



COALFIELDS ENTERPRISE PROGRAMME

Awards of up to £10,000 and business support to encourage the scale-up of established enterprises in Coalfields Communities.

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust is pleased to announce the launch of its new Coalfields Enterprise Programme, designed to give existing enterprises the support they need to scale up their operation. It is aimed at enterprises intending to **develop a new product or service in response to identified demand**, and will consist of an award of up to £10,000 as well as business support.

The Programme is open to enterprises based in or delivering their services in eligible coalfield wards. A list of eligible wards can be found at: <http://www.coalfields-regen.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Wards-2013.pdf>. The enterprise must have been trading for a minimum of two years, be legally constituted as a not for profit organisation, and either be:

- A registered charity
- A company limited by guarantee
- A community interest company (CIC)
- An industrial provident society (bona fide cooperative for the benefit of the community)
- A charitable incorporated organisation
- An unregistered organisation that can evidence it is actively working towards becoming legally constituted/registered.

Although long established enterprises may apply, priority will be given to smaller enterprises with modest turnovers. Funding will be available for capital (equipment etc.) or revenue (salary of sessional staff or a contribution if match funding is in place).

Applications will **not** be considered from:

- Individuals
- Private businesses/sole traders
- Organisations which are unable to become registered
- Statutory bodies
- National organisations
- Organisations that cannot demonstrate an acceptable financial position
- 'Friends of' groups
- Organisations not based in or operating within an eligible coalfield ward.

The Programme will **not** fund:

- Running costs
- Maintenance or development of an existing project
- Deficits or retrospective costs
- Fees for feasibility studies or business plan preparation
- Contributions to costs exceeding £10,000 unless the balance is already secured
- Bank or audit charges
- Depreciation, amortisation or recoverable VAT.

Application will be through an initial expression of interest, to be submitted with:

- A copy of the constitution, articles or governing document
- Bank statement, no older than three months
- Most recent accounts to evidence active trading for two years (i.e., not having just been formed for two years).

Deadline for submission of expression of interest is 5 September 2014. Applicants will be visited for a short interview in September. Successful candidates will be invited to prepare a detailed business case, to be submitted by 8 December 2014. Second interviews will take place in the week commencing 5 January 2015. Candidates will be expected to demonstrate in their business case and interview:

- An idea for new product or service, not currently offered by the enterprise
- Evidence of demand
- How the new product will enable the enterprise to develop sustainably
- Obstacles to new product delivery
- Costings of resources necessary to deliver new product.

A judging panel will consider the applications and the awards will be made by the end of January 2015.

To discuss your project's eligibility and apply for an expression of interest form, contact David Wright on 01259 272127 or 07989 355934. Email: david.wright@coalfields-regen.org.uk.