ABSTRACT
The Rural Scotland in Focus Report is produced every two years by the Rural Policy Centre at SRUC (Scotland’s Rural College). The Report provides impartial, evidence-based commentary taking you to the heart of key rural issues and providing links to a range of policy and research documents for more information. The webinar will discuss the topics covered in the 2016 report: aspects of changing land management (including agriculture, forestry and private estates); the contribution of businesses outside the land-based sector to rural Scotland; and the extent to which policies directed at communities in Scotland are delivering national resilience outcomes. The second part of the webinar will centre on discussions in the ways in which we seek to ensure maximum rural policy impact from the Report.

PRESENTERS
Professor Sarah Skerratt is Professor of Rural Society and Policy and Director of the Rural Policy Centre at SRUC. Sarah is Editor of Rural Scotland in Focus 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016. Sarah has almost 30 years experience in analysing the differences between policy vision and experience-on-the-ground in rural areas and communities. Her work focuses particularly on rural community development policies and strategies, as well as initiatives led by communities themselves, exploring issues of resilience, capacity-building and leadership. She is currently on partial secondment to Audit Scotland.
For more information, see: http://www.sruc.ac.uk/sskerratt

Dr Jane Atterton is Manager and Policy Researcher in SRUC’s Rural Policy Centre. Jane has been researching rural and regional development issues for over 15 years, working for both academic and policy organisations across the UK. Jane’s main areas of interest are rural economies and businesses, rural policies and policy-making processes and rural community change.
For more information, see: http://www.sruc.ac.uk/info/120293/our_team/470/jane_atterton