



Introduction to RSN Services

**Nadine Trout, Assistant Chief Executive
Rural Services Network**

June 2023



About Us

- **The national champion for rural services**
- **Campaign Government on your behalf**
- **Provide you with a range of services including publications and events**
- **Financially independent membership organisation**

Broad Membership

Local authorities
Market towns Health Providers
Housing Associations Fire Authorities
Utility Companies Transport Providers
Advice and Special Interest Groups

Over 500 RSN member organisations and
growing!

Welcomed 23 new member organisations in the past 12 months

 <p>ACS (the Association of Convenience Stores)</p>	 <p>airband</p>	 <p>ONEill Homer</p>	 <p>Countryside Jobs Service</p>	 <p>Liquid Gas UK</p>	 <p>Gemserv</p>	 <p>Platform Housing Group</p>	 <p>RABI</p>	 <p>Citizens Advice North Hertfordshire</p>
 <p>Digital Mobile Spectrum Limited</p>	 <p>The Patients Association</p>	 <p>OFTEC</p>	 <p>AvantiGas</p>	 <p>Arqiva</p>	 <p>Citizens Advice Hull & East Riding</p>	 <p>Lincolnshire Rural Support Network</p>	 <p>Citizens Advice North Yorkshire</p>	 <p>Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC)</p>

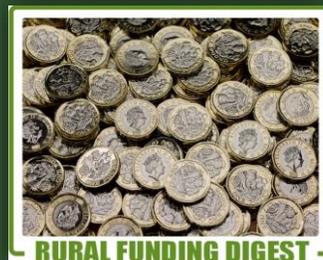
New unitary authorities are joining too

Member Benefits

- Publication sent straight to your inbox
- Opportunity to network and share best practice
- Seminar and events programme
- **National Rural Conference**
- Rural research and analysis
- Campaigning

Publications

- Weekly news bulletin and political round up
- Monthly funding digest
- Monthly commentary on rural headlines
- Quarterly housing spotlight
- Quarterly economy spotlight



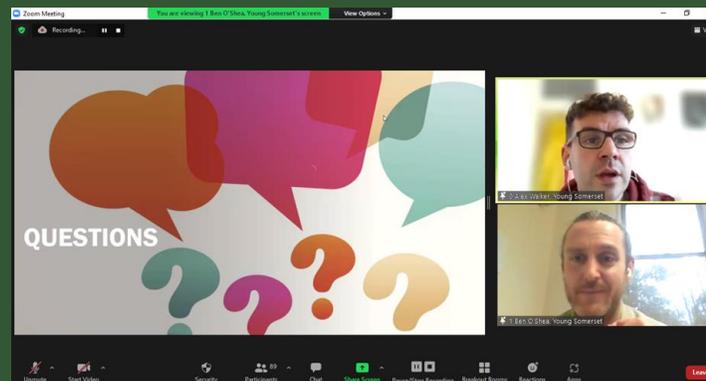
Seminar Programme

- 8 seminars tied key rural themes
- Expert speakers from industry and academia
- Q&A and networking opportunities
- **634** delegates last year
- Inclusive and carbon friendly
- Held on Zoom

**RURAL SERVICES NETWORK****2023 ONLINE SEMINAR PROGRAMME**

1. Rural Net Zero Wednesday 25/01/2023 11 am - 1 pm BOOK HERE	2. Rural Connectivity Wednesday 22/02/2023 11 am - 1 pm BOOK HERE
3. Rural Fair Funding Wednesday 29/03/2023 11 am - 1 pm BOOK HERE	4. Rural Economy Wednesday 26/04/2023 11 am - 1 pm BOOK HERE
5. Rural Transport Wednesday 17/05/2023 11 am - 1 pm BOOK HERE	6. Rural Affordable Housing Wednesday 28/06/2023 11 am - 1 pm BOOK HERE
7. Rural Planning Wednesday 25/10/2023 11 am - 1 pm BOOK HERE	8. Rural Health and Care Wednesday 29/11/2023 11 am - 1 pm BOOK HERE

The RSN seminar programme is free to members of the RSN as part of their membership. For full details [click here](#)



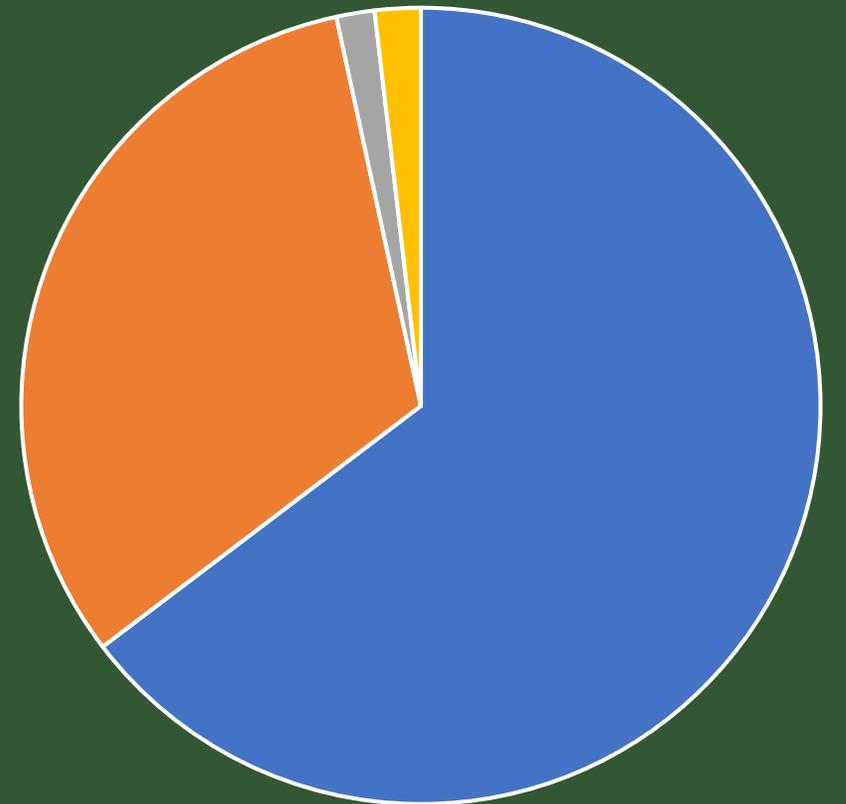
National Rural Conference



Ready to book now at:

<https://rsn-national-conference-2023.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Breakdown of attendance 2022



Local Authorities

Rural Services Partnership

Government

Rural Market Town Group

Government Policy Reviews

Our Rural Lens Series provide a useful overview on government policy



To view the full Rural Lens series covering over 20 topics visit:
<https://www.rsnonline.org.uk/tag/rural-lens/page/1/>

Commission Independent Research



Click each image to read the full report

Rural Cost of Living Survey generated over **7,000** responses



Support Back Bench Debate

The RSN provide briefing papers for both the House of Lords and Commons to inform rural debate.



“Although I am only 10 days into the job, I am very happy to talk to more colleagues about local government finance in general. I am keen to understand, to learn and to take the expertise that the all-party group and others have demonstrated over so many years to assist me in my role in the months ahead”

Lee Rowley DLUHC

Watch the footage from Parliament TV at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vuRToZxp-Qg>

Respond to Government Consultations

We make our members voices heard, examples:

- Phasing out fossil fuel heating in homes, businesses and public buildings off gas grid
- Landscapes Review (National Parks and AONBs): implementing the review
- Fire Reform White Paper – Reforming our Fire and Rescue Service
- OFCOM call for input into UK preparations for World Radiocommunication Conference
- A plan for digital health and social care
- Rural Powerhouse APPG – Rural Cost of Living

As well providing the secretariat for the
All Party Parliamentary Group for Rural Services



Secured £10million additional funding

Influenced the final Local Government Settlement 2023/24

- Swiftly responded to the provisional Local Government Announcement made in December 2023.
- Galvanised rural MPs with key messaging.
- Resulting in a £10million increase to the Rural Services Delivery Grant

Still more work to do and we won't be resting until rural local authorities get their fair share of government funding.



Find out more at:
<https://www.rsnonline.org.uk/page/fairer-funding-campaign>

Influenced Further Afield

With government departments, House of Lords and National service providers

- DEFRA Rural Impact Forum
- Gave evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee on Social Care
- Presented in the House of Lords to the Rural Coalition on the importance of rural Levelling Up
- Launched State of Rural Services report to MPs and Lords
- Rural Affordable Housing Roundtable
- Off Gas Grid Heating in Rural Areas meeting with BEIS Minister
- Participated in BT Digital Voice Advisory Group on telephone switchover
- Broadcast 2040 campaign, the future of analogue TV



Liquid Gas UK



And finally, we keep Rural Issues in the news!

Over 20,000 subscribers

For example, on the rural cost-of-living crisis

Extensive BBC Coverage:

National news and 19 regional news programmes

BBC Farming Today

BBC Radio 4, Radio 2 and regional radio

National Press:

Daily Express

Farming UK

Government Business

Plus 17 entries in regional and trade press

<https://rsnonline.org.uk/page/rural-in-the-news>



Energy crisis horror as poorest Britons to fork out half of disposable income on bills

Rural communities face 'triple blow' in cost-of-living crisis

Rural Services Network study shows rural areas are being hit harder during cost-of-living crisis



Thank you

For any queries about Rural Services Network membership
please contact:

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