

Rural Economy & Regeneration
Monday 14 September 2026
13.30-15.30

AGENDA

13.25 Event Opens to Delegates

13.30 Welcome and Introduction to the RSN National Rural Conference
Councillor Roger Phillips, Chair of the RSN

13.30 Rural Economy: Setting the Scene
Kerry Booth, RSN Chief Executive

13.40 Minister Jenny Riddell-Carpenter, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, DEFRA

14.00 Professor Tanya Ovenden-Hope, Dean and Professor of Education, Plymouth Marjon University
"Pretty Poverty – Challenging Perceptions of Rural Deprivation"

14:20 Professor Matthew Gorton, Deputy Director, National Innovation Centre for Rural Enterprise (NICRE)
"Catalysing Rural Innovation and Growth"

14.40 Harriet Stainton, Growth Hub Delivery Manager (Interim),York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority
"Meeting Businesses Where They Are: A Joined-Up Approach to Rural Outreach"

15.00 Kerry Booth, RSN Chief Executive – Open Discussion with delegates about the Rural Economy and Regeneration

15.30 Close of Conference Session

With Special Thanks to Our Conference Supporters

RISE Retrofit information, support & expertise

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NICRE National Innovation Centre Rural Enterprise

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