



**Conservative Party Conference
Countryside Alliance
Fringe Events 2019
#CAFringe**



Investing in Rural Britain

Location: **Manchester**
Venue: **Rolls Suite, Midland Hotel (inside the secure zone)**
Date: **Monday 30 September**
Time: **16.00 – 17.30**
Refreshment: **Tea and coffee**

Every pound that goes into rural development outside the EU will be in competition with the NHS, Defence and all other budgets, and will need to demonstrate value for money. The Government is committed to establishing a new system of regional and rural support as part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, with a budget to be agreed in the Spending Review. This will replace the EU development schemes which supported broadband infrastructure, tourism projects, and business productivity. What should be the spending priorities for rural areas outside the EU, and how should a new system of support be structured?

CHAIR: Abi Kay @FGAbiKay

Abi took up the post of Chief Reporter at Farmers Guardian in 2016 after a stint working for the NFU as part of its government affairs team. Prior to that, she spent five years in Parliament as an assistant to a rural MP.

SPEAKER 1: Philip Dunne MP @Dunne4Ludlow

Philip is the MP for South Shropshire. First elected in 2005 and served as a Defence Minister and Health Minister respectfully before returning to the back benchers in 2018. Philip was brought up on a family farm in which he has been responsible for since 1987. Further to his farming experience, Philip has worked in investment banks in London, New York and Hong Kong and also helped set-up the bookshop Ottakar's. Currently Philip is the Chair of APPG for Rural Services and sits on the Privy Council.

SPEAKER 2: Caroline Squire @SquireCaroline

Caroline sits on the Countryside Alliance Board and Advisory Board of the Conservative Friends of International Development (CFID). Caroline is also a public affairs and communications consultant and previously worked for the Conservatives in the House of Lords.

SPEAKER 3: Mayor James Palmer @MayorJPalmer

James was elected as the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in May 2017. Formerly James was the leader of East Cambridgeshire District Council between May 2013 and 2017. Before serving as Mayor and Councillor James ran the family dairy business.

SPEAKER 4: Cllr David Renard @CllrDavidRenard

David became Leader of Swindon Council in 2013. He was first elected in 2002 and first appointed to Cabinet in 2004 since he has held the portfolios of Housing, Adults, Health, Children and was the deputy to his predecessor.

On the LGA he is the Chair of the Economy, Environment, Housing and Transport Board having sat on it for 2 years and on the Resources Board 2 years prior.

Please note that this event is being recorded and live streamed on social media.