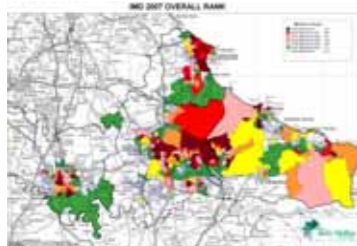


The background information and presentations made at the Tees Vallet Rural Summit are available on request. Please see examples below:

Indices of Multiple Deprivation



Tees Valley Baseline Data Collection

Service	No:	Service	No:	Service	No:
Post office	25	Primary School	26	Petrol Station/Garage	14
Shop	28	Secondary School	9	Pub	47
Bank	7	Nursery	23	Children's Play Area	33
Village Hall	45	Chemist	13	Doctors Surgery	15
Broadband	32				

Presentation reports



## TVRCC Rural Summit 2010 Summary Document

Rural areas of the Tees Valley were given focus of attention at The Rural Summit held at Gisborough Hall in late February 2010. The event brought together representatives of local Tees Valley rural communities with regional and sub regional officers and leaders, whose role impacts on the whole of the area to share information and views.

It was an opportunity to reflect on the specific issues and facts which particularly characterise the unique features of the rural Tees Valley and to explore a number of recommendations for action that TVRCC, groups and agencies, individually or collectively can take to respond to these circumstances.

### Facts and issues

1. The rural parts of Tees Valley are a significant minority approximately one-sixth of the population or over 60% of the geographical area – so there is a sense that the issues and concerns are peripheral because of this balance of power.
2. The rural areas are spread over five Local Authority boundaries and these have common issues in terms of access to local services, but different issues in terms of areas of rural deprivations and relative affluence. The Indices of Multiple Deprivation show differences between the rural areas of the former mining communities of East Cleveland (with extremely high levels of deprivation). The rural areas of West Tees Valley which have levels of rural deprivation in the form of limited access to services, activities and hidden or small isolated pockets of deprivation.
3. There is a growing crisis regarding the provision of rural services, such as post offices, diminishing and impacting on poorer members of the community, older, younger, people with disabilities, those with young children and people without transport.
4. Some rural parishes have higher than average older residents whose needs and demands on health service provision will potentially increase while their levels of car ownership diminish.
5. Is being connected only to do with bus services or does it also apply to broadband access and speed?

### Key recommendations

Tees Valley Rural Community Council (TVRCC) should provide a conduit for information, issues and views between sub-regional, regional, national agencies and representatives from rural communities.

TVRCC needs to ensure the impact of changing circumstances within the rural Tees Valley are taken account of in discussions and reports.

TVRCC should act as the rural co-ordinating unit for Tees Valley (we all have individual identities but can often find common threads) giving a voice to rural issues and opportunities for rural Tees Valley.

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The Tees Valley Rural Summit held in February 2010 was funded by:



To address these priorities it is important that all groups and agencies contribute to realising the actions identified at the event.

Issues to be address	TVRCC	Town and Parish Councils	Local authorities and other agencies	Local Groups	Sub regional/regional/national agencies
<b>The rural voice</b>	To take the lead in creating opportunities for representatives of rural communities to raise issues and feed these into local, sub regional and national arenas. Raising the profile of these issues and reporting back to those who raised them. Maintaining awareness and dialogue about the issues	To feed back to CLCA and others issues raised locally which may have wider implications.	To ensure that policies and plans have proper regard to rural proofing and rural mainstreaming	To raise issues and concerns through local activities feeding into TVRCC	Co-ordinate information received from rural communities and feed back
<b>Ensuring good up to date facts and figures to inform perceptions</b>	Continue to collect, interpret and present the rural experience within Tees Valley as drawn from statistics and explore the impact and relevance of these findings with appropriate people.	Feed information from rural surveys into the material discussed within the council	Ensure that when information is the collected and used the the rural dimension is taken into account.	Where information is collected locally ensure this is made available to others	Publish data at a local level that can have meaning and relevance to local action
<b>Ensuring inclusion and Access to services and issues such as fuel poverty.</b>	Continue to monitor the level of local services and the trends on a regular basis reporting this back to interested parties	To be aware of changes in the services within the parish and explore with the population and legislative powers the potential role of the council to provide for the needs ie Parish bus services.	Ensure that all policies and implementation plans have a proper regard to the access issues for the members of the rural communities. Maintain and continue mobile services	To have regard to ensuring local activities are as inclusive as possible	To recognise the impact on residents of rural communities when making decisions which impact on individuals ability to access services.
<b>Rural transport</b>	To continue to monitor and raise the profile of rural transport concerns and with local groups and others to develop solutions.	To have an awareness and raise issues about specific transport concerns as they arise. Where possible to engage in supporting local transport initiatives.	To recognise the significance of local transport service to individual communities and creative ways to address specific problems such as support of Wheels To Work schemes		To ensure that rural transport needs are taken into account within wider strategic planning and action.
<b>Celebrate and support the extent of volunteer contributions within rural areas</b>	Raise awareness of volunteering in all forms already being undertaken in rural areas.	Raise the profile of the roles of Town and Parish Councillors, (while being elected are volunteers) and their opportunities to affect change.	Raise the profile of Civic Participation (eg local Councillors)	Celebrate and recruit volunteers as part of a wider project to promote voluntary activity and its role in rural communities.	Highlight the value of volunteering within this context.
<b>Support rural communities in ensuring they have appropriate local plans and are supporting them in being heard.</b>	Continue to work with Town and Parish Councils and locality groups to develop local actions plans and community plans.	To use the opportunity to develop local plans to prioritise actions projects and funding applications to take forward the local community	Ensure that local plans link into Local Area Plans and Strategies.	Work with local groups ro develop Community Planning activity	Ensure this information is fed back to relevant agencies
<b>Respond to rural issues arising from demographics, older people children and young people.</b>	To support the promotion of activities particularly with health consideration for the benefit of older people, young people and others who are restricted by lack of transport	Involve Parish and Town Councils in responding to these issues.	Work with Local Authorities, Primary Care Trusts and other agencies to respond to issues.	Support and develop local initiatives.	
<b>Empower Town and parish Councils</b>	Support Town and Parish Councils in being more reflective of the specific needs of their individual communities, more proactive about exploring ways to address needs, more influential in getting and making changes for the well being of their communities.				
<b>Improvement Initiatives - work force, jobs, physical infrastructure, the environment, post mining water pollution and broadband</b>	Work with local and community groups to raise the profile and address specific issues and projects which can improve community life.			Celebrate the good-work done by Community Groups.	Highlight these initiatives to share improvement.