

Rural Services Network

The Rural Services Network has been having remote meetings for most of the year with one physical meeting in March. These have been well attended.

Recovery from Covid has been a theme of the meetings with especial note of the rural economy. As usual, the lack of good broadband in rural areas has been much explored as the Covid crisis has made this even more important.

The other continuing theme is the underfinancing of services in rural areas and the cross party lobbying for better funding.

Transport in rural areas is a continuing concern and I'm sure the recent funding announcement will be fully discussed at our next meeting.

This is probably the last report to SLDC and I hope that the new Westmorland and Furness Council will maintain membership of the RSN as it fights our corner very effectively.

Peter Thornton

April 2022