# FAST TRACK GUIDANCE NOTES



#### **Coalfields Regeneration Trust**

Coalfields Regeneration Trust (CRT) was established in 1999 and is the only organisation dedicated to building prosperity and opportunity in former coal mining communities across the UK, representing over 5.5 million people. We are proud of our track record over the last 20 years and have delivered targeted programmes that have addressed many of the huge challenges caused by the closure of the coal industry. We are dedicated to supporting and improving the quality of life for the people living in former mining communities by helping them secure employment, increase skills and enhance their health and wellbeing. We also recognise the importance of retaining and developing local facilities and social enterprises, which provide services to former mining communities.

#### **Coalfields Community Grants Fast Track Grant Programme**

The Coalfields Community Grants Fast Track Programme in Wales can award <u>capital funding</u> from £500 up to £2,000 and is funded by the Welsh Government.

This aim of this programme is to support community and voluntary organisations, who manage community facilities, to access funding required for urgent health and safety or energy efficiency improvements within their community facility.

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Your organisation must have an appropriate governing document.
- You must be able to provide your latest set of accounts, or for new organisations forecast accounts for 24 months.
- Your organisation's unrestricted annual income must be less than £250,000.
- You must have a bank account with at least two unrelated signatories.
- Your project must be based in an <u>eligible coalfield community</u> or be able to show clear and immediate benefits for an eligible coalfield community.
- Your organisation must own the building or have a full repairing and insuring lease with at least five years remaining.
- You must have sought the relevant permissions for your project where applicable e.g. Landlord's consent, building regulations, planning permissions.
- You must be able to demonstrate how your facility benefits the wider community. Your organisation's governing document must permit non-members to be beneficiaries and your organisation's members should not be the only beneficiaries.

This funding programme does not require match funding, however if contributing to a larger capital project we would require confirmation that other funding sources (own or external) have been secured before releasing any funding.

We will require one quote for any work/item(s) under £5,000 and three comparable quotes for any work/item(s) over £5,000. For projects exceeding a total of £25,000 we would require a copy of tenders. Please note these costs are excluding VAT.

We are unable to fund organisations which: we have funded within the last 12 months; or have not yet completed monitoring of previous awards under the Coalfields Community Grants programme.

## Costs we cannot fund (please note this list is not exhaustive):

Please note this is a capital fund so cannot be used to fund revenue costs such as surveys, professional fees, training or salaries.

- Project costs that the Trust has funded previously through the Community Grants or Bridging the Gap programmes.
- Contribution towards a larger project with costs in excess of £150,000.
- Deficit or retrospective costs (in other words, costs you have committed to pay before your application was approved).
- Capital contingencies.
- The creation or maintenance of footpaths or car parks.
- The development of bars or bar areas for the purpose of increasing bar takings.
- Medical or research equipment.
- Bank or audit charges.
- Depreciation or amortisation.
- Professional/consultancy fees.
- Fees for independent or external fundraisers.
- Debts including mortgage costs.
- Funding required to exclusively drawdown landfill tax credits.

### **Application Process**

Please complete the Fast Track Application Form and submit with the required information as noted on the application form to <u>wales@coalfields-regen.org.uk</u> and a member of our assessment team will contact you within 4 weeks with a decision or a request for further information.

As part of our assessment of the project we will assess whether a grant meets EU State Aid/UK Subsidy Control requirements. This may require us to ask you for further information on your project, organisation and other funding received to date.

Any enquiries please contact 01495 367680 or email wales@coalfields-regen.org.uk

Noder: Rydym yn derbyn deunydd cais yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg. Mae deunydd cais ar gael yn y Gymraeg, cysylltwch â ni os ydych am gopi.

Please note: We accept application materials in English or Welsh. Application materials are available in Welsh, if you require a copy please contact us.