

DTA's Rural Work

[Half of our members work in a rural or a mixed urban / rural setting.](#)

Since 2003 the DTA has had a dedicated rural staff member to champion Development Trusts who operate in the countryside. Working across England and linking with Scotland, Wales and beyond when opportunity arises.

National rural policy is influenced and communicated across the English regions and knowledge and expertise fed back into the process of policy development. Linking rural Development Trusts regional and national, sharing experiences and seeking to influence the local agenda in order to support the growth of rural community enterprise.

For some examples of our rural development trusts and to understand our work in the countryside please take a look at [Taking Root: stories of rural community enterprise from the DTA.](#)

Useful links: [Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs \(Defra\)](#) , [Commission for Rural Communities \(CRC\)](#)

Rural Definitions [RuralDefCRC.pdf](#)

Current activities:

- We have published some rural research into how rural development trusts meet needs resulting from rural social exclusion titled [Rural social exclusion and development trusts - "how members of the DTA address rural advantage."](#), select the title to download a copy.
- We are currently involved as a member of the consortium which Defra has contracted a 1.5m programme to support the growth of rural social enterprise. For more information please get in touch or visit: www.plunkett.co.uk
- Promotion and maintenance of the DTA profile within the rural sector
- General support and advice provided

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