1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the East Ayrshire Social Inclusion Partnership Group of the Launch of the Coalfield Regeneration Trust, to summarise the criteria and priority areas for funding and to propose local arrangements for the preparation of applications.

2. THE COALFIELD REGENERATION TRUST - SUMMARY

2.1 A copy of the information contained in the Coalfield Regeneration Trust "Guide for Applicants" is attached (Appendix 1) to this report. The information is summarised below.

2.2 (a) Background- The Coalfields Regeneration Trust was launched on 16 September 1999, as an independent grant awarding body whose mission is to be:-

"A key agency working to promoting and achieving the social and economic regeneration of the Coalfields of England, Wales and Scotland".

A funding allocation of £4.5M has been identified for the Scottish Coalfields Area which includes Ayrshire, Fife and the Lothians.

Applications will be welcomed from groups, organisations and agencies committed to the regeneration of the coalfield areas and their communities. Applicants will normally be community organisations, voluntary organisations, charities, local authorities and similar bodies.

2.3 (b) Project Eligibility -The Trust expects to find a broad range of projects including which contribute towards the following objectives:-

- Supporting people efforts to return to work
- Providing facilities and opportunities for local people
- Providing debt and welfare advice or supporting credit unions
- Bringing together a range of activities under one roof to create a resource centre or one-stop-shop
2.4 (c) **Forms of Assistance** - Grants can be given for:-

- One or two years
- Part funding or total funding (wherever possible however applicants will be expected to attract other match funding)
- Capital and/or revenue costs

Applications will be determined on the basis of:-

- Small applications of less that £20,000
- Medium applications of between £20,000 and £200,000
- Large applications in excess of £200,000

In addition Partnership Applications may be submitted where an existing Regional or National Charity or Agency may wish to develop a programme of projects on several locations within one Coalfield Area.

The Trust has also expressed an interest in discussing the establishment of 8 "Community Chests" where suitable organisations could manage some of the Trusts Small Grants Scheme on a local or Sub Regional Basis.

2.5 (d) **Funding Priorities** - The Trust has six priorities:-

- Priority 1 - Resources and Empowered Communities
- Priority 2 - Enterprising Communities
- Priority 3 - Lifelong Learning Communities
- Priority 4 - Attractive Communities
- Priority 5 - Working Communities
- Priority 6 - Promoting Good Practice

2.6 (e) **Application Process** - The Coalfield Regeneration Trust is able to accept funding applications from 18 October 1999.

3. **PREPARATION OF APPLICATIONS**

3.1 The Social Inclusion Partnership provides a mechanism for the preparation of applications by all of the Partners. Through the work of the Social Inclusion Partnership Team in the Coalfield Area, voluntary / community organisations will be encouraged and assisted to make applications for funding where applicable. This process will ensure a co-ordinated approach and local consultation on applications.

3.2 Currently officers from the Council in consultation with other stakeholders, are preparing applications in response to the undernoted priority areas identified by the Trust:

- Lifelong learning communities
- Attractive communities
- Resources and empowered communities
- Working communities
4. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 The Social Inclusion Partnership is asked to:-

(i) note the launch of the Coalfields Regeneration Trust;

(ii) note the areas under which applications for funding are being developed;

(iii) agree to the proposed arrangements for the preparation of applications; and

(iv) otherwise note the content of this report.

David Montgomery  
Chief Executive

20 October 1999

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Coalfield Regeneration Trust- Pack for Applicants

For further information on this report or to inspect the background paper please contact David Hewet, Executive Officer, East Ayrshire Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership on Telephone no. (01290) 424423.
THE COALFIELDS REGENERATION TRUST

GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

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FOREWORD

This Guide for Applicants will give you background information about the Coalfields Regeneration Trust, its priorities and criteria for funding. It will help you to decide whether your organisation should apply to the Trust for financial assistance.

If you decide to apply for assistance, you will need to use the appropriate application form and follow the detailed instruction sheet when completing it.

We have attempted to keep the level of detail you need to provide to a minimum when applying. However, it is important that the Trust is able to judge how effective its funding decisions are in contributing to the regeneration of the coalfields. It is also important that our activities fit in well with other programmes and that we manage public funds in a proper manner.

As we open our regional bases in England and our offices in Scotland and Wales and appoint Development Workers, contact details will be made widely available. In the meantime, you can obtain application forms and further copies of this Guide for Applicants by telephoning the Doncaster Head Office on:

Telephone: 08000648560

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust wishes to express its thanks to those organisations which have allowed us to draw on their experience and knowledge of grant making as we drafted our documentation. We would particularly like to thank the National Lottery Charities Board and the Northern Rock Foundation.

1. WHAT IS THE COALFIELDS REGENERATION TRUST?

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust is an independent grant making organisation. It is a registered Charity and Company Ltd by guarantee directed by a Board of Trustees whose names are listed at the end of the booklet. The Trust, although independent of Government, forms part of the Government Response to the recommendations in the Coalfield Task Force report. Over its first 3 year phase the Trust will, by working closely with partners, pursue its mission to be:

"a key agency working to promoting and achieving the social and economic regeneration of the Coalfields of England, Wales and Scotland."

2. WHERE WILL THE TRUST OPERATE?

The Trust will support qualifying projects which contribute to the achievement of its objectives in the existing and former Coalfields of Britain. A comprehensive listing of the areas which are recognised as eligible for the purposes of Trust grants is available on request. The Board of Trustees is aware however, that some areas may fall outside the Coalfield boundaries and will consider exceptional applications for projects where potential benefit to existing or former Coalfield areas is clear. If you are in doubt about your own area you should contact the Head Office:

Coalfields Regeneration Trust
2 Portland Place, Spring Gardens, Doncaster, DN1 3DF
Telephone: 0800 064 8560 Fax: 01302 304419
E-mail: info@coalfields-regen.org.uk
3. **WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A GRANT?**

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust will welcome applications from groups, organisations and agencies throughout Britain which are committed to the regeneration of the Coalfield areas and their communities. Applicants will normally be community and voluntary organisations, charities, local authorities and similar bodies. Our status as a charity means that we are unlikely to provide support to established private businesses, but we are interested in supporting community businesses and agencies which support small start-up enterprises.

**COMMUNITY GROUPS AND SMALL ORGANISATIONS**

If you are a very small group without a constitution or accounts for previous years we still want to hear from you if you have a good idea. Our staff may help to link you with a larger organisation in your area which could enable you to receive support from us.

_The Trust may make grants to organisations if they:_

- have a constitution or a set of rules which demonstrates that the group is legally eligible

- to receive a grant and entitled to pursue the planned project;

- have a bank, or building society account in the name of the organisation with the signatures of at least two appropriate people required for each cheque;

- submit an application which in the opinion of the trustees will make a positive contribution to coalfield regeneration and which has been comprehensively and sensibly costed and planned;

- undertake, when offered a grant, to comply with all reasonable monitoring evaluation and reporting requirements which the Coalfield Regeneration Trust may impose.

**BRANCHES OF LARGER ORGANISATIONS**

The Trust can accept applications from branches of large organisations. It will be important that the branch has its own independent constitution, bank or building society account, trading accounts and management board or committee. The Coalfield Regeneration Trust will in any event require written support from the applicant's parent body for any branch application.

**LARGE ORGANISATIONS**

Large organisations including Local Authorities are entitled to apply for funds. Applications should be for projects which are transparently costed and additional to existing programmes. The Coalfields Regeneration Trust will not commit funds to projects which require subsequent agreement, approval or communities to pay from third party agencies.

Local Authorities wishing to pursue Trust funding should contact the Regional Development Worker in their area or the Trust's Head Office in Doncaster for further information.
PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISERS

The Trust will not enter into negotiations with, nor discuss applications with, professional fund raisers acting on the applicant's behalf.

The fees of professional fund raisers will not be accepted as eligible costs for the purpose of grant support from the trust. However, smaller voluntary and community groups can apply for funds to help meet the costs of a feasibility study.

FINANCIAL HEALTH AND FREE RESERVES

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust will not make grants to organisations which it believes are not in good financial health or whose financial management systems are not in good order. The Trust's opinion on an applicant's financial health and management systems will be based on sight of accounts and other management information and on discussions with the applicant. The decision of the Trust in these matters will be absolute and final.

The Coalfield Regeneration Trust will not normally give a grant to voluntary and community organisations which hold free reserves which are greater than 12 months operating costs for the applicant organisation or which are more than 4 times the value of the sum applied for, whichever is the lesser figure.

WHAT CAN YOU APPLY FOR?

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust expects to fund a broad range of projects. Projects which support people in their efforts to return to work will be important. Equally, the Trust wishes to support projects which provide facilities and opportunities for local people including playgroups, meeting rooms, sports facilities, environmental projects, arts and cultural activities, feasibility studies and many more. Projects which provide debt and welfare advice or support for credit unions are welcome to apply.

Applications which bring together a range of activities under one roof to help create a Resource Centre or one-stop-shop are particularly welcome.

The Trust may give grants for:

- 1 or 2 year projects;
- part funding or total (100%) funding;
- Capital and/or revenue costs.

MATCHING FUNDS

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust does not require you to match its funds with support from other funders, however, you will be expected to have attracted other funding wherever possible. You may use the Trust's funds to match other funders contributions including contributions from the European Union's structural funds.

The Trust will not provide funds for a project which is dependent on other sources of funds to enable it to commence and remain operational unless all approvals and commitments from the other sources have been obtained, a definite date for receipt of those funds is known and all relevant documentation is made available to Coalfields Regeneration Trust staff.
PLANNING YOUR PROJECT

To establish the amount of grant support which your project requires you will need to plan carefully.

- to not ask for unrealistically large amounts. Bear in mind your organisation's capacity and remember that the Trust will be receiving hundreds of applications from all over Britain's Coalfield areas;

- the Trust will assess your planning and decide whether that which you propose is viable. You will have to convince us that the project will lead to the outcomes your are claiming for it;

- remember, the Trust can fund feasibility studies to establish whether your project is viable.

CAPITAL COSTS

If you are applying for funds to meet capital costs of acquiring a building, refurbishment costs, equipment (including I.T. equipment) the Trust will expect to see:

- all appropriate planning and building control permissions;

- quotations from three suppliers, or contractors;

- a full explanation of how ongoing maintenance, servicing and other upkeep needs will be delivered;

- for property related projects, title deeds or a copy of the lease as appropriate. Where a lease is involved the Trust will need to be satisfied that the length of the lease remaining is appropriate to the value to any grant. Other special conditions may also apply.

VEHICLES

The Trust expects to support a number of community transport initiatives in the Coalfield areas. Grants to support the purchase of vehicles will only be considered where the application shows clearly that:

- the vehicle will have a high level of usage;

- other provision and planning provision in the area has been considered and the new vehicle will fit well with such provision and planning;

- maintenance, garaging, insurance, user policy, charging policy, driver training, depreciation and replacement issues have all be considered;

- any vehicles intended for passenger transfer should be fully accessible to people with disabilities and conform with all regulations and best practice with regard to seat belt and other safety matters.
REVENUE COSTS

The Coalfield Regeneration Trust will consider applications for funds to meet revenue costs which are clearly identified and specific. The Trust will not make contributions to the general operating costs of a project or organisation. Applicants should be aware however, that the Coalfields Trust's initial remit will expire in March 2002 and that support for revenue costs beyond that date cannot be considered until our remit and resources have been further extended.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVENUE COSTS SHOULD THEREFORE:

• show clearly how ongoing costs beyond March 2002 will be funded or;

• show how outcomes can be achieved by a project within the limited timeframe available and what plans have been made to deal with the termination of funding.

If your revenue costs include salaries the Trust will want to see:

a job description and an explanation of how the proposed salary level was arrived at;
evidence that the applicant organisation understands its obligations as an employer, advertises any new posts openly and practices equal opportunities when recruiting and employing staff.

WHAT THE COALFIELDS REGENERATION TRUST WILL NOT FUND

• projects which do not meet the aims and objectives of the Coalfields Regeneration trust (these are set out later in this guide under the heading "Priorities");

• retrospective costs (costs incurred before an application was approved or which have already been paid);

• projects which are exclusively or primarily intended to promote religious beliefs;

• projects which are properly the subject of statutory funding.

REPLACING STATUTORY FUNDING

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust will not give grants which:

• directly replace statutory funding;

• might lead to a statutory body withdrawing funding in the future;

• subsidise the costs of a service which is provided or paid for by a statutory body.

The Trust will consider applications for projects which have received time limited funding from a statutory body where the project is additional to statutory services.

Where an application involves staff costs, the Coalfields Regeneration Trust will not provide funds to cover the salary costs of existing employees of the applicant organisation. While a reasonable and costed overhead or administration element may be allowed, it is anticipated that larger organisations, including local authorities, will provide existing management and operational staff as a contribution to the project.
COALFIELD REGENERATION TRUST: PRIORITIES FOR FUNDING

The Trust has 6 priorities:

- Priority A: Resourced and Empowered Committees
- Priority B: Enterprising Communities
- Priority C: Lifelong Learning Communities
- Priority D: Attractive Communities
- Priority E: Working Communities
- Priority F: Promoting Good Practice

Details of which are highlighted below.

**Priority A: Resourced and Empowered Committees**

By helping to develop communities' asset bases, the Trust wants to improve community facilities, welfare and opportunities generally in the Coalfield Communities. The Trust also wants to empower local communities to take a more active part in the regeneration of their areas.

The trust envisages this being delivery through:

- **Community Facilities**
  to maximise the use of existing community facilities and resources and improve the range where weaknesses currently exist.

- **Capacity Building**
  to promote and support community involvement in the development and management of existing and new initiatives.

- **Community Transport**
  to enhance transportation linkages both within coalfield areas and from Coalfield Communities to areas of employment.

- **Welfare Advice**
  to improve access to welfare and debt advice services and to support the expansion of credit unions.

- **Quality of Life**
  to facilitate the development of a sense of well-being in the Coalfield Communities by supporting community-based initiatives.

**Priority B: Enterprising Communities**

The trust wants to increase the range, diversity and accessibility of local community businesses and start up opportunities within the Coalfield Communities through:

- **Community Business Development**
  to support the establishment, development and growth of community businesses through the provision of advice, financial assistance and incubation/business workspace.
• **Local Business Compacts** -
to encourage new and existing employers in the Coalfield Communities to work actively to source employment requirements locally.

• **Small Business Start-up** -
to work with other agencies which provide local support to small new start-up businesses, particularly among the young and the unemployed.

**Priority C : Lifelong Learning Communities**

Through this priority the Trust wants to support and assist local communities to access the education, skills and associated support necessary to achieve their full potential. Areas for support could include:

• **Education** -
to support a range of curricular and non-curricular activities in schools and colleges aimed at members of the Coalfield Communities.

• **Learning Facilities** -
to support the development of modern, well resourced locally managed learning facilities-

• **Skills Development** -
to broaden access to a wide range of basic skills, prevocational and vocational learning services-

• **Access to Employment** -
to provide job seekers with the tools to access emerging job opportunities through the provision of information and guidance initiatives.

**Priority D : Attractive Communities**

The natural and built environments of the Coalfield Communities will be addressed through this priority.

*Residents in the Coalfield Community areas could be helped with.*

• **Environmental Improvements** -
to promote the creation of an attractive sustainable local environment with a strong "sense of place" within which people wish to live and work.

• **Open Space Provision** -
to enhance the quality, recreational value and ecological diversity of open space provision.

• **Housing Management** -
to support the development of greater tenant involvement in the management of social and privately rented housing stock.

• **Housing Provision** -
to encourage or facilitate greater community involvement in the provision of new housing stock through housing co operatives and self-build housing schemes.
Priority E : Working Communities

Employment and access to employment are vital to the regeneration of the Coalfields. The Trust wants to assist with the effective delivery of welfare to work initiatives in the Coalfield Communities thereby encouraging social inclusion and identity.

This can be achieved by supporting:

- **Intermediate Labour Market Initiatives** -
to support ILM projects which offer high quality employment and training places at good rates of pay in Coalfield Communities.

- **New Deal** -
to complement the effective delivery of New Deal for all ages in Coalfield Communities through support for innovative and locally designed approaches to re-engaging workers, including older workers who have been out of the labour market, or who have been unemployed for some time.

- **Enhanced Training** -
to support higher levels of training provision for participants in Coalfield New Deal and ILM projects.

Priority F : Promoting Good Practice

The Trust wants to help identify excellent projects, good ideas, and activities that "make a difference" and spread that knowledge throughout the Coalfields in partnership with other agencies. The Trust will commission research and dissemination activity itself but will be interested to receive applications in support of Exchange Visits. Grant support will be available to fund visits by community groups to different Coalfield areas ensuring that good practice is spread at community level.

APPLICATIONS

Within each priority, good projects could cost as little as £500 or as much as £5 million. A local community group may want a straightforward means of applying for a small sum, - larger agencies will need to provide more detail for bigger sums.

_The Coalfields Regeneration Trust has addressed these diverse requirements by identifying four different types of application._

1. **Small Applications (less than £20,000)**

   Applications for less than £20,000 will be classed as small. A separate Small Grants from will ask for the minimum information which the Trust believes as necessary to ensure proper management of its funds.

   This includes:
   - constitution, trust deeds or set of rules (remember if you don't have these, we may still be able to help);
   - recent accounts;
   - reference from a local independent referee;
   - organisation and project description.
An instruction sheet clipped to the small grants application form will take you through, step by step. Small applications will be assessed by our Grants Officers in Doncaster but Regional Development Workers can offer some assistance. The applications will be decided on by a delegated panel of trustees.

2. **Medium Applications (£20,000 -£200,000)**

A more detailed application form is required for applications of this size. As with small applications, an initial discussion with the Trust's Regional Development Worker may be helpful in order to establish eligibility, level and magnitude of grant. Two types of the form are available one for statutory bodies and one for voluntary and community groups.

Medium applications will be processed at the Trust's Head Office in Doncaster. The Trust Board will decide on applications of this size and larger.

3. **Large Applications (over £200,000)**

These will be processed as medium applications and will use the same forms but with two additional requirements.

An initial or pre application will be submitted to Board providing an outline of the project by completing the application form. This will enable the Trust Board to decide whether it is appropriate for a full application to come forward and if so what value of grant might be considered. An invitation to submit a full application will not be an undertaking to give any grant in response to the application. This pre-application will assist the Trust in its forward planning and will also help the applicant who can have the benefit of an initial view from the Board without investing in the work which a full application would required.

The second requirement for projects in excess of £200,000 will be the submission of a comprehensive business plan for the project. Details of what the Trust will require in a business plan will be provided on request.

4. **Partnership Applications**

Some organisations may wish to propose partnership projects to the Trust. An existing Regional or National charity or agency may wish to develop a programme of projects in several coalfield areas or in several locations within one Coalfield area. The Coalfields Regeneration Trust recognises the value of using existing expertise and experience and looks forward to discussing such partnership projects with suitable agencies who should contact the Trust's Doncaster office.

Any application arising from discussions around a partnership will be processed under the appropriate large, medium or small categories based on the value of the bid. In all cases the Trust will play a funding role only and will not become directly involved in delivery.

Community Chests: The Trust is interested to discuss partnerships with suitable organisations which could manage some of the Trust's small grants scheme on a local or subregional basis. Interested organisations should have a strong track record in managing small grants schemes and should contact the Trust's Doncaster office.
NEXT STEPS

We know that all your questions will not have been answered in this booklet, but we hope we have provided most of the information you need.

If you require further information or an application form, contact the Doncaster office. Please note that you may be referred on to a Trust Office closer to your area. Telephone: 0800 064 8560.

When completing your application form, make sure you answer all the questions and attach all the documents required.

There is no deadline. The Trust will process applications as rapidly and as sensibly as possible.

The Trust look forward to working in partnership with all those committed to the Regeneration of Britain’s Coalfields Communities.
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Rt. Revd. Alan Morgan, (Chair) Bishop of Sherwood High Oakham Road, Mansfield, Nottingham, NG 18 SAL

Peter McNestry, (Vice Chair),
33 The Oval, Sudforth Lane, Beal, Goole, DN14 OTA

Paula Hay-Plumb, Chief Executive English Partnerships, 16-18 Old Queen Street, London, SW1H 9HP

Nicolas Wilson, President National Union of Mineworkers (Scotland) 30 New Street, Mussleburgh, EH2 6JP

Sylvia Wileman, Manager
Strategic Health Partnership, North Notts Health Authority, Ransom Hall, Southwall Road, Mansfield, CG21 OER

Councillor Bob Wellington, Chairman, Coalfield Communities Campaign (Wales) 227 Pandy Green meadow, Cwmbran, NP44 4LA

Vernon Jones MBE, Chief Executive
Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisations (CISWO)
The Old Rectory, Rectory Drive, Rotherham, S60 4JG

Michael Brabham, Executive Director
Groundwork Cresswell, 96 Cresswell, Clowne, Derbyshire, S43 3NA

Councillor Peter Boyes, Chairman, Coalfield Communities Campaign (Scotland)
Midlothian Council, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith, Midlothian, EH22 1 DJ

Hedley Salt CBE DL, Director
St. William’s Foundation, 5 College Street, York, YO1 7JF

Denise Tate, Area Community Education Worker,
Area Education Office, York Road, Peterlee, Co Durham, SR8 2DP

Susan Jones, Project Co-ordinator
Blaenilechau Community Regeneration, 38 Commercial Street, Blaenllechau, Rhondda Cynon Taff, CF43 4NN

Ken Greenfield, Chief Executive
East Durham Development Agency, Fourth Floor, Lee House, Peterlee, Co Durham, SR81BB

Councillor Bill Flanagan OBE, Chairman, Coalfield Communities Campaign,
Chesterfield Borough Council, Town Hall, Chesterfield, 540 1 LP

AGENDA