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## Agenda

### **SPARSE Rural and Rural Services Network Executive and Board of Directors of the Rural Services Partnership Ltd meeting**

Incorporating SPARSE Rural members, Rural Assembly & Rural Services Partnership members.  
All nominated members & officers of RSN are invited to attend this meeting.

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**Hosted: Online via Zoom**  
**Date: Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022**  
**Time: 11:15am – 2:30pm**

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- 1. Attendance & Apologies.**
- 2. Notes from the previous RSN Executive meeting. ([Attachment 1](#))**  
Held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021 to consider any relevant updates and approve the minutes.
- 3. Summary of Previous RSN Work and Meetings. ([Attachment 2](#))**  
Report from Kerry Booth, Deputy Chief Executive on attendance, key points, policy work since the last meeting.
- 4. Update on Work with Local Councils.**  
Verbal report from David Inman, Corporate Director.
  - Rural/Market Town Group
  - Rural Village Services Group
- 5. National Rural Conference 2022. ([Attachment 3](#))**  
Report from Kerry Booth, Assistant Chief Executive.
- 6. Local Government Provisional Finance Settlement.**
  - Draft RSN Response to the 2022-23 Local Government Provisional Finance Settlement ([Attachment 4](#))
  - Pixel Report and Analysis provisional LG settlement 2022-23 ([Attachment 4A](#))
- 7. Levelling Up and Devolution White Paper/UK Shared Prosperity Fund.**  
Verbal update from Graham Biggs MBE, Chief Executive.
- 8. Adult Social Care Reform White Paper – General Discussion.**

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[Please click here to view the Rural Lens Review of Adult Social Care Reform White Paper<sup>1</sup>](#)

9. **Local Authority Experience Implementing First Homes Requirement: Survey Report.**  
[Please click here to view the paper on Local Authority Experience Implementing First Homes Requirements<sup>2</sup>](#)
10. **Budget Report.** ([Attachment 5](#))
11. **Report Launches – Verbal Report.**
  - Rural England CIC: State of the Rural Services 2021: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022
  - Rural Health APPG Inquiry Report: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022
12. **Any Other Business.**  
The next RSN Executive meeting will take place Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.rsnonline.org.uk/rural-lens-review-of-adult-social-care-reform-white-paper>

<sup>2</sup> <https://rsnonline.org.uk/images/first-homes-report-december-2021.pdf>

**Providing a voice for rural communities and service providers**




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## Agenda

### SPARSE RURAL AND RURAL SERVICES NETWORK EXECUTIVE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RURAL SERVICES PARTNERSHIP LTD MEETING

Incorporating SPARSE Rural members, Rural Assembly & Rural Services Partnership members.  
All nominated members & officers of RSN are invited to attend this meeting.

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**Hosted: Online via Zoom**  
**Date: Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021**  
**Time: 11:15am – 2:30pm**

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#### 1. Attendance & Apologies.

##### Attendance:

Cllr Cecilia Motley (Chair)	Shropshire Council / Rural Services Network
Cllr Philip Atkins OBE	Staffordshire County Council
Graham Biggs MBE	Rural Services Network
John Birtwistle	FirstGroup plc UK Bus
Kerry Booth	Rural Services Network
Martin Collett	English Rural Housing Association
Nik Harwood	Young Somerset
Cllr Robert Heseltine	North Yorkshire County Council
David Inman	Rural Services Network
Cllr Jeremy Savage	South Norfolk Council
Anna Price	Rural Business Awards
Cllr Peter Stevens	West Suffolk Council
Cllr Peter Thornton	South Lakeland District Council/Cumbria Council
Cllr Mark Whittington	Lincolnshire County Council

##### Apologies:

Cllr Roger Phillips	Herefordshire Council
Cllr Mary Robinson	Eden District Council
Cllr Sue Sanderson	Cumbria County Council
Cllr Trevor Thorne	Northumberland County Council
Kayleigh Wainwright	UK Youth

#### 2. Notes from the previous RSN Executive meeting. (Attachment 1)

Held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to consider any relevant updates and approve the minutes.

Points to note:

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When Transport Improvement Plans are published, RSN will look from perspective of our local authorities to see if there are areas they want to do but can't due to funding and whether we can pick up some of those issues in our campaigning

RSN will also be exploring where organisations are putting bids into recently announced competitive funds to see what people bidding for (or have felt unable to bid – if so why), and experiences of the process.

Concerns over timing for Levelling Up Funds, Round 2 – Councils are short of capacity and don't have lots of resources to regularly be preparing bids.

The Fire Group meeting takes place on Friday along with Adrian Jenkins presenting on Fire Service Finance

Social Care funding – Joint work with County Council's Network on State of Social Care in County and Rural Areas was released during the week of the conference.

Notes of the previous meeting were accepted.

### 3. **Summary of Previous RSN Work and Meetings.** (Attachment 2)

Report from Kerry Booth, Assistant Chief Executive on attendance, key points, policy work since the last meeting.

There was a short discussion on the areas considered, and the Executive welcomed the addition of 'Networking' elements to help inform any decision-making processes.

The Executive noted the report

### 4. **Update on Work with Local Councils.** (Attachment 3)

**Report from David Inman, Corporate Director with updates on Rural/Market Town Group & Rural Village Services Group.**

David Inman confirmed he is starting the work of approaching village groups to see if they want to join the group and our offering.

Cllr Peter Stevens - Could we do a more concise report targeted at parishes? Headlines of what we are doing.

RSN is currently doing a quarterly publication to LA Councillors, the Rural Beacon, highlighting our work, and a quarterly publication to the Rural Market Town Group. This needs to be considered along with the wider work of the RSN, whilst ensuring that those that pay the most for their membership, receive the most comprehensive level of service.

### **Providing a voice for rural communities and service providers**

#### **Rural Services Network**

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Martin Collett - Are there any unintended consequences to this – conflict between levels of Government?

There should be no conflict of interest as RSN emphasises to member organisations that we do not get involved in disputes between levels of public services, but exist to represent the rural voice to Government and its Agencies.

Martin Collett - This is labour Intensive work are we using software for this?

The RSN has explored software although any deployment of IT solutions would depend on the number of members that we are able to gain.

**Report from David Inman, Corporate Director, English Charter Market Towns and Fayres. (Attachment 3A)**

The Executive noted this report and will await developments on this issue at a future meeting.

**5. National Rural Conference 2021.**

Verbal report from Kerry Booth, Assistant Chief Executive.

KB stated some highlight statistics from the conference week:

- Over 400 delegates attended sessions throughout the week.
- 75 Local Authorities attended sessions.
- A Government representative attended all but one session.
- 5 organisations supported or sponsored the conference.
- Feedback is currently being comprehensively analysed, but initial reports show that all members that attended would recommend the event to a colleague.

**6. Uniting Rural Communities to Tackle Climate Change Event - 12th October 2021.**

Kerry Booth advised the Executive of this event being hosted by the RSN.

The wider Event is being held by NFU during a week in October. Focus will be on rural areas and communities and as part of this, the RSN will be hosting an event during the week on Tues 12<sup>th</sup> October which is open to not only members but non -members too, to get our messages out as wide as possible.

Booking details will be shared with all members.

**7. RSN Meetings & Events Calendar 2022. (Attachment 4)**

Conference has been moved back a week, we received 200 bookings this year in the week prior to the conference so we are aiming to target greater attendance.

We will look to move the Executive date before the conference as it is a long gap between May to October.

**8. 2021 LGA Annual Report Rural Services Network. (Attachment 5)**

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For information completed report submitted to the LGA by Kerry Booth, Assistant Chief Executive.

Report is for information only and can serve as a useful summary of the work of the RSN.

**9. Comprehensive Spending Review 2020 and 2021.** (Attachment 6 & 6A)

A submission to H.M. Treasury by the Rural Services Network.

There was a discussion on the Spending Review submission, Graham Biggs highlighted it is a high-level document setting out the RSN perspective and the RSN is keen to show the funding difficulties experienced by rural areas and the lack of capacity to respond to Government initiatives/funding rounds.

The RSN is also exploring the funding available from other departments like the DfE and DfT to see the impact of funding allocations in these areas.

John Birtwistle - Bus Services Improvement Plan – open for all to bid for new pot of money £3bn starting next April for bus related actions / policies and interventions. DfT wants to see ambition in this so please bid for ambitious proposals.

**The Executive agreed the approach to the Spending Review Submission.**

**10. Levelling Up/UK Shared Prosperity Fund.** (Attachment 7)

Report from Graham Biggs MBE, Chief Executive on RSN's Policy Position.

This document brings together the work that the RSN has already done and said in a variety of documents so that we have everything on Levelling Up / UK Shared Prosperity in one place.

**Report was noted by the Executive.**

**11. Budget Report.** (Attachment 8)

With actual to 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

**The Executive accepted the Budget Report**

**12. The Rural Services Partnership Ltd Full Accounts 31.03.2021.** (Attachment 9)

**Item for formal attention of RSP Directors only.**

RSP Directors to consider approving the 2020/21 Accounts and the re-appointment of TaxAssist Ludlow as the Company's Tax Accountants.

The RSP Directors approved the Accounts and the Re-appointment of Tax Assist Ludlow as the Company's Tax Accountants.

**13. Any Other Business.**

The next RSN Executive meeting will take place Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

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**14. Joint Confidential Report of the Chief Executive and Corporate Director: The RSN's Future Year's Budgets in the light of recent Unitary Re-Organisation announcements.**  
(Attachment 10)

The Executive considered a Joint Confidential report from the Chief Executive and the Corporate Director reviewing budget forecasts over the next four years, including the impact of unitary council proposals in Cumbria, North Yorkshire and Somerset.

The report looked at income projections and suggested amendments to some expenditure budgets in future years. Also considered were staffing issues in the light of both the Chief Executive and Corporate Director stepping back from their current roles in the period covered by the review.

The projections assumed no membership losses beyond those already known about. The projections assumed an annual provision for inflation of 2%. Both of these would need to be kept under review.

The projections were based on future meetings, seminars and the annual conference all continuing to be held on line with the exception of one face-to-face meeting each year for networking purposes. This was agreed

The suggestions in the report were agreed. As a result, the forward look budget remains positive.

The Executive agreed to consider the forward look budget twice a year in future in March/April and September/October.

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## RSN Work September 2021 – January 2022

Report to the RSN Executive (Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022)  
from Kerry Booth, Deputy Chief Executive

### Aim

To provide the Executive with an update on meetings hosted and supported by the RSN since the last Executive meeting along with key campaigns and work carried out.

### To Date from September 2021 to January 2022 We Have Hosted the Following Meetings

Event	Who can attend	Date	Attendees			
			LA	RSP	RMTG	TOTAL
RMTG Officer Steering Group	RMTG invited members	23.09.21	N/A	N/A	4	4
<a href="#">Rural Fire &amp; Rescue Group meeting</a>	RSP Fire Group	01.10.2021	5	N/A	N/A	5
<a href="#">NFU COP – Transition for Rural Communities</a>	All RSN members	12.10.2021	66	Other representatives 33		99
<a href="#">RMTG meeting</a>	RMTG representatives	12.10.2021	N/A	N/A	21	21
<a href="#">RSN Seminar: Rural Town Centres, High Streets &amp; Village Hubs</a>	Sparse/Rural Assembly/RSP/RHCA/RMTG	27.10.2021	67	14	32	+ 1 =114
<a href="#">Rural Social Care &amp; Health Sub Group meeting</a>	Sparse, Assembly, RSP, RHCA	15.11.2021	15	9	N/A	24
<a href="#">RSN AGM &amp; Rural Assembly meeting</a>	Sparse, Rural Assembly, RSP	15.11.2021	34	10	N/A	+2 = 46
<a href="#">RSN Seminar: Rural Economies</a>	Sparse/Rural Assembly/RSP/RHCA/RMTG	24.11.2021	49	20	12	+ 1 =82

*\*Not including RSN Staff or Speakers*

Event	Who can attend	Date	Attendees
			TOTAL
Joint APPG meeting with APPG Counties (CCN)	APPG Members & Observers	15.09.2021	6
RSP Vulnerability Group	By Invite only	06.12.2021	7
RSP Ltd (AGM)	RSP	06.12.2021	20

*\*Not including RSN Staff or Speakers*

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**Key Points to Note**

- The RSN has launched the 2022 seminar programme. Hosted online and covering 9 key topics, member organisations are able to book their place at this link:  
<https://rsnonline.org.uk/images/meetings/online-seminars/seminar-programme-2022.pdf>

**Wider Campaigns and Work**

- Published:
  - [Rural Lens Review of Heat and Buildings Strategy](#)
  - [Rural Lens Review of Net Zero Strategy](#)
  - [Rural Lens Review of Adult Social Care Reform White Paper](#)

**Consultations**

Since the last report, the RSN has responded to the following consultations after consultation with our member organisations:

- Access to Cash
- Comprehensive Spending Review/Budget
- Disability Green Paper

We are currently consulting on the following:

- Fossil Fuel heating in homes off the gas grid (RSN response to the Consultations being prepared)
- [Impact of First Homes on the Delivery of Affordable Housing](#)
- Applying for Government Funds – Process

**Networking and Influence**

- Graham Biggs has attended monthly DEFRA Rural Impact Forum meetings.
- Graham Biggs and Kerry Booth met with the District Council Network to explore possible working together
- Working with others on Rural Homelessness Research
- Working with others on Access to Cash issues
- Graham Biggs has attended a quarterly meeting between Arts Council England and various local government organisations
- Graham Biggs has attended a meeting of the CLA's Rural Connectivity Forum.
- Meetings of National Rural Crime Network Executive and National Centre for Rural Health and Care attended

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## **RSN National Rural Conference 2022**

from Kerry Booth, Deputy Chief Executive

### **Aim**

To provide the Executive with an update on the National Rural Conference 2022.

### **National Rural Conference 2022**

The National Rural Conference 2021 saw a successful week of events, with over 425 delegates attending a range of sessions throughout the week, focusing on the key topics within the Revitalising Rural Campaign.

Plans are already underway for the National Rural Conference 2022 which will take place from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

The conference date has been moved back a week, to ensure that delegates have the opportunity to book their places after the Summer Holidays.

Plans currently are for the following sessions:

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| • Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> September    | Rural Transport                  |
| • Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September   | Rural Regeneration               |
| • Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> September | Rural Health, Care and Wellbeing |
| • Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September  | Rural Housing                    |
| • Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September    | Rural Net Zero                   |

The RSN is trialling an amended way of booking sessions at the conference this year where you will be able to book once, and select the sessions you wish to attend, rather than booking them all individually. It is expected that this will streamline the booking process.

Whilst we have set the overall themes for the conference sessions, we anticipate that these are broad enough for us to focus the content of the sessions on the key issues as time progresses.

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Local Government Finance Settlement Team  
Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities  
2nd Floor, Fry Building,  
2, Marsham Street  
LONDON,  
SW1P 4DF

XXXX January, 2022

## **PROVISIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT 2022 TO 2023: CONSULTATION RESPONSE**

This letter sets out the detailed response of the Rural Services Network (RSN) to the above consultation.

**Our concerns do not relate to the overall quantum of resources, although we share concerns raised on behalf of local government generally by the Local Government Association in that regard. Our concerns relate to the fact that once again rural councils (and the communities they serve) are not receiving a fair share of the resources being made available by the Government to support local authority services.**

**It costs significantly more to deliver services across large rural areas. Higher motor fuel presents a huge new cost pressure on many services in rural areas, and service pressures (especially in respect of Adult Social Care) continue to increase.**

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

#### **(a) Generally**

The RSN once again finds itself unable to support either the proposed distribution methodology or the impact on rural residents of the consequential proposals in respect of Council Tax increases.

Through the proposals, rural residents, communities and businesses will, through their principal local authorities, find themselves in comparison to their urban counterparts both:

- **Overcharged** – through higher Council Tax in rural areas (over 21% higher in rural areas); and
- **Short-changed** – through the flawed – urban biased – funding formula/distributional methodology

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The Equalities Statement in respect of the Provisional Settlement states “The Government has considered the impact of the funding distribution on protected characteristics by assessing the distribution of Core Spending Power (CSP) between local authorities and the characteristics of the people that live in the local authorities”. **We note the absence of any statement about rural proofing. Core Spending Power should not be the only factor taken into account.** The amount people have to pay for their services through Council Tax (in both absolute terms and in terms of the proportion of their services they are having to pay for through Council Tax) is also of critical importance

### **(b) Council Tax Principles**

For our District Council members with relatively low levels of Council Tax for their own purposes (that is excluding precepts) the Council Tax Principles are still not flexible enough in the light of less government grant and less spending power than their urban counterparts. For most authorities the increase in Band D will be below inflation.

The permitted increase is too low to protect services (1.99% of a low amount is a small amount as is a £5 a year increase) and should be increased to £10. This will then enable the democratically elected councillors to reach local decisions on the balance between council tax affordability and services levels in their local area. A £10 a year increase is less than 20p a week per household

## **2.0 HEADLINE ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSALS**

The RSN’s analysis of the Provisional Settlement proposals shows rural residents in comparison to residents in urban areas will:

- Still pay some £104 (over 21%) per head **more** in Council Tax
- Get over £ 107 (60%) per head **less** from Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA)
- Get almost 15% per head **less**, in specific social care support with urban authorities receiving a higher share of the new social care grants (£44 per head compared to £38 per head in rural areas). This shows that rural authorities have a lower share of the Adult RNF and that rural authorities lose-out from the equalisation of the ASC precept.
- Face a gap between urban and rural SFA per head, which has risen from 38% in 2015/16 to 60% for 2022/23 (although in monetary terms the gap has closed by some £3 per head)
- Get over £121 (41%) per head **less** in Government Funded Spending Power (which excludes Council Tax). This gap has grown from 34% in 2015/16.
- Despite all of the above still have almost £17 per head (2%) less overall Spending Power.

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- The situation is compounded in 2022-23 with the introduction of the 2022-23 Service Grant, which is based on the 2013/14 SFA. Rural authorities are set to only receive £11 per head from this grant, compared to £17 per head for urban authorities.

Once again Principal Councils serving rural areas in comparison to urban:

- ❖ Get less government grant per head of population
- ❖ Are required to pay more per head of population in Council Tax (through lower incomes when earned in the rural economy)
- ❖ Are required to pay for more of their essential services through Council Tax (67.1% compared to 54.7%); and yet
- ❖ Get fewer services – which are often more expensive to access

### 3.0 RURAL IS BEING OVERCHARGED

Based on the facts set out in Section 2.0 above, we argue that once again – as has been the case for many, many years - rural residents, communities and business will, through their Principal local authorities, find themselves penalised by being **overcharged** in comparison to their urban counterparts.

### 4.0 RURAL IS BEING SHORT-CHANGED: BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

**We reiterate that we are calling for rural areas to get a fair share of the resources being made available by the Government to support local authority services – not per se for additional new money for rural areas.**

Again, the facts to support our position are set out in Section 2.0 above.

Our comments and concerns are set against the background and context that for decades, under successive governments, rural areas have received substantially less government funding per head of population for their local government services compared to urban areas. A consequence of this is that rural local authorities have, over the years, found it necessary to increase Council Tax more than their urban counterparts (but have still had less Spending Power overall).

**To demonstrate the point further, based on 2020/21 revenue estimates we can see that urban authorities are budgeting to spend, on average, almost three times more per head of population on so called discretionary services than rural authorities are able to do. This is a consequence of the unfair funding/distributional formulae.**

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Rural areas also have significantly greater older populations. Over the next five years, the number of older residents in shire areas is projected to rise at an average annual rate of 2.0%, compared to an English average of 1.8%, London Boroughs 1.9%, and metropolitan boroughs 1.5%.

In 2018 over 65-year-olds accounted for 23.7% of the Predominantly Rural population (15.9% for Predominantly Urban). Over 85-year-olds accounted for 3.1% of the Predominantly Rural population (2.1% for Predominantly Urban).

In 2041 it is projected that over 65s will account for 31.6% of the Predominantly Rural population compared to 21.1% for Predominantly Urban. Over 85s are projected to account for 6.2% of the Predominantly Rural population with only 3.7% for Predominantly Urban.

The number of over 85-year-olds between 2018 and 2041 in Predominantly Rural local authorities is projected to increase by 117.9% compared to 92.7% for Predominantly Urban. This age group in particular, -when they need support- generally have more complex, and more expensive, needs.

**Using the Adult RNF to distribute funding for the new adult social care reforms will under-fund rural authorities, which tend to have higher numbers of self-funders. A new funding formula must address these additional pressures in rural areas, and certainly this should be delivered before larger sums of funding are distributed from 2023-24 onwards.**

Government recognised the rural case through decisions in the 2013/14 Settlement to increase various sparsity weightings in the formula but, on average, only about 25% of the financial gains which should have flowed from that decision actually materialised. The rest was lost through damping which 10 years on (to 2022/23) is still the case. **With all the delays to the Fair Funding/Needs and Resources Review the Government must now introduce in full the 2013/14 formula changes to sparsity weightings.**

So - who has gained from the non-implementation in full of the formula changes referred to above? Well, Inner London plus Surrey and Hertfordshire are still receiving funding from damping more than the formula says they should, and they have been receiving this damping benefit since 2013-14 (which was worth £214m per year in 2013-14). More people live in rural areas of England than live in Greater London.

#### **RURAL SERVICES DELIVERY GRANT (RSDG)**

**We, of course, welcome the provision of the Rural Services Delivery Grant in 2022/23 and that the Government has again recognised additional cost pressures in rural areas.**

**That said it is unfair that the IBCF and RSG have been uplifted for inflation but not RSDG. There is no rationale for uprating some grants and not others.**

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In response to the 2019/20 Provisional Settlement, we said “The RSN welcomes the Government’s recognition that cost pressures associated with service delivery in rural sparse areas, such as lack of private sector providers and poor broadband coverage should be met with a more consistent package of funding over the course of this Parliament”. This is a clear acceptance by the Government that sparsity costs relate to much more than just travel related costs.

The proposals for 2022/23 once again pay lip-service to the recognition referred to above especially as the Government also said in respect of 2019/20 “that it is possible that altering the weightings in 2013/14 may have only partially reflected the challenges faced in delivering some services in rural areas”. **The RSN both then and now considers this to be the actuality rather than just a possibility.**

We regard RSDG as a form of recompense for rural authorities for the non-implementation in full of the sparsity changes introduced in 2013/14.

It is however massively less than the value of the combined effects of changes as exemplified in the Government’s Summer 2012 Consultation of £247.3M. On average, 75% was ‘lost to damping’ meaning £185M remained due. The continuation of RSDG at £85M is clearly insufficient.

The additional weightings for sparsity referred to above created a much larger list of 163 (including 18 Fire & Rescue Services) beneficiaries than the 94 (including 5 Fire & Rescue Services) upper quartile of authorities based on the super sparsity indicator.

It recognised that sparsity costs apply across the spectrum of rural areas and do not suddenly manifest themselves at the boundaries of super sparse areas. We do not accept that super sparsity is the best available proxy for rurality across the spectrum of rural areas, but instead that, for distribution of resources purposes, the data used in the 2012 Consultation produces the most appropriate minimum outcome within the basis of the present formula.

## LEVELLING UP

**The Government’s Levelling Up agenda, if it is to succeed, must be about far more than capital projects. People and Communities must not be disadvantaged by where they live.**

The metrics used to determine the allocations of specific Levelling-Up funding must fully and fairly reflect the rural context. The Index of Multiple Deprivation is, in very many respects, not sensitive to rural deprivation and disadvantage.

Until there is a fair distribution of the resources Government provides to support local government services, rural areas will continue to get less, pay more and receive fewer services – they will be held down not levelled up. Reductions in essential statutory services will continue as will service cuts to

## Providing a voice for rural communities and service providers

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non-statutory ('discretionary') services such as bus service support, economic development activity, sport, leisure and cultural activities and support to the community and voluntary sector.

**Levelling up is about equitable treatment. That is a feature once again missing from this latest Provisional Settlement when viewed through a rural lens.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Graham Biggs", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Chief Executive

**Providing a voice for rural communities and service providers**

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## Rural Services Network (RSN)

### Provisional local government finance settlement 2022-23

1. The government published the provisional local government finance settlement for 2022-23 on 16 December 2019:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/provisional-local-government-finance-settlement-england-2022-to-2023>
2. In this briefing note we have analysed the settlement from a national perspective, and then outlined the specific impact on rural authorities (p.4).

#### Overview

3. Even though the recent spending review (SR21) announced funding allocations for 3 years, the settlement is for one year only (2022-23). More fundamental changes in local government funding have been clearly signalled for 2023-24. So, this one-year settlement feels like a rollover settlement from 2021-22, with the focus very much on “stability”.
4. The settlement itself is relatively good for local government – certainly compared to the settlements the sector received before 2020-21. Core Spending Power is increasing by £3.5bn (6.9%, cash), well above inflation, for now at least. An increase of £2.1bn in grant funding within Core Spending Power in 2022-23 means that there is less reliance on council tax increases (£1.4bn) than in previous settlements.
5. Local government received £1.5bn in additional funding in Spending Review 2021. Only around 40% of this funding increase has been allocated to social care, a smaller share than we had expected. Inflation has been applied to the Improved Better Care Fund, and £636m added to the Adult Social Care Support Grant.
6. The remainder of the £1.5bn has largely been allocated through the new 2022-23 Services Grant (£822m). This is an SFA increase by another name, which is received by every authority, including those with “negative RSG”.
7. The changes in grants introduced in the 2021-22 settlement have largely persisted into this settlement. Lower Tier Services Grant continues at £111m (with a slightly smaller cash floor payment to support those with reductions in Core Spending Power). Rural Services Delivery Grant remains at £85m. And New Homes Bonus lives to fight another day. There will be a further one-off payment, in addition to the final legacy payment. Surely 2022-23 will be its final year.

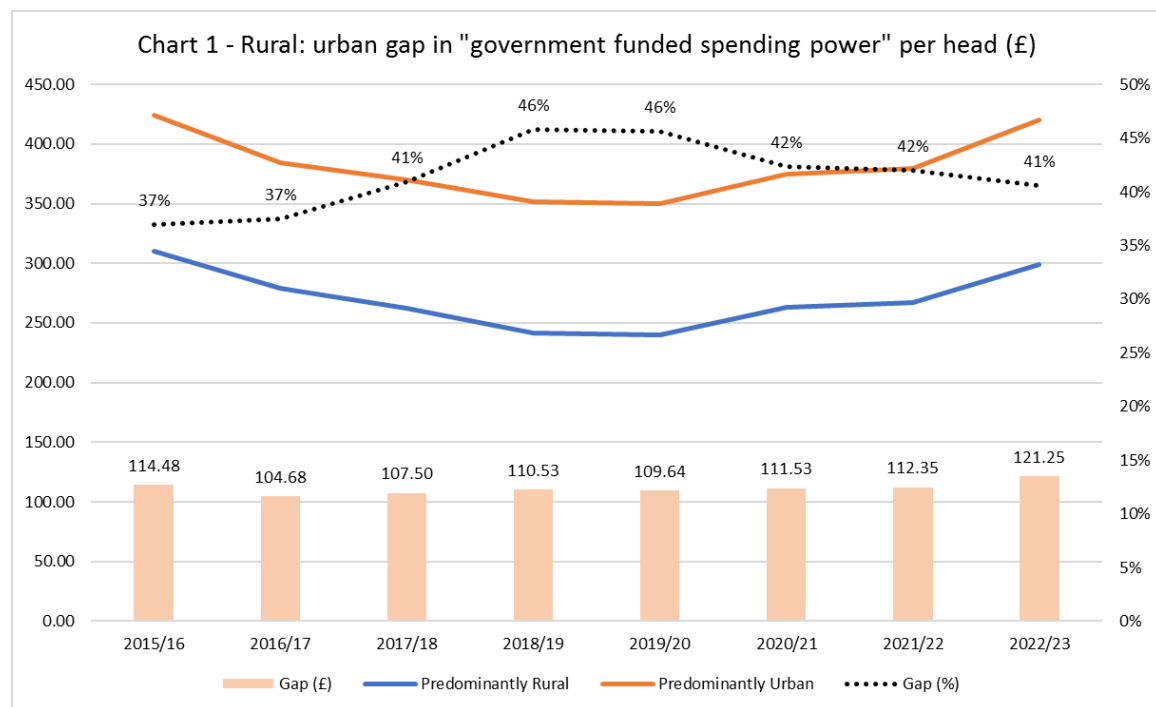
8. Overall, the settlement has favoured more-deprived authorities, with larger increases in Core Spending Power (CSP) in higher-need authorities. This will tend to favour urban local authorities and might indicate the direction of travel in the review of local government funding that could be implemented as early as 2023-24.
9. Work on that review will start “in the coming months” to work out “with the sector” how to update funding distribution and “challenges and opportunities facing the sector”. These changes in funding could be significant, and will make forecasting for 2023-24 and beyond very difficult. Some or all of the Fair Funding Review could be resurrected, and a business rates baseline reset seems likely. Damping or transitional support should help to soften losses in funding.
10. Key elements in the 2022-23 provisional settlement are:
  - **1% adult social care precept, which could generate a further £270m**
  - **Maximum increase in core Band D council tax is 1.99% (higher of 1.99% or £5 for district councils)**
  - **Revenue Support Grant (RSG) increases in line with inflation (£72m, 0.5%)**
  - **2022-23 Services Grant introduced (£822m) using 2013-14 SFA to distribute**
  - **£700m increase in social care grants**
  - **Continuation of the £111m Lower Tier Services Grant (LTSG)**
  - **No change in Rural Services Delivery Grant (RSDG) (£85m)**
  - **Reduction in New Homes Bonus payments by £68m to £554**
  - **Business rate multiplier frozen and cap compensation paid to authorities (fraction will be 51/499)**

**Table 1 – Change in Core Spending Power**

	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>Change in 2022-23</b>	<b>Change in 2022-23</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>%</b>
Settlement Funding Assessment	14,810	14,882	72	0.5%
Compensation for under-indexing the business rates multiplier	650	1,025	375	57.7%
Council Tax	30,327	31,728	1,402	4.6%
New adult social care precept			0	n/a
Improved Better Care Fund	2,077	2,140	63	3.0%
The Adult Social Care Support Grant	0	0	0	n/a
Winter pressures Grant			0	n/a
Social Care Support Grant	1,710	2,346	636	37.2%
Lower Tier Support Grant	111	111	0	0.0%
2022-23 Services Grant		822	822	
New Homes Bonus	622	554	-68	-10.9%
New Homes Bonus returned funding			0	n/a
Social care reform (fair pricing)		162	162	
Rural Services Delivery Grant	85	85	0	0.0%
Transition Grant			0	n/a
<b>Core Spending Power</b>	<b>50,392</b>	<b>53,856</b>	<b>3,465</b>	<b>6.9%</b>

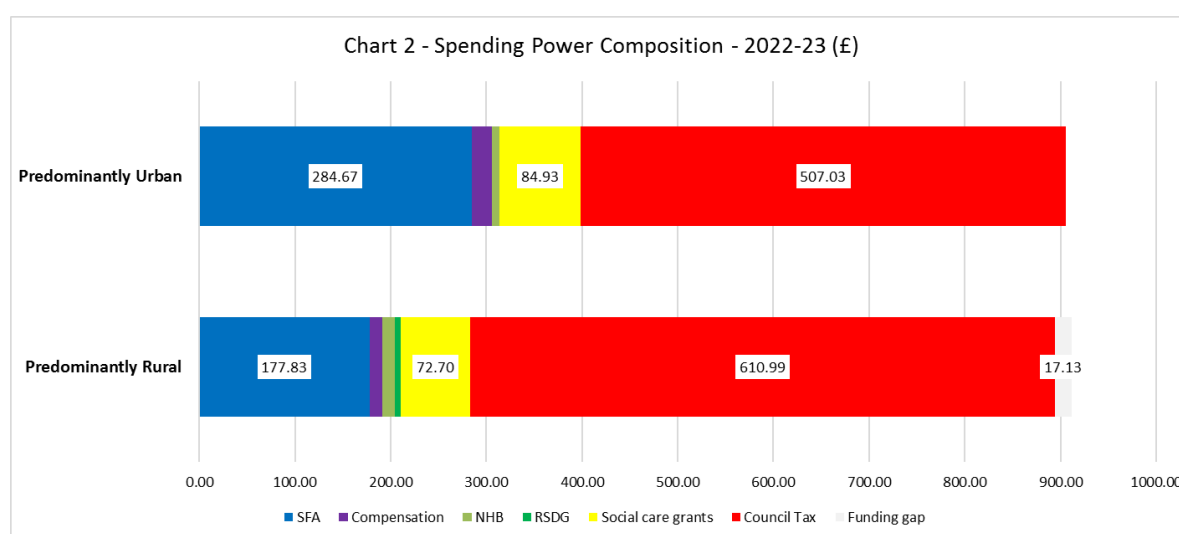
## Rural overview

11. We have analysed the funding received by Predominantly Rural (PR) and Predominantly Urban (PU) authorities. These are the classifications developed by the government to identify the most urban and the most rural authorities. Every year we analyse the settlement to estimate the funding that will be received by PR and PU authorities. Chart 1 shows our estimate of the amount of government-funded spending power per head from 2015-16 to the 2022-23 settlement. This measure excludes council tax.



12. Chart 1 shows that the rural:urban funding gap has increased in cash terms in 2022-23, increasing from £112.35 in 2021-22 to £121.05. This is the largest funding gap in cash terms that we have seen since 2015-16, and continues an emerging trend of increased funding gap. However, we must be careful not to overstate this gap. In percentage terms, the gap has actually reduced marginally (from 42% to 41%), and is substantially reduced from its peak in 2019-20 (46%). The cash-terms funding gap has increased because overall funding has increased (by £3.5bn).

14. The composition of funding for PR and PU authorities is very different. Chart 2 shows that PR authorities receive much less funding per head from the government, from both SFA and key social care grants. Rural authorities are much more reliant on income from council tax: residents in rural authorities are paying £102 more per head than residents in urban authorities.
15. In contrast, rural authorities receive much less in grant funding per head, both from Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA) (£107 per head less) and specific social care grants (£12 per head less). This has been compounded in 2022-23 with the introduction of the 2022-23 Services Grant, which is based on the 2013-14 SFA. Rural authorities only receive £11 per head from this grant, compared to £17 per head in urban authorities.



16. Increases in grant funding and overall resources have been higher in urban authorities compared to rural authorities in 2022-23 (**Appendix 1**). The substantial increase in grant in 2022-23 (£1.5bn of “new” money) benefits urban authorities (they have a higher share of the SFA and Adult RNF that is used to distribute grant funding). Furthermore, council tax increases represent a small share of the increase in CSP in 2022-23 (rural authorities have a larger share of taxbase).

## Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA)

17. SFA will increase in line with the increase in Revenue Support Grant (RSG), which is increasing by only £68m.

**Table 2 – Settlement Funding Assessment**

<u>Total SFA</u>	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
All England	21,249.938	18,601.462	16,632.428	15,574.165	14,559.645	14,797.000	14,810.000	14,882.226
less GLA non fire element	-955.783	-950.084	-950.575	-965.541	-978.037	-978.037	-978.037	-978.037
All England	20,294.185	17,651.404	15,681.876	14,608.647	13,581.629	13,818.963	13,831.963	13,904.189
Predominantly Rural	3,419.511	2,884.509	2,483.956	2,264.620	2,073.944	2,123.115	2,081.677	2,087.988
Year on Year Change		-15.65%	-13.89%	-8.83%	-8.42%	2.37%	-1.95%	0.30%
Cumulative Change (from 15/16)		-15.65%	-27.36%	-33.77%	-39.35%	-37.91%	-39.12%	-38.94%
Prdominantly Urban	14,830.117	13,059.081	11,741.824	11,021.229	10,295.653	10,479.338	10,456.145	10,518.537
Year on Year Change		-11.94%	-10.09%	-6.14%	-6.58%	1.78%	-0.22%	0.60%
Cumulative Change (from 15/16)		-11.94%	-20.82%	-25.68%	-30.58%	-29.34%	-29.49%	-29.07%
<u>SFA per head</u>								
Predominantly Rural	291.23	245.67	211.55	192.87	176.63	180.82	177.29	177.83
Predominantly Urban	401.35	353.42	317.77	298.27	278.64	283.61	282.98	284.67
Gap (£)	110.12	107.76	106.22	105.40	102.00	102.79	105.69	106.84
Gap (%)	38%	44%	50%	55%	58%	57%	60%	60%

18. Table 2 shows the recent trend in changes to SFA, with the largest cuts in SFA at the start of the four-year settlement period (2015-19). Over the 8 years shown in Table 2, the cut in SFA has been 37% in cash terms for rural authorities and 29% for urban authorities. The gap between rural and urban authorities has widened considerably since 2015-16 (in percentage terms), although it is now stabilising. It widened in the early part of the last spending review period because cuts in SFA were highest in high-taxbase authorities, which tend to include rural authorities.
19. No adjustment has been made for Negative RSG. Negative RSG occurs when an authority's BFL exceeds its SFA. In this situation the authority is funded at the level of its (higher) BFL rather than at its level of assessed needs (SFA).

## New Homes Bonus

20. The cost of NHB in 2022-23 will reduce to £554m. Local authorities will receive New Homes Bonus (NHB) payments in respect of two years:
- Years 9 (legacy payments for growth in previous years)
  - Year 12 (payments earned based on the CTB1 October 2021)
21. Otherwise, there is no change in the operation of the scheme: the scheme works in the same way and applies the same threshold (0.4%).
22. Urban authorities receive more in NHB than rural authorities (£277m compared to £181m). But allocations per head are almost twice as high in rural areas (£13 per in rural

areas compared to £8 in urban). NHB allocations continue to fall more quickly in urban areas in recent years.

**Table 3 – New Homes Bonus**

<u>Total NHB</u>	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
All England	1167.638	1461.855	1227.447	947.498	917.949	907.332	612.200	554.484
less GLA non fire element	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
All England	1200.001	1485.001	1251.996	946.221	917.950	907.332	612.200	554.484
Predominantly Rural	277.289	347.811	299.520	236.769	232.209	234.470	168.593	156.585
Year on Year Change		25.43%	-13.88%	-20.95%	-1.93%	0.97%	-28.10%	-7.12%
Cumulative Change (from 15/16)		25.43%	8.02%	-14.61%	-16.26%	-15.44%	-39.20%	-43.53%
Predominantly Urban	738.377	921.745	761.421	578.435	549.775	527.701	339.898	301.202
Year on Year Change		24.83%	-17.39%	-24.03%	-4.95%	-4.02%	-35.59%	-11.38%
Cumulative Change (from 15/16)		24.83%	3.12%	-21.66%	-25.54%	-28.53%	-53.97%	-59.21%
<u>NHB per head</u>								
Predominantly Rural	23.62	29.62	25.51	20.17	19.78	19.97	14.36	13.34
Predominantly Urban	19.98	24.95	20.61	15.65	14.88	14.28	9.20	8.15
Gap (£)	-3.63	-4.68	-4.90	-4.51	-4.90	-5.69	-5.16	-5.18
Gap (%)	-15%	-16%	-19%	-22%	-25%	-28%	-36%	-39%

### Adult social care funding

23. Of the £1.5bn announced by the Chancellor in SR21, £700m will be used to fund social care in 2022-23:

- **Improved Better Care Fund (IBCF): £2.140 billion.** Inflation will be added to IBCF (£63m).
- **Social Care Support Grant: £2.346 billion** for adults and children's social care. Councils should be using this additional funding to "ensure that adult social care pressures do not create additional demand on the NHS". A further £636m has been added to this grant in 2022-23.

24. Table 4 shows that urban authorities receive much more funding from social care grants than rural authorities. The formula used for social care is heavily weighted towards urban authorities. Furthermore, all the social care allocations take into account the ability of authorities to generate additional income from the Adult Social Care precept – which reduces the grant funding to rural authorities, which tend to have high taxbases. To some extent that was limited in 2022-23, with only £80m out of a possible £270m being equalised.

25. Urban authorities receive a higher share of the new social care grants (£44 per head compared to £38 per head in rural areas). This shows that rural authorities have lower

share of the Adult RNF and that rural authorities lose-out from the equalisation of the ASC precept.

**Table 4 – Social Care Grants**

<u>Total ASCSG</u>	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
All England			241.072	150.000	650.000	1409.933	1709.927	2346.264
less GLA non fire element			0.000	0.000				
All England			241.072	150.000	650.000	1409.933	1709.927	2346.264
Predominantly Rural			49.638	30.886	133.838	285.047	325.434	450.768
Year on Year Change			-	-37.78%	333.33%	112.98%	14.17%	38.51%
Cumulative Change (from 15/16)			-	-37.78%	169.63%	474.25%	555.61%	808.11%
Predominantly Urban			161.612	100.558	436.364	965.436	1192.195	1627.883
Year on Year Change			-	-37.78%	333.94%	121.25%	23.49%	36.55%
Cumulative Change (from 15/16)			-	-37.78%	170.01%	497.38%	637.69%	907.28%
<u>ASCSG per head</u>								
Predominantly Rural			4.23	2.63	11.40	24.28	27.72	38.39
Predominantly Urban			4.37	2.72	11.81	26.13	32.26	44.06
Gap (£)			0.15	0.09	0.41	1.85	4.55	5.67
Gap (%)			3%	3%	4%	8%	16%	15%

### Government Funded Spending Power (GFSP)

26. Rural Services Network has developed a metric called Government Funded Spending Power that shows the funding that authorities receive from central government. Table 5 shows the change in government-funded spending power between 2015-16 and 2022-23. These are all the grant funding streams within Core Spending Power, excluding council tax.

**Table 5 –Government-Funded Spending Power (GFSP) (per head)**

<u>Total GFSP</u>	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
All England	22,630.568	20,482.092	19,630.504	18,526.487	18,445.617	18,787.503	19,070.151	21,142.654
less GLA non fire element	-955.783	-950.084	-950.575	-965.541	-978.037	-978.037	-978.037	-978.037
All England	21,674.785	19,532.008	18,679.929	17,560.946	17,467.579	17,809.466	18,092.114	20,164.617
Predominantly Rural	3,740.400	3,371.401	3,172.038	2,921.979	2,907.283	3,187.242	3,160.577	3,511.363
Year on Year Change		-9.87%	-5.91%	-7.88%	-0.50%	9.63%	-0.84%	11.10%
Cumulative Change (from 15/16)		-1.41%	-7.24%	-14.55%	-14.98%	-6.79%	-7.57%	2.69%
Predominantly Urban	15,717.993	14,196.410	13,673.085	12,974.301	12,899.553	13,827.109	14,021.944	15,530.465
Year on Year Change		-9.68%	-3.69%	-5.11%	-0.58%	7.19%	1.41%	10.76%
Cumulative Change (from 15/16)		-4.27%	-7.80%	-12.51%	-13.02%	-6.76%	-5.45%	4.72%
<u>GFSP per head</u>								
Predominantly Rural	318.56	287.13	270.16	248.86	247.61	271.45	269.18	299.06
Predominantly Urban	425.38	384.20	370.04	351.13	349.11	374.21	379.48	420.31
Gap (£)	106.82	97.07	99.88	102.27	101.50	102.76	110.30	121.25
Gap (%)	34%	34%	37%	41%	41%	38%	41%	41%



27. For the first time, our figures are now showing a cash-terms increase in GFSP, and have actually been very similar in PR and PU authorities between 2015-16 and 2022-23 (4.6% in PR and 4.7% in PU authorities). However, the funding gap between PR and PU authorities remains very significant: funding per head is 41% higher in PU authorities compared to PR authorities (the gap has increased from £112 to £123 per head in 2022-23).
28. This gap has grown since 2015-16 – although it narrowed marginally in 2020-21 and stabilised in 2021-22. In future years we are likely to see changes in funding distribution that will affect the rural funding gap.

### **Band D Council Tax**

29. The maximum increase in “core” Band D will be 1.99% in 2022-23. If all councils increase their Band D by the maximum, this will raise an additional £1.4bn, and continue the significant growth in council tax revenues that have taken place since 2015-16.
30. These are the council tax principles for 2021-22:
- **Core principle** of a maximum increase of 1.99% in Band D. This applies to unitaries, county councils, London boroughs, GLA precept, and fire and rescue authorities.
  - Continuation of the **adult social care precept**, allowing an additional **3% of Band D in 2021-22**.
  - **Shire district councils** will be able to increase Band D by the higher of 1.99% or £5.
  - Maximum £10 increase in council tax for **Police and Crime Commissioners**.
  - **Fire authorities** can increase by 1.99% - with those with Band D in the lower quartile able to increase by £5
31. Ministers will not apply the referendum principles to **town and parish councils**.
32. PR authorities have to raise much more in council tax than PU authorities. PR authorities generate £622 per head compared to £521 per head in PU authorities, meaning that residents in rural authorities are paying £101 more than urban residents.

**Table 6 – Council tax (per head)**

<u>Total Council Tax</u>	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
All England	22,035.883	23,247.252	24,665.793	26,600.221	27,927.126	28,523.057	30,316.843	30,752.088
less GLA non fire element	-657.739	-636.105	-668.242	-711.135	-796.824	-836.665	-878.498	-922.423
All England	21,378.144	22,611.147	23,997.551	25,889.086	27,130.303	27,686.392	29,438.345	29,829.665
Predominantly Rural	5,030.740	5,320.932	5,627.362	6,011.040	6,352.560	6,757.625	6,835.393	7,173.940
Year on Year Change		5.77%	5.76%	6.82%	5.68%	6.38%	1.15%	4.95%
Cumulative Change (from 15/16)		5.77%	11.86%	19.49%	26.27%	34.33%	35.87%	42.60%
Prdominantly Urban	13,073.772	13,837.854	14,711.795	15,702.783	16,675.900	17,533.300	18,855.297	18,734.745
Year on Year Change		5.84%	6.32%	6.74%	6.20%	5.14%	7.54%	-0.64%
Cumulative Change (from 15/16)		5.84%	12.53%	20.11%	27.55%	34.11%	44.22%	43.30%
<u>Council Tax per head</u>								
Predominantly Rural	428.46	453.17	479.27	511.95	541.03	575.53	582.16	610.99
Predominantly Urban	353.82	374.50	398.15	424.97	451.31	474.51	510.29	507.03
Gap (£)	-74.64	-78.67	-81.12	-86.98	-89.73	-101.02	-71.87	-103.96
Gap (%)	-17%	-17%	-17%	-17%	-17%	-18%	-12%	-17%

**Consultation period**

33. There will be the normal consultation period (four weeks) to 13 January 2022.

**Adrian Jenkins**

**Pixel Financial Management**

**21 December 2020**

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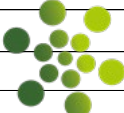


## Appendix 1 – Elements of Core Spending Power per head – Predominantly Rural and Predominantly Urban authorities

Predominantly Rural	Per Head								21-22 to 22-23	
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Per Head	%
Settlement Funding Assessment	284.17	239.32	205.73	187.40	171.58	175.52	176.45	176.98	0.52	0.30%
Compensation for under-indexing the rates multip	2.09	2.09	2.22	3.48	5.06	6.38	8.33	13.14	4.81	57.69%
New Homes Bonus	22.94	28.86	24.89	19.71	19.36	19.60	14.39	13.48	-0.91	-6.31%
Rural Services Delivery Grant	0.96	5.00	4.04	5.03	4.97	5.15	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.00%
Improved Better Care Fund and other social care gr	0.00	0.00	17.47	23.18	28.06	32.91	33.08	34.08	1.00	3.02%
Adult Social Care Support Grant	0.00	0.00	4.15	2.58	11.18	23.70	27.63	38.33	10.69	38.69%
2022-23 Services Grant								11.03		
Government Funded Spending Power	310.16	275.27	258.50	241.39	240.22	263.26	265.29	292.44	27.14	10.23%
Council Tax	424.24	448.69	474.74	507.14	535.64	569.09	593.32	622.28	28.96	4.88%
<b>Total Spending Power</b>	<b>734.40</b>	<b>723.96</b>	<b>733.24</b>	<b>748.52</b>	<b>775.86</b>	<b>832.35</b>	<b>858.62</b>	<b>914.72</b>	<b>56.10</b>	<b>6.53%</b>

Predominantly Urban	Per Head								21-22 to 22-23	
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Per Head	%
Settlement Funding Assessment	401.41	353.98	318.72	299.41	279.85	284.85	283.88	285.60	1.72	0.61%
Compensation for under-indexing the rates multip	3.40	3.40	3.60	5.66	8.24	10.29	13.32	21.01	7.68	57.69%
New Homes Bonus	19.72	24.60	20.28	15.32	14.49	13.81	8.92	7.77	-1.15	-12.90%
Rural Services Delivery Grant	0.02	0.12	0.10	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00%
Improved Better Care Fund and other social care gr	0.00	0.00	21.14	28.64	35.37	39.68	39.45	40.64	1.19	3.02%
Adult Social Care Support Grant	0.00	0.00	4.33	2.69	11.68	25.91	32.03	43.71	11.68	36.46%
2022-23 Services Grant								16.56		
Government Funded Spending Power	424.55	382.10	368.16	351.84	349.75	374.67	377.72	415.41	37.68	9.98%
Council Tax	345.61	365.88	389.06	415.18	441.05	463.68	498.97	521.14	22.17	4.44%
<b>Total Spending Power</b>	<b>770.16</b>	<b>747.98</b>	<b>757.22</b>	<b>767.03</b>	<b>790.80</b>	<b>838.35</b>	<b>876.70</b>	<b>936.55</b>	<b>59.85</b>	<b>6.83%</b>

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1						
2	 <b>RURAL SERVICES NETWORK</b>					<b>Attachment 5</b>
3						
4		<b>The Rural Services Partnership Limited</b>				
5			<b>BUDGET REPORT</b>			
6			<b>April 2020 - March 2021</b>			
7						
8		<b>ORIGINAL BUDGET 2021/22</b>	<b>ACTUAL AS AT 31ST DECEMBER CASH BASIS</b>	<b>REVISED BUDGET 2021 /22</b>	<b>VARIATION FROM ORIGINAL BUDGET</b>	<b>2022/23 ORIGINAL ESTIMATE</b>
9	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
10	Miscellaneous Income					
11	Coastal communities contract income	5758.00	3,505.62	5758.00		5873.00
12	National rural conference	5000.00	3650.00	3650.00	-1350.00	3800.00
13	RHCA Membership	23743.00	10923.59	34176.00	10433.00	23034.00
14	RSP Membership	20642.00	20,045.81	21727.00	1085.00	23304.00
15	Rural England Annual Re CHARGES	6835.00	2692.68	7115.00	280.00	6972.00
16	Rural England project support	1800.00		2380.00	580.00	1836.00
17	Rural fire and rescue	3995.00	3,989.00	3989.00	-6.00	4075.00
18	Rural housing group subscriptions	7318.00	6,500.00	6500.00		5559.00
19	Rural housing group website					2200.00
20	Rural Strategy Income					
21	Rural Towns Group	11000.00	10,422.58	14000.00	3000.00	20000.00

	A	B	C	D	E	F
22	SPARSE - Rural general grant	300463.00	281519.00	308022.00	7559.00	301250.00
23	Miscellaneous Income					
24	Strategic partnering arrangements	10000.00	10000.00	10000.00		10000.00
25	DEBTOR FROM 2020/21 VAT REFUND	3403.96		3403.96		
26	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>399957.96</b>	<b>353248.28</b>	<b>420720.96</b>	<b>21581.00</b>	<b>407903.00</b>
27						
28	Cost of Sales					
29	GROSS SALARIES - PAYE	241421.00	127,519.23	170684.00	3069.00	176111.00
30	SUB-CONTRACTORS		49,820.87	70806.00	-3000.00	67918.00
31	Total Cost of Sales	<b>241421.00</b>	<b>177340.10</b>	<b>241421.00</b>		<b>245229.00</b>
32	<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>158536.96</b>		<b>179299.96</b>	<b>2500.00</b>	<b>162674.00</b>
33	<b>Expenses</b>					
34	Accountancy	1820.00	1017.00	1300.00	-520.00	1856.00
35	Bank charges	105.00	78.30	105.00		107.00
36	Coastal communities contract	4000.00		4000.00		4080.00
37	Communications	36000.00	20,955.00	34000.00	-2000.00	18384.00
38						^£7118 transferred to Rural Policy Expenses
39	Databases	6180.00	4,684.38	6180.00		6304.00
40	EMPLOYER Pension contributions	4944.12	3,749.88	5023.00	79.00	5196.00
41	Employer's NI contributions	11417.72	6,393.68	10421.00	-997.00	14132.00
42	Fair Fundinging Work external support	18000.00	17,250.00	18000.00		20000.00
43	Insurance	780.00	275.00	780.00		796.00
44	IT Support	700.00	109.66	700.00		714.00

	A	B	C	D	E	F
45	Legal and professional fees	13.00	13.00	13.00		13.00
46	Meeting Room Hire	500.00		500.00		510.00
47	Nat Centre RHC	7784.00	7599.00	7559.00	-185.00	7939.00
48	National rural conference expenses	1500.00			-1500.00	
49	Printing, postage stationery & phone	3750.00	2,393.78	3750.00		3825.00
50	Professional subscriptions	550.00	182.00	550.00		561.00
51	Rent and service charge	9986.00	6,718.42	9986.00		
52	RSN ONLINE - Website		887.50	887.50	887.50	5906.00
53	Rural England Service	7000.00	7,279.98	7280.00	280.00	7000.00
54	Rural housing group website expenses	175.00	76.67	175.00		
55	Rural Strategy/Rural Policy Expenses	18000.00	16,200.00	18000.00		17118.00
56	Travel and subsistence	5000.00	9.00	5000.00		5000.00
57	HOUSING	500.00		500.00		
58	Parliamentary	800.00		800.00		
59	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>139504.84</b>	<b>95872.25</b>	<b>135509.50</b>	-1455.50	<b>119441.00</b>
60	Corporation Tax	4500.00	8,207.43	8207.43	3707.00	5384.00
61	Uncatagorised Expenditure @ CONTRA		11,613.16			
62	Uncategorised Expense @ RHCA					
63	CAPITAL ITEMS IT EQUIPMENT					
64	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>144004.84</b>	<b>115692.84</b>	<b>143716.93</b>	<b>2251.50</b>	<b>124825.00</b>
65	<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>14532.12</b>		<b>35583.03</b>	<b>16350.50</b>	<b>37849.00</b>
66	Sundry income RHCA Overpayment @					

	A	B	C	D	E	F
67	Sundry Income Insurance Refund @					
68	Sundry Income @ CONTRA		12263.30			
69						
70						
71						
72	<b>Net Income</b>	<b>14532.12</b>		<b>35583.03</b>		<b>37849.00</b>
73	<b>BALANCE B/FWD</b>	<b>68513.69</b>		<b>83045.81</b>		<b>71628.84</b>
74	<b>PLANNED USE OF BALANCES</b>			<b>-47000.00</b>		
75	<b>BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>83045.81</b>		<b>71628.84</b>		<b>109477.84</b>
76						
77	<b>RURAL POLICY RESERVE ANALYSIS</b>					
78	2020/21 BUDGET PROVISION					
79	ADD INCOME IN YEAR					
80	LESS EXPENDITURE IN YEAR					
81						
82	<b>BALANCE C/FORWARD TO 2021/22</b>					
83						
84						
85	<b>RE ANNUAL CHARGES INCOME BREAKDOWN</b>					
86						
87	Back Office	1485.00				
88	Staff Costs (Incl Vuln Panels)	3000.00				

	A	B	C	D	E	F
89	Website	2350.00				
90						
91	<b>TOTAL</b>	6835.00				
92						
93	<b>RE PROJECT INCOME BREAKDOWN</b>					
94	Toolkit					
95	Utility Vulnerability Panel	800.00				
96	SORS	300.00				
97	Work for Anglia Water	1280.00				
98						
99	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2380.00</b>				