

The future is rural too



John Coleman

Rural Places Programme Manager



The Rural Coalition

The coalition has been advised by CRC and CABE, and is chaired by Matthew Taylor, author of *'Living Working Countryside'*.

- The Rural Coalition includes:
- Action with Communities in Rural England
- Campaign to Protect Rural England
- Country Land and Business Association
- Local Government Association Group
- Royal Town Planning Institute
- Town and Country Planning Association





The future is rural too...

The Rural coalition is united in our conviction that our countryside is in urgent need of a new vision, and made-to-measure policies distinguished by the fact that none is imposed blindly from distant places but all emerge democratically from rural communities themselves.



The future is rural too

Vibrant Villages:

- Empowered and engaged local communities
- Affordable housing meeting the needs of those working and growing up in rural communities

Thriving Economies:

- Modern communication technology, now makes businesses more viable
- Development should foster economic, social and environmental sustainability



A vision for change...

Flourishing towns:

- Accommodating new growth: neighbourhoods not just more housing estates.
- Reducing dependency on the car by planning integrated neighbourhoods – with jobs, services and open spaces

Great Local Services:

- Rural services: informed and tailored to local needs by the local community

Empowered Communities:

- Re-introducing local people to real local democracy!



Where next....

The coalition are drafting the content of their new vision.

- Delivering consensus: working together
- Recognising the distinct challenges of rural public service delivery
- Exploring new solutions
- Setting out new proposals for a new government
- The Coalition expects to report shortly after the General Election



We need your help to do this...

- A new vision needs practical solutions
- **This a broad agenda:** *rural transport and services, affordable housing, empowering communities, climate change*
- How can we capitalise on the great local practices that you are involved with?
- You can help identify what really works!



If you would like to be involved:

ruralcoalition@ruralcoalition.org.uk

Thank you.