



**Scottish Conservative Party
Conference 2018
Scottish Countryside Alliance
Fringe Event
#SCAFringe**



**What is the Conservative Vision for
Rural Communities in Scotland?**

Venue: Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre (AECC), Room 9
Date: Friday 2 March
Time: 17.30 – 19.00
Refreshment: Drinks and canapés

Communities are at the heart of rural life in Scotland. From fishing towns by the sea to villages in the glens, people have shaped the landscape of Scotland and are key to a sustainable future for our coast and countryside.

There are many challenges facing rural communities, including continued lack of broadband and mobile connectivity, local bank branch closures, as well as the political challenges of land reform and the animal rights agenda. However, there are also opportunities with new agricultural and fishing policies outside the EU, combined with the resilience and innovation of rural people. This event is an opportunity to discuss how the rural way of life should be supported, and explore the Conservative vision for rural communities in Scotland.

CHAIR: Jamie Stewart @ScotCountryside

Jamie is Director of the Scottish Countryside Alliance. Jamie joined the Countryside Alliance in 2010, and became Scottish Countryside Director in 2012. He has held various posts within other conservation organisations such as SNH and the RSPB.

SPEAKER 1: Amanda Burgauer @amshru

Amongst many roles, Amanda is Chair of Scottish Rural Action (SRA). SRA is an independent body that was formed with the dual purpose of developing and organising Scotland's Rural Parliament, and supporting the development of a rural movement.

SPEAKER 2: David Fyffe @ScotLandEstates

David is a Director of Scottish Land and Estates (SL&E) and Chairman of SL&E North East Branch. David also sits on the Rural Development Council and is a land manager representative on the Aberdeenshire Local Access Forum.

SPEAKER 3: Rachael Hamilton MSP @Rachael2Win

Rachael represents Etrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire in the Scottish Parliament, having previously been a list MSP for the South Scotland region. In Holyrood, she sits on the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee.

SPEAKER 4: John Lamont MP @John2Win

John is the Member of Parliament for Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk. John was a Member of the Scottish Parliament for 10 years, prior to his election to the Westminster Parliament last year. He is a member of the Commons Scottish Affairs Committee.