



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



[Welcome to 2019 from the RSN!](#)



[Stop rural fuel stations overcharging](#)



[Call for rural taxis to replace buses](#)



[Rural pupils get help from online tutors](#)



[Millions 'will suffer' in cashless society](#)



[New measures a major win for rural coverage](#)



[High street report findings](#)



[Farming revolution - winners and losers](#)



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

SPOTLIGHT ON VULNERABILITY BROADBAND EDITION



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

The Spotlight on Vulnerability service aims to disseminate information about three key rural issues: fuel poverty, broadband and rural transport.

[This newsletter](#) focuses on the availability of broadband across rural areas.



In [Hinterland](#) this week:

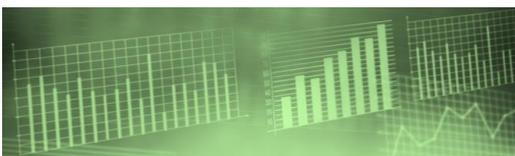
Happy New Year to Hinterland readers. In my normal endeavor to avoid the Brexit miasma which seems to infect everything (whichever side you're on) I've found a bevy of public sector focused stories, although sadly few with very much festive cheer to them! NHS, health and a thwarted raffle innovation all feature. [Read on...](#)

WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK AT RSN HQ!

The consultation on the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2019/20 closes on January 10th at 11.45pm. Full details can be found at [this link](#)

RSN will be submitting a response but we would urge our Members to respond to the consultation, in particular please note question 4 on the question of the Rural Services Delivery Grant.

It is vital that each authority does respond. Each response is itemised and counted by MHCLG.



Within the [Performance Benchmarking](#) section the **Planning Turnaround** analysis has been

LATEST RESEARCH & COMMENTARY



[Hidden hunger – how can we tackle food poverty and insecurity in rural areas?](#)

Jessica Sellick investigates

When we think of the word 'hunger' we often think about starving children in developing countries. Yet unfortunately this type of hunger is very much a reality for some people living in the UK today.

[Read more...](#)

updated to September 2018. These analyses can be accessed [HERE](#) and provide benchmarking on speed of decisions for 'major', 'minor' and 'other' development types. A supplementary planning performance analysis that presents data showing the speed and quality of decisions made over a two year period can be found [HERE](#)

 RSN is pleased to work with Southern Water in a number of areas. They serve areas of Southern England. The message they give is universal in respect of all water companies serving England. Each company will operate a Priority Services Register for their area. We encourage people everywhere to check their eligibility for signing up to their water companies Priority Services Register and to sign up if they feel they are eligible. For more information about the current work of Southern Water [click here](#)



[Is Westminster Listening?](#)

There's a new podcast available from Carole Walker which features Norman Lamb MP. In this podcast the MP details how Whitehall does not understand the needs of rural communities and calls for more power to be devolved to local bodies.

[Access the podcast here](#)

The RSN is sponsored by 



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](#)



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



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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