



RSN working with **nalc** in support of Rural Market Towns

## What is the Rural Market Town Group?

The Rural Market Town Group is a subgroup of the Rural Services Network (RSN). It brings together market Town Councils and larger Parish Councils into a specific group to underline the important role they play in rural life, and their potential in the future.

The RSN is the national champion for rural services, ensuring that people in rural areas have a strong voice. We are fighting for a fair deal for rural communities to maintain their social and economic viability for the benefit of the nation.

We started the recruitment for this group by approaching one town or the largest village in each of the 200+ rural areas across England which were identified by Defra for their distinctive characteristic. This process will now be expanded to ensure that all those that wish to be involved are fully engaged.

The aim of the RMTG is to:

- a. Create a Network across England enabling Rural/Market Towns to share best practice and concerns and arrive at consensus viewpoints
- b. Give Rural/Market Towns collectively the essential grouping necessary to create the opportunity to present their views and formulate their asks of decision makers.
- c. Present a full annual programme that facilitates this joint working and ensures that individual Market Towns benefit from membership.

You can see the full range of services provided as part of your membership at this link: [RMTG Services](#)

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

#### Rural Services Network

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## Why do we need a Rural Market Town Group?

The Rural Services Network represents rural areas across the length of England. We already represent rural local authorities through our Sparse and Rural Assembly groupings, and a wide range of rural organisations such as Housing Associations, Health Trusts and national businesses and charities.

The Rural Market Town Group enables market and larger parish councils to come together, specifically focusing on the issues and challenges they may face in relation to rural service delivery and supporting their rural communities.

Although many market towns may be relatively small, they are often key social and service centres for their surrounding rural areas.

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