

COPY EMAIL FROM RURAL SERVICES NETWORK

Rural Services Network call on Government for a Rural Strategy

Dear colleagues

On 1st March, the Rural Services Network launched a campaign calling on the Government to develop a Rural Strategy.

"Rural Communities are frequently overlooked in a policy environment dominated by urban thinking and policy concerns. This often means communities either miss out on the benefits or experience unintended consequences from policies which are poorly thought-through from a rural perspective. It is time for this 'rural mainstreaming' to stop. People living in our towns and villages simply cannot afford to wait any longer for politicians to take their concerns seriously and act on them," **said Rural Services Network chief executive, Graham Biggs.**

"If rural communities are to be sustainable, the Government must seize this opportunity to work with communities to produce a long-term, funded rural strategy which recognises the contribution rural areas make and have the potential to make to the wellbeing and prosperity of the nation as a whole."

We are asking all of the Parish Councils and organisations in Rural Areas to support our call and sign up to support our campaign.

Please share this email and the signup link with your fellow Councillors, colleagues and residents.

A Press Release with more information about the campaign can be found here:

<https://www.rsnonline.org.uk/government-urged-to-produce-new-rural-strategy-ahead-of-brexite>

I have attached our document 'It's Time for a Rural Strategy' which sets out the reasons why we believe a Rural Strategy should be developed.

→ Please join us and sign up at the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/time-for-a-rural-strategy>

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

Kerry Booth
Assistant Chief Executive
Rural Services Network
01822 851370