ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Abstracts are invited for papers from anyone with an interest in rural entrepreneurship; we encourage contributions from academics and practitioners alike. Please indicate which of the conference themes you think is/are most appropriate and limit your abstract to 400 words.

Your Details

Name	IGNAZIO CABRAS and Claire Markham
Position	READER IN ECONOMICS, BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT
Institution/organisation and Postal address	NEWCASTLE BUSINESS SCHOOL, NORTHUMBRIA UNIVERSITY CITY CAMPUS EAST, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE1 8SE University of Lincoln, Brayford Pool, Lincoln, LN6 7TS
Email address	Ignazio.cabras@northumbria.ac.uk; Cmarkham@lincoln.ac.uk

Please use the following headings: (boxes will expand as you type)

Title: Measuring the availability of services and facilities in rural England

Purpose of this paper (please also indicate whether empirical, conceptual or case study etc)

The empirical study presented in this paper explores the decline of services in rural areas of England and its impact on local communities, economies and village identities. The authors use a unique dataset comprising information about facilities and services available in the English countryside, complimented by additional interviews and a detailed literature review. Information is provided in two different points in time (2000 and 2010), allowing for a longitudinal analysis of the changes occurred in the selected parishes.

Design/methodology/approach (including limitations if applicable)

Use of SEM models/regression models.

Findings

Results provide factual evidence of the decline of rural services, measuring the impact this decline has on a wide range of activities carried out at a local level. In addition, findings corroborate evidence gathered from previous studies on the relationships between small retailers and social engagement in rural communities.

Practical implications

The analysis demonstrated the disappearance of essential facilities in the rural communities examined, while others maintain their number constant and some others even increase. Outcomes of this analysis are discussed and explored with regard to possible policies and initiatives which could help preserving the positive impact that local businesses and entrepreneurship have on the English countryside.

Policy Implications (if applicable)

N/A

What is the originality/value of paper

Unique longitudinal dataset of rural data providing multiple information of different aspects of rural life

Practitioner Paper	Presentation only
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To apply to participate in the Early-Career research development seminar, PhD applicants must submit a short project description (max 4 pages) with name, project title, affiliation, outline of methodology(ies) and a letter of recommendation from their supervisor. Post-doctoral researchers should submit a short description of their current research interest (max 1 page).

 \square Yes \square No