



Yorkshire and The Humber Rural Affairs Forum
9th November 2010, 9.30am-3.00pm
The Hospitium, York

AGENDA

- 9.30** Registration and Refreshments.
- 10.00** Welcome and Introduction - Tony Pexton, Chairman, Rural Affairs Forum.
- 10.20** Local Enterprise Partnerships and Rural Issues - Jonathan French, Executive Manager, York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit.
- 10.40** *Big-Society* - Supporting the Community Sector - Penny Brown, Chief Executive, Humber & Wolds Rural Community Council.
- 11.00** Refreshments.
- 11.20** Discussion Groups - Helen Wright, Executive Manager, Rural Affairs Forum.
- 13.00** Lunch.
- 14.00** Key Questions - Response - Ivan Annibal, Rural Services Network.
- 14.50** Closing Remarks - Tony Pexton, Chairman, Rural Affairs Forum.



The Discussion Groups are structured around a number of key questions which will attempt to draw-out thoughts and ideas about the impact of new government agendas and the Comprehensive Spending Review on rural areas / communities. The findings will help to form the basis of an event being organised by the Yorkshire and The Humber Rural Affairs Forum in the Spring. The Groups are -

Discussion Group 1

- What would a *Big Society* joint endeavour between a local authority and the voluntary sector look like?
- What changing behaviours on the part of both parties would be required to make it a success?
- What are the challenges in the new policy agenda to achieving effective cooperation between local authorities and the voluntary / community sector in the implementation of the *Big Society*?

Discussion Group 2

- How can a distinctive case be made for the challenges facing rural areas in terms of the recession and its aftermath?
- What special approaches / solutions could be developed to address the economic challenges facing rural areas?
- What examples of good practice in a rural context do you have of *recession-busting* activity?

Discussion Group 3

- How might a case be made for ongoing regional / sub-regional networking around rural development good practice in terms of the recession and new government agendas?
- How might the collective knowledge / experience of rural practitioners be used at national / local level?
- What examples of good practice in a rural context do you have of activity which reflects new government agendas?

Discussion Group 4

“Total Place is not about trying to deliver a single percentage or number on efficiency savings. It is an approach to improve value for money, where agencies work together better through collaboration and local leadership.”

Rt. Hon. Alistair Darling MP
HM Treasury
April 2010

“I actually quite like the idea [of place-based budgets], the idea of one stop shops, single portals, service villages and the idea of using local authorities to be the facilitator, the organiser, the cheer leader, if you like, to bring these things together.”

Rt. Hon. Eric Pickles MP
Dept Communities and Local Government
July 2010

Comment in relation to new government agendas and the needs / opportunities in rural areas.

