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# THE RURAL BULLETIN

Exclusively brought to you by the Rural Services Network



## THE RURAL SERVICES NETWORK

The National Champion for Rural Services, ensuring people in rural areas have a strong voice

This Rural Bulletin is published by the Rural Services Network and brings you a round up of our existing publications in one place! Get the latest rural news, read our current rural commentary in the Hinterland, focus in on our weekly Spotlight special feature and check out what we've been up to this week at RSN HQ!

If you have any comments on the Rural Bulletin, please contact us [here](#).

## LATEST RURAL NEWS



[Don't forget rural arts and creative industries says RSN](#)



[Uproar at bank scrapping free post office cash withdrawals](#)

Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

### GIGABIT BROADBAND VOUCHER SCHEME

[Subsidised broadband for rural communities](#)



[Post office closures are destroying communities](#)



[Lord Foster: Rural Britain has been ignored for too long](#)



[Fairer police officer recruitment for rural areas](#)



[Coastal residents earn less than people living inland](#)



[Barclays halts branch closures for two years](#)



[Rural way of life under attack, says Countryside Alliance](#)



[The new £20 note unveiled](#)



[5G won't solve rural connectivity issues](#)



[Rural Related Politics - An RSN weekly review](#)

A quarterly bulletin facilitated by your membership of the **Rural Services Network** and produced in partnership with the **Rural Housing Alliance**, highlighting a selection of current rural housing issues and opportunities

Just some of the things this issue discusses are the success of the Rural Housing Week 2019, a new



Warwickshire Rural Housing Association (WRHA) scheme, a sheltered housing scheme opened by Ashford Borough Council, an article written by Joanna Oakes of Daventry District Council discussing improving conditions for private renters in rural areas and a new report which details the affordable housing crisis in the Surrey Hills.

All this information can be accessed [here](#)



In this edition of [Hinterland](#):

Rural homelessness, coastal towns, obesity, the Lake District and the perils of pets! [Read on...](#)



On 1st March, the Rural Services Network launched a campaign calling on the Government to develop a Rural Strategy. We are asking members to support this call by signing a petition [here](#)

#### Additional Information:

- [Further details about the campaign](#)
- [Supporters of the campaign](#)
- [RSN template report 'Time for a Rural Strategy'](#)
- [Summary of the 'Rural England – A different place demands a different strategy' event](#)

## WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK AT RSN HQ!

We are traveling to Kendal this week for our next Rural Strategy roadshow which is kindly hosted by South Lakeland Council and will explore issues on the Rural Strategy for the North East of England.

There are a few places left, [click here](#) to book your place

Check out the first in our new Economy Insight series of analyses, examining the [proportion of employees employed in broad industrial groups](#) for a chosen local authority area. It can be found within the [Economy Section of the RSN Observatory](#), alongside a host of analyses aimed at providing our member authorities a 360 degree economic intelligence service.

## LATEST RESEARCH & COMMENTARY



### [What would a 'basic income' for rural residents look like?](#)

'Basic income' is a tax-free, unconditional and non-contributory basic weekly income automatically paid to people (weekly or monthly) irrespective of how much they earn or their work status. What does a basic income scheme in England look like and how would it work in rural areas? *Jessica Sellick investigates*

- Read the full article [here](#)

The House of Lords select committee on the

Rural Economy last week debated their report and the Government's response to it. See the [news story here](#) for more information.



### [Whitehall updates the Index of Multiple Deprivation](#)

The 2019 version of this Index does not solve rural concerns, but it is likely to be widely used and should not be ignored, says *Brian Wilson*

- Read the full article [here](#)

The RSN is sponsored by **First** 



### **RURAL FUNDING DIGEST**

The **latest** edition of the **Funding Digest** can be viewed [here](#)  
Looking for funding for your local project or community group? This monthly bulletin includes links to various sources of grant funding that you may be able to access!



### **GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS**

Read the **latest RSN suggested draft responses** for key rural consultations and view the latest Government Consultations that may be relevant to rural communities [here](#)



### **RURAL OBSERVATORY**

The Rural Observatory - provides analysis, facts, figures and commentary impacting upon rural communities  
Visit the Rural Observatory [here](#)



### **FAIRER FUNDING**

Find out about our campaign for fairer funding for rural areas [here](#)  
This includes our work on the Local Government Finance Settlement

**EVENTS & MEETINGS**

**BECOME A MEMBER**



### **RSN PRIORITIES**

Public Sector Funding, Barriers to Access, Future of Rural Areas, Health and Wellbeing



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