



THE RURAL BULLETIN

Exclusively brought to you by the Rural Services Network



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



[Rural crime rising fast, says latest report](#)



[Green Belt 'no solution' to housing crisis](#)



[Rural youth 'optimistic about the future'](#)



[Call for national debate on adult social care](#)



[Council unveils £70m plan to cut services](#)



[Survey to inform rural economy evidence](#)

SPOTLIGHT ON VULNERABILITY FUEL POVERTY EDITION



Welcome to the latest [Spotlight on Vulnerability - Fuel Poverty Edition](#) - brought to you by the **Rural Services Network** and the **Rural England CIC** in association with **Calor**.

Limited options for fuel in rural localities – many of which lack mains gas – make efficient fuel use and insulation particularly important for countryside communities.

In addition, rural residents face the challenges of lower average wages, an ageing population and

single-skin, solid wall or non-cavity wall properties.

The **Rural Services Network** believes the national picture must not mask this extra rural dimension.



[In this weeks Hinterland](#) - In *“And Finally....”*

this week proof that Stonehenge is Welsh! If that’s not interesting enough for you this week in Hinterland we also have our second example of a local authority going deeply into the “red” and in

this case not against a background of financial denial or mismanagement. We have a widening jobs gap in the NHS at the same time as our emerging approach to immigration is clearly stifling the supply of workers and we have a couple of environmental stories about pollution and “wonky” vegetables - [Read on.....](#)



Proposed LEP boundary changes

The Government has published its conclusions on a policy review of Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs).

[Strengthened Local Enterprise Partnerships](#) sets out a series of Government commitments alongside a number of additional changes that the Government aims to work with LEPs to implement.

For further information on this, which includes the suggestion submitted by the **Rural Services Network** in relation to the consultation, (as well as the views of both the County Council Network



We are working with **Rural England** and **CCRI** to carry out a survey on rural housing to understand the opinions and experiences of residents of rural areas in England. This will help Rural England better understand housing issues and to draw together ideas for solutions.

By completing [the survey](#), you can help us try to make sure that politicians and policies are more informed about what really goes on, and what is needed, at the local level across the country.

The survey can be completed [here](#). It will remain open throughout the summer, closing on September 3rd and all valid responses will be in with a chance of winning one of ten £10 Amazon vouchers.

and District Council Network) download [this document](#).

WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK AT RSN HQ!



Preparations for [RSN's National Rural Conference](#) in September are well underway, and the programme is looking full of interesting topics to discover. Taking place in the beautiful town of Cheltenham at the Park Campus, University of Gloucestershire, the event provides a fantastic opportunity to learn, engage and network. To book your place at this essential event for rural practitioners, follow [this link](#)

If you have an interest in **transport and travel data** relevant to your area, the RSN has prepared some [factsheets](#) for each of its member authorities. The transport & travel profiles cover travel time, motor vehicle traffic, road network condition, road speed and delay, walking and cycling, and provide comparison to relevant averages. They can be accessed at [here](#)

LATEST RESEARCH & COMMENTARY



[How can we bridge the \(rural\) speech, language and communication divide?](#)

Jessica Sellick investigates

On 4 July 2018 a Westminster Hall debate was held on Speech, Language and Communication Support for Children. In leading the debate, Rebecca Pow MP for Taunton Deane, described how.....

[Read more....](#)

The RSN is sponsored by **First** 



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!



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

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RSN PRIORITIES

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



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