



Key finding from the Rural Services Data Series 2009

- **49.5%** of people living in rural areas have to travel more than **8km** to visit a Job Centre. This compares to **3.6%** of people living in urban areas. Job centre outlets have reduced by **35%** in rural areas since 2008.
- **13%** of rural primary school children have to travel more than **2km** to their nearest school whereas this is only **0.1%** for urban children.
- **39%** of rural secondary school children travel more than **4km** to their nearest school. For urban children the figure is **0.5%**.
- All residents in urban areas have a GP surgery within **4km**. Only **87.7%** of rural residents have but there has been a **4%** increase in the number of GP surgeries (including part-time/out-reach surgeries) in rural areas this year and a **58%** increase since 2000.
- The number of rural Post Offices has gone down by **12%** over the last year meaning that **19%** of rural households now have to travel more than **2km** to their nearest branch even though **44%** of Post offices are in rural areas.
- Almost all urban households have a free cash-point within **4km** of their home. Only **78.9%** of rural households do although there has been a **2.3%** increase over the last year but the number of cash points in rural areas have reduced by **49%** since 2000 but increased in urban areas by **106%**
- Approximately **50%** of the residents within the Eden District Council area in the Lake District have to travel more than **4km** to Secondary schools, Bank and Building Societies, Convenience stores and NHS Dental practices.
- There are only **972** NHS dental practices in rural areas which is **12%** of all the practices in England.