# Welcome to RSN Seminar Rural Planning 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022

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RURAL SERVICES NETWORK		202	2 ONLINE
		SEMINAR	
		PROGRAMME	
1. Older people Wednesday 26/01/2022 11 am - 1 pm		2. Young People in Rural Areas Wednesday 02/03/2022 11 am - 1 pm	
	BOOK HERE		BOOK HERE
<b>3. Rural Planning</b> Wednesday 30/03/2022 11 am - 1 pm		<b>4. Rural Decarbonisation</b> Wednesday 27/04/2022 11 am - 1 pm	
	BOOK HERE		BOOK HERE
5. Rural Digital Connectivity		6. Rural Affordab	ble Housing
Wednesday 25/05/2022 11 am - 1 pm		Wednesday 29/06/2022 11 am - 1 pm	
11 am - 1 pm		11 am - 1 pm	
11 am - 1 pm	BOOK HERE	11 am - 1 pm	BOOK HERE
11 am - 1 pm 7. Rural Health a Care Wednesday 27/07, 11 am - 1 pm	nd Social	11 am - 1 pm 8. Rural Town Ce Streets & Village Wednesday 02/11/2 11 am - 1 pm	entres, High Hubs
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7. Rural Health a Care Wednesday 27/07, 11 am - 1 pm 9. Rural Econom Wednesday 30/11/2 The RSN seminar program	nd Social /2022 BOOK HERE ies 2022   11 am	8. Rural Town Ce Streets & Village Wednesday 02/11/2 11 am - 1 pm	entres, High Hubs 2022 BOOK HERE RE

Seminars are free to member organisations of the Rural Services Network.

### Book your place for upcoming seminars now!

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We want a fairer distribution of national resources to rural areas and for more nuanced national policies that reflect rural circumstances.





What are the challenges that rural planning has to overcome?



#### Defra statistical digest 2022

## Demographic of rural communities

#### Population by age

Percentage of population within age bands by rural-urban classification (LSOA) in England, 2020



 The rural population has a higher proportion of those aged 65 and over, at 25.4 per cent, compared with the urban population where 17.1 per cent are 65 and over.



## Population trends?

- Predominantly Rural areas have proportionately seen large falls in the population aged 30 to 39 and higher proportional increases in the older population.
- The population aged 65 and over increased by **37** per cent in Predominantly Rural areas between 2001 and 2015, compared with **17** per cent in Predominantly Urban areas.
- Predominantly Rural areas have seen an increase of 7% in infants (0 to 4-year olds) compared with a 22% increase in Predominantly Urban areas.

#### Average annual sale price houses Q3 2020

Defra Rural Economic Bulletin 2021



# Housing

It costs on average over £90,000 more to buy a house in a rural area compared with urban (excluding London)

# Housing

There is less social rented housing available in rural areas, especially in the smallest of settlements

This has reduced further with the Right to Buy Scheme

It is in the smaller settlements where meeting affordable housing needs can be most challenging

Issues of second home ownership



## **Rural Economies**

• 85% of rural businesses are unrelated to agriculture, forestry or fishing

- Education, health and social work provide 17% of employment
- Manufacturing provides 11% of employment

• Half a million registered businesses are SME

• In the more sparsely populated areas tourism becomes more important, providing 22% of employment







# For those working in rural areas, average wage levels are lower



## **Transport** Rural Residents travel further than urban Need range of solutions to reduce reliance on private vehicles

**Digital Connectivity** 

Some 7% of rural premises cannot access a decent fixed broadband connection of 10Mbps

There remains significant issues with mobile connectivity in rural premises. It is not possible to get an indoor 4G connection on all four networks at a majority (54%) of rural premises.





## Net Zero

Homes in rural areas are typically less energy efficient and can be more reliant on potentially more expensive heating fuels

Nearly 20% of homes in rural areas are in the very energy inefficient F and G categories, compared to just 2.4% in urban areas.

And 91.1% of urban households have a gas connection, and are able to use gas boilers compared to only 40% of homes in rural areas. RSN is responding to the Landscapes Review (National Parks and AONBs): Implementing the review

DEFRA says it will develop a new national landscape strategy, it is vital this is not just a landscape strategy for those parts of rural England that are designated NP or AONB.

We would like opportunities to be realised in all rural areas



Levelling Up the United Kingdom Executive Summary

# What next?

"A strong planning system is vital to level up communities across the country and give them a say in how their land is used and where beautiful, sustainable houses are built."

- Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector, especially in those places where they are lagging;
- Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest;
- Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost; and
- Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency.

# https://www.rsnonline.org.uk/tag/rural-lens











The Rural Services Network is fighting for a fair deal for rural communities, in all public sector funding