
Minutes

Special Executive Meeting of RSN Executive Board

Hosted: Online via Zoom
Date: Monday, 12th December 2022
Time: 13.30-15.00
Chair: Cllr Roger Phillips, Herefordshire Council

1. Attendance & Apologies.

Attendees: Cllr Phillips, Martin Collett, Cllr Paynter, Cllr Stevens, Cllr Savage, Kerry Booth, Graham Biggs, Nadine Trout, David Inman

Apologies: Nik Harwood, John Birtwistle, Cllr Sue Sanderson, Cllr Cecilia Motley, Cllr Thornton, Cllr Atkins, Cllr Heseltine, Cllr Whittington, Cllr Waltham, Cllr Robinson, Cllr Thorne, Kayleigh Wainwright

2. Notes from the previous RSN Executive meeting.

[Please click here to view these minutes.](#)

These minutes were approved from the meeting of 5th September 2022

3. Meeting dates for 2023

Report from Kerry Booth, Chief Executive Designate, RSN

[Attachment 1 – Meeting Schedule](#)

This report was approved by the Executive with the revised schedule of meetings approved.

4. Items for discussion:

4.1. New Government Priorities

4.2. Autumn Statement

4.3. Fair Share Campaign – Fair Funding

Providing a voice for rural communities and service providers

Rural Services Network

PO Box 101, Craven Arms, SY7 7AL

Tel: 01822 851370

www.rsnonline.org.uk email: events@sparse.gov.uk twitter: [@rsnonline](https://twitter.com/rsnonline)

The following were recently circulated to MPs ahead of the APPG meeting with the Minister Rt Hon Lee Rowley MP.

[A Briefing Note on the Rural Impacts of the Autumn Statement 2022](#)

[A Call for Action by Rural MPs ahead of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/24](#)

Graham updated the meeting on the discussion at the APPG for Rural Services. He highlighted that the ability to increase council tax by 4.99% for 2023/2024 negatively impacts rural communities as they already pay higher council tax due to years of underfunding by Government. It also raised far less for Rural Councils

The Minister confirmed that the recently formed Government has not had time to fully consider the implications of the funding formula and so any changes discussed would come into effect for 2024/2025 and no sooner. He was reminded that the Rural Services Delivery Grant sits outside of the formula so changes can be made to that without affecting the existing funding formula.

There was then a wider discussion amongst the Executive on the best ways to influence MPs to understand the implications of local government funding, using our membership to press MPs.

Action: Develop letter template for MPs (and Local Authorities to use to influence their MPs) MPs to raise key points on the Provisional Local Government Settlement before it is finalised.

Executive authorised Graham and Kerry, in consultation with the Chair, to develop a letter which may be amended depending on the settlement.

5. Any Other Business.

The next RSN Executive meeting will take place online on January 9th 2023, 11.15-2.30pm