



# Introduction to RSN Services

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

**24 June 2024**















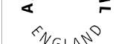












# About Us














- **Financially independent membership organisation with over 500 organisations in membership**
- **National champion for rural services**
- **Raise the profile of rural areas and Campaign Government on your behalf**
- **Also provide you and your organisation with breaking news, spotlight publications, research, events, promotion and networking opportunities**























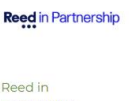


# Broad Membership

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!**

 A Different Approach	 Ability Community Transport	 Abingdon Risk Consulting	 ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England)	 ACS (the Association of Convenience Stores)
 Action Hampshire	 Age UK	 Agricultural Chaplains Association	 Applaase	 APSE (Assn Public Service Excellence)
 Arqiva	 Arthur Rank Centre	 Arts Council England	 AvantiGas	 BASC (British Assn for Shooting & Conservation)
 Bipolar UK	 Bridge Interiors - General and External Construction	 BT	 CafS (Cumbria Action for Sustainability)	 Calor Ltd
 Cambridgeshire ACRE	 Change Mental Health	 Community Council for Somerset	 Cirencester Town Council	 Citizens Advice

 Citizens Advice Dorset	 Citizens Advice Hull & East Riding	 Citizens Advice North Hertfordshire	 Citizens Advice North Yorkshire	 Citizens Advice Torridge North Mid & West Devon
 Community Catalysts	 Community Transport Association (CTA)	 Connecting Communities in Berkshire	 Cornwall Rural Community Charity	 Countryside Alliance
 Countryside Jobs Service	 CPRE (The Countryside Charity)	 Dartmoor National Park	 Devon Churches Rural Forum	 Devon Communities Together
 Digital Mobile Spectrum Limited	 Dispensing Doctors' Association	 Farming Community Network	 Federation of Women's Institute	 Forum of Private Business
 Gemserv	 Godolphin Cross Community Association	 iED (Institute of Economic Development)	 Land and Leisure	 Landex (x 52 colleges)







 Lincolnshire Co-op	 Lincolnshire Rural Support Network	 Linkage Community Trust	 Liquid Gas UK	 Midlands Connect
 Mobile UK	 National Association of Local Councils (NALC)	 National Rural Touring Forum (NRTF)	 NFU (National Farmers Union)	 National Innovation Centre for Rural Enterprise (NICRE)
 Northamptonshire ACRE	 Note Machine UK Ltd	 Nuclear Waste Services	 Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils	 OFTEC
 ONH Planning for Good	 Outside the Box	 Peak District National Park	 Plunkett UK	 Pub is the Hub
 Pym's Consultancy Ltd	 RABI	 Reed in Partnership	 Rural Media	 Rural West Sussex Partnership



 Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue	 Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service	 Essex Fire & Rescue	 Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue	 Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue
 Shropshire and Wrekin Fire & Rescue	 Suffolk Fire and Rescue			

 Airedale NHS Foundation Trust	 East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust	 NHS England South West	 Isle of Wight NHS Trust	 Lincolnshire CCGs
 Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	 National Centre for Remote and Rural Medicine	 Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	 Plymouth University (Medicine & Dentistry Faculty)	 Royal College of General Practitioners, Rural Forum
 Somerset NHS Foundation Trust	 The Patients Association	 United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust		

 Aster Group	 Broadacres Housing Association	 Connexus	 Cornwall Rural Housing Association Limited	 Eden Housing Association
 English Rural Association	 Hastoe Housing Association Ltd	 Lincs Rural Housing Association	 Midlands Rural Housing	 National Housing Federation

 100Green	 Anglian Water	 Cadent Gas	 Northern Powergrid (North East)	 Scottish Power
 South East Water	 SP Energy Networks	 United Utilities	 Wales and West Utilities Ltd	 Western Power Distribution
 Wessex Water				

# Member Benefits

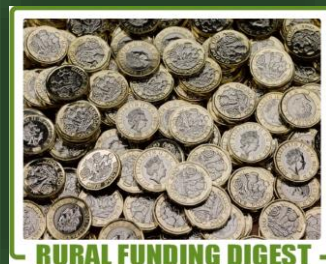
- Publication sent straight to your inbox
- Opportunity to network and share best practice
- Seminar and events programme
- **National Rural Conference**
- Rural research and analysis
- Campaigning

# Publications

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

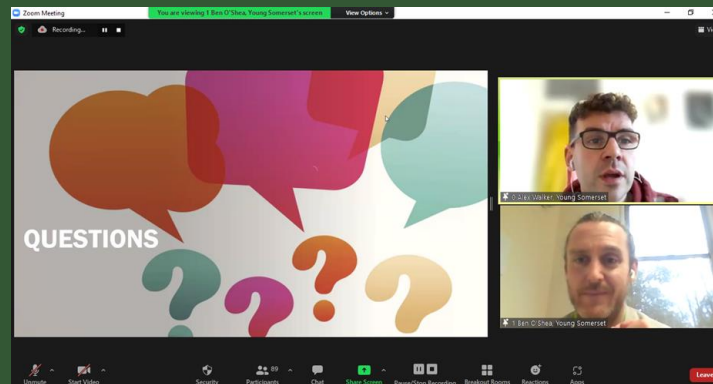


All delivered straight to your inbox



# Seminar Programme

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





**2024**

## SEMINAR PROGRAMME

<b>Rural Net Zero</b> 31st January 2024 11:00-13:00 <a href="#">BOOK NOW</a>	<b>Rural Connectivity</b> 28th February 2024 11:00-13:00 <a href="#">BOOK NOW</a>
<b>Rural Fair Funding</b> 27th March 2024 11:00-13:00 <a href="#">BOOK NOW</a>	<b>Rural Economy</b> 24th April 2024 11:00-13:00 <a href="#">BOOK NOW</a>
<b>Rural Transport</b> 22nd May 2024 11:00-13:00 <a href="#">BOOK NOW</a>	<b>Rural Affordable Housing</b> 26th June 2024 11:00-13:00 <a href="#">BOOK NOW</a>
<b>Rural Planning</b> 23rd October 2024 11:00-13:00 <a href="#">BOOK NOW</a>	<b>Rural Health and Care</b> 27th November 2024 11:00-13:00 <a href="#">BOOK NOW</a>

ONLINE SEMINARS



# National Rural Conference

Circa 500 delegates attended sessions online throughout the week



Save the date!  
2024  
CONFERENCE  
online  
16-19  
September

A collage of images from the National Rural Conference 2022 event. It includes a landscape photo, a slide titled "POLICY LANDSCAPE FOR RURAL DECARBONISATION", a slide titled "Housing challenges", and several video call windows showing participants. The "POLICY LANDSCAPE" slide includes text about CCC's verdict and five priorities for the government: Home energy efficiency, Skills, information, finance and governance, Devolved and local plan coordination, and Cost of electricity vs natural gas. The "Housing challenges" slide lists issues like homelessness, affordability, and newbuild constraints.



# 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 Lord 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:

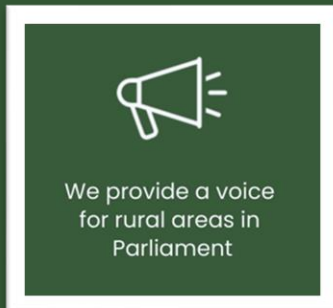
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vuRToZxp-Qg>

# 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
- A plan for digital health and social care
- Rural Powerhouse APPG – Rural Cost of Living
- Voluntary Guidance for Community Benefits for electricity transmission network infrastructure
- OFGEM Resilience Guidance
- Very Hard to Reach Premises Consultation
- Universal Service Obligation Consultation

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



# Secured £15million 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 £15million 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
- Launched *Winning the Rural Vote* in Parliament
- Participated in BT Digital Voice Advisory Group on telephone switchover
- Broadcast 2040 campaign, the future of analogue TV
- DEFRA Rural England Prosperity Fund meeting
- Good Design Guide Project
- Localis collection of essays - published on Rural Planning
- Part of Rural Homelessness Coalition
- Part of National Alliance for Cultural Services



# And finally, we keep Rural Issues in the news!

Around 20,000 subscribers

For example in recent months, RSN has been included in:

LocalGov Articles – Implications on Rural Planning  
Tech Republic article on Digital Connectivity  
Express Newspaper – Winning the Rural Vote  
Guardian newspaper – Rural Bank Closures  
Social Footprint Podcast – Digital Connectivity

<https://rsnonline.org.uk/page/media-coverage>



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

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

*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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