challenges facing the rural economy and regeneration and potential solutions.*

15:30 Close of Conference Session

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