



**Rural Health and Care**  
**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025**  
**10.00-12.00**

**AGENDA**

- 09.55 Event Opens to Delegates
- 10.00 Welcome and Introduction to the RSN National Rural Conference  
[Kerry Booth](#), Chief Executive, [Rural Services Network](#)
- 10.10 [Dr Christina Dobson](#), Senior Research Associate, [Newcastle University](#)  
*Rural Cancer Inequalities: how, where and why are rural patients doing worse when it comes to cancer*
- 10.30 [Judith Vickress](#), Domestic Abuse Consultant and Churchill Fellow, [The Churchill Fellowship](#)  
*Breaking the Silence: Coordinating rural communities to end domestic abuse*
- 10.50 [Dr Tim Sanders](#), Senior Clinical Lecturer in Rural Medicine, [The University of Lancashire](#), and [Dr Chris Ford](#), Senior Lecturer in Accounting and Management, [Lancaster University](#)  
*The important role of rural hub towns: the Penrith Case Study*
- 11.10 [Lisa Farley](#), Head of Mental Health and Wellbeing, [Young Somerset](#)  
*Right Time, Right Support: Young Somerset's Approach to Early and Effective Mental Health Intervention*
- 11.30 Panel discussion and Open Forum featuring our featured speakers and additional panellists:  
Cllr Roger Phillips, [Chair of the RSN](#)
- 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 delivery of rural health and care services.*

12.00 Close of Conference Session

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