

NORTH WEST COALFIELD REGENERATION PROGRAMME

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Cllr H Wormstrup
LEAD OFFICER: Mike Tichford
REPORT AUTHOR: Brian Kirkbride

Summary: To inform Members of the progress in allocation of the balance of funding to the Coalfield Regeneration Trust to support Capital Schemes within Copeland's Coalfield Wards

Recommendation: That Members note the following:
1) The Coalfield Regeneration Trust project proposals
2) Schemes identified by Local Communities that in principle by the Council.

Impact on delivering the Corporate Plan: This is a regional programme focusing on the Economic Regeneration of Coalfield wards. The five strands of the programme : health enterprise, competitiveness, community engagement and environmental improvements all complement of Council's Regeneration Strategies.

Impact on other statutory objectives (e.g. crime & disorder, LA21): A number of projects within the programme will have a direct impact on addressing environmental and crime issues and therefore support the Council in achieving its statutory objectives.

Financial and human resource implications: The Executive report dated 26 July 2005 detailed the financial implications for this project they remain unchanged.

Project & Risk Management: The project is subject to an appraisal and risk assessment as part of the approval process.

Key Decision Status

- **Financial:** N/A
- **Ward:** N/A

Other Ward Implications: None

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A report was presented to the Executive on 26 July 2005 detailing a proposal to utilise the unallocated funding within the North West Coalfield Regeneration Programme to support a project developed by the Coalfield Regeneration Trust.
- 1.2 This report provides further detail regarding the project and outline initial projects that may access the funding.

2. COALFIELD REGENERATION TRUST PROJECT

- 2.1 The project is specifically to establish a North West Capital Programmes grant fund in order to address the increased demand for capital facilities funding across the Coalfield Communities

and to improve quality and project sustainability by sharing good practice, commissioning training and mentoring among groups.

- 2.2 The Coalfield Communities were by their very nature self sustaining, but since the demise of the coal industry, continued capital investment within these communities has declined. This has resulted in the community facilities, which were historically widely used, falling into disrepair and falling into disrepair and failing to offer suitable accommodation for the delivery of services required by the community.
- 2.3 The project is to be supported by Copeland, Allerdale and Wigan Councils and will be matched by funding from the Coalfields Strategic pot.

Funding

	April 05 – Mar 06		April 06 – Mar 07		April 07 – Oct 07		TOTAL	
	Cap	Rev	Cap	Rev	Cap	Rev	Cap	REV
NWCCPR Grant Request	0	0	250,000	0	150,000	0	400,000	0
	0	0	250,000	0	150,000	0	400,000	0
Regional Split								
Wigan	0	0	100,000	0	100,000	0	200,000	0
Allerdale	0	0	75,000	0	25,000	0	100,000	0
Copeland	0	0	75,000	0	25,000	0	100,000	0
TOTALS	0	0	250,000	0	150,000	0	400,000	0

*** Please note the following. Copeland’s funding is broken down as follows**

CCRP contribution - £52,082

Copeland BC contribution - £47,918

Total - £100,000

- 2.4 Outputs anticipated for the Copeland allocation are:

<u>Output</u>	<u>Number</u>
Jobs created	2
Jobs safeguarded	2
Social Enterprises created	1
SQM of Floorspace	5,000
NVQ2 Qualifications	6
Vocational Courses	12

- 2.5 The scheme will be fully managed by the Coalfield Regeneration Trust on Copelands behalf and all projects will need to comply with their criteria and processes in order to obtain funding.

3. POTENTIAL PROJECTS

- 3.1 A range of Capital Schemes have made initial approaches to the Coalfield Regeneration Trust each of which may fulfill the criteria stipulated although further detailed work is required on each project.

Projects

- St James Community Centre
 - St Gregory's and St Patrick's Community Facility
 - St Benedict's Community Facility
- 3.2 Each of these schemes are located in communities which require priority intervention and will help fulfill community services and functions. The prioritisation of any single scheme above another is not able to be undertaken by the Council as each have their own merit.
- 3.3 The total amount of funding available to Copeland is £200,000. This level of funding will not be able to fully support all of the projects identified above as the current estimated funding required is approximately £600,000.
- 3.4 Allocation of funding towards any of the projects will be subject to each group making a case for need and being able to fulfill the Coalfield Regeneration Trust criteria.

4 CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The Coalfield Regeneration Trust Capital Scheme Project enables additional funding to be brought into Copeland to help meet the demands for Capital Investment.
- 4.2 The Council supports in principle the potential projects detailed in Item 3.1 although any allocation of funding is subject to compliance with Coalfield Regeneration Trust Criteria and approval by the board.

List of Appendices

None

List of Background Documents: Coalfield Programme – Executive 26.7.05

List of Consultees: Corporate Team, Julian Smith, Paul Robson