



## Membership Benefits

### Informing

**We will keep you up to date with key issues impacting rural communities by:**

- Providing a weekly **Rural Bulletin** direct to your inbox which includes key rural news stories and commentary.
- Providing a monthly **Funding Digest and Government Consultations** publication direct to your inbox which sets out a range of grant opportunities that may be of interest to your community, along with relevant rural consultations the Government is holding.
- Providing a **Rural Market Town Group** newsletter six times a year which focuses on key issues for market towns, useful good practice examples, subjects covered include rural net zero, affordable housing, transport and broadband connectivity.
- Providing an **Area Profile** setting out key statistics in relation to your rural areas. This will help to give the overall picture of your local area to help plan services, and understand local issues.
- Providing updates at meetings about the **RSN Fair Funding campaign** and the implications for rural service delivery and the impact on Parish and Town Councils.

### Sharing

**We will enable you to share best practice with like-minded rural Towns and Larger Parishes by:**

- Hosting a **Councillor meeting** twice a year for elected local councillors of RMTG Councils, dedicated for best practice sharing, networking and discussion on relevant rural topics. The Clerks Advisory Panel will also be invited to the Autumn meeting.
- Hosting an annual meeting of the **Clerks Advisory Panel** where clerks from RMTG members can attend to share best practice, network, and discuss key rural topics.

- Free access to RMTG member organisations to attend the **RSN Seminar Programme**. We provide 8 seminar events a year, held on zoom, with a range of expert speakers who share best practice and knowledge. (There is a maximum of two bookings per Town or Parish Council).
- Members of the RMTG will be able to purchase discounted access to sessions at the **National Rural Conference**, hosted by the Rural Services Network, subject to places being available.
- Information Exchange – a dedicated private **RMTG Facebook** group is available to facilitate information exchange between members.
- The RSN website will host a page with Logos of members of the RMTG, which can link through to **good practice case studies** and information. You can also display a 'Working with the RSN' logo on your website.
- **Good Practice** case studies will also be shared in the RMTG newsletter to enable the information to be shared with the whole group. Town or Parish Councils can submit areas of their work or initiatives and projects they are most proud of to share with other members of the group.

## Influencing

### We will enable you to influence our national campaigning work by:

- **Contributing to our wider national campaigns** and work through the sharing of your experiences and best practice.
- **Enabling you to contribute to a rural market town voice** across England so that we can ensure that the vital role that market towns play as service centres to their communities and rural hinterland is understood and greater supported at a national level.
- An **annual rural poll** of member organisations of the RMTG to explore key issues impacting your communities.
- Involvement in the **RSN Consultation Programme** through the use of surveys, calls for evidence and case studies. This will enable the RSN to respond to Government consultations from a rural perspective ensuring that key rural issues and challenges are heard.
- Member Councils can nominate a Councillor or staff member with a particular interest in the following topics, to be involved in discussion or surveys to share particular issues affecting that group within their rural area:
  - **Younger People**
  - **Older People**