

# The National Coalfields Programme

The national regeneration agency supporting real and long-lasting transformation of the coalfield communities



**English Partnerships**  
The National Regeneration Agency



The £386.5m National Coalfields Programme is a vital strand of English Partnerships' support of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) in delivering the *Sustainable Communities Plan*.

The Programme assists former coalfield communities across England by creating new employment, homes, leisure facilities and public space. English Partnerships manages some 100 sites, working with a wide range of public and private sector partners.

We are on course to create:  
New uses for around 4,000 ha of former coalfield land, 42,000 new jobs, two million square metres of commercial floorspace, 8,000 new homes, far-reaching benefits for local communities, and to attract over £1bn private sector investment

## The National Coalfields Programme



**Rt Hon John Prescott MP**  
Deputy Prime Minister



**David Higgins**  
Chief Executive,  
English Partnerships

"As we set out in *Sustainable communities: building for the future*, people need lasting solutions, communities with firm foundations where people want to live and work. The National Coalfields Programme is working towards this vision and is a key catalyst in the delivery of real regeneration in England."

"Much of the real vision of the National Coalfields Programme is coming to fruition. Innovative solutions are being found for the most complex remediation challenges, new approaches are being pioneered and best practice is being shared.

"After the early years of remediating sites and preparing them for development, we are now witnessing a wide range of projects making a very real difference in people's lives. New jobs, new opportunities and new hope are already a reality for some and will shortly become that for many more."

Front cover images

Left: Pleasley, Mansfield

Right: National Forest Millennium Discovery Centre, Rawdon

Above images (clockwise from top left)

Working with local people

Rainton Bridge, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne & Wear  
Environment/ecology

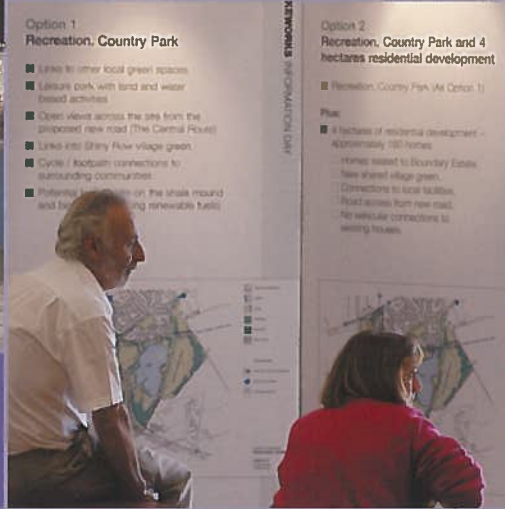
Dawdon Business Park, Seaham, County Durham

Demolition at Avenue Coking Works, Chesterfield

Housing at Vane Tempest, Seaham, County Durham



Working to rebuild communities



Successfully delivering jobs, homes, public open space

Regeneration isn't just about site reclamation

Creating jobs and leisure opportunities

1,309 ha of land remediated and brought back into use, often using innovative and sustainable techniques to improve the environment.

416,218 sq m commercial floor space created, adopting sustainable design standards and practice.

674 homes built or started, helping to meet the Government's targets for houses built on previously developed land.

12,389 jobs created, breathing new life into communities and providing opportunities for economic development.



Energy efficient business unit construction; and open space at Bentley

We work with our many partners and local people to find creative, sustainable ways of rebuilding communities, and engaging them in shaping the vision. Who better to say what is really needed to restore their community?

We:

- insist on high standards of sustainability;
- act as a catalyst for land acquisition, site assembly, remediation and masterplanning;
- devise and encourage innovation in remediation; and
- insist on active involvement of local communities.



Engaging the local community

Up to 1,000 jobs are set to be created in Worksop after B&Q purchased the former Manton Colliery site to construct a £70m purpose-built distribution centre.

Developments by networkspace and Priority Sites have helped to transform the former Agecroft Colliery in Salford into a thriving industrial park.

The centrepiece of the former Glasshoughton colliery, near Castleford, is a £58m leisure complex, with indoor real snow ski slope, multiplex cinema and bowling alley, completed by Xscape. This is part of a wider development of shopping, business, industry and new homes.



New and expanded businesses at Grimethorpe, South Yorkshire



Sherwood Energy Village, Nottinghamshire



Artist's impression of Priority Sites units on the former Victoria Colliery site, Biddulph



Westoe, South Shields



Being flexible to build sustainable communities

Using new technology to reclaim and rebuild

Areas of operation

English Partnerships funds a dedicated team called Initiate within the Coalfields Regeneration Trust, to ensure links to the heart of the coalfield communities and to act as brokers for community development, training and social enterprise. Initiate are currently working with regeneration teams in eight coalfield areas.

A new urban village – named Westoe Crown Village – is being built on the former Westoe colliery site in South Shields, with more than 600 houses, a new primary school, community centre, retail units and workshops with The Prince's Foundation brokering both design and community benefits.

Local people are airing their views, via regular public consultations, on the future of the former Chatterley Whitfield colliery near Stoke-on-Trent, which could provide new jobs, training opportunities and community facilities. The Chatterley Whitfield Partnership – comprising local, regional and national partners – is supporting the development plans.



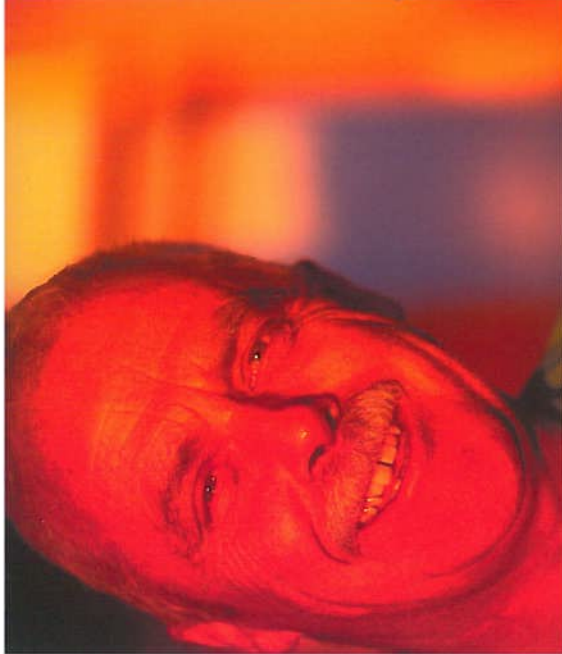
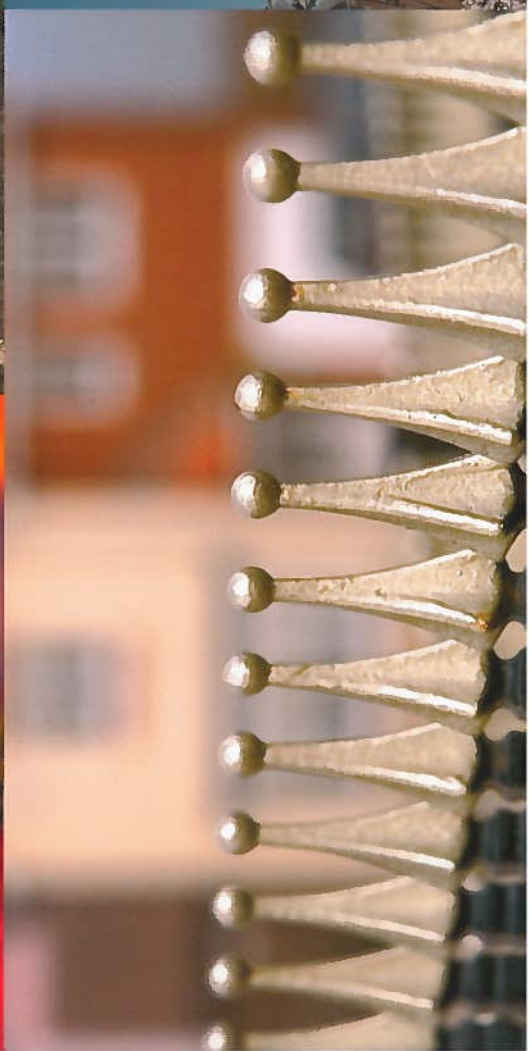
Housing development underway at Westoe, South Shields

Sherwood Energy Village on the former Ollerton colliery will be an exemplar for sustainable living, with industry, commerce, EcoHomes, education, recreation, tourism and leisure, using renewable energy sources.

Remediation of the Avenue coking works near Chesterfield, using thermal desorption (new technology where soil is subjected to very high temperatures to drive off oil-based contaminants) will put one of the most contaminated sites in Western Europe at the leading edge of sustainable brownfield regeneration.

Innovative remediation techniques used on the site of the former Dinnington Colliery near Rotherham include bio-remediation (the introduction of micro-organisms to the soil to eat the contaminants) and the planting of willow and poplar trees to help de-contaminate the land and also potentially produce a renewable fuel source which could be used to power local schools.







# Working in partnership



Yorkshire & Humber Regional Development Agency



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The English Partnerships Coalfields Team supports delivery of projects through our Regional Development Agency (RDA) partners and the network of English Partnerships' area delivery teams in each region.

## Useful web addresses:

[www.cabe.org.uk](http://www.cabe.org.uk)  
[www.claire.co.uk](http://www.claire.co.uk)  
[www.coalfields-enterprise-fund.co.uk](http://www.coalfields-enterprise-fund.co.uk)  
[www.coalfields-regen.org.uk](http://www.coalfields-regen.org.uk)  
[www.landrestorationtrust.org.uk](http://www.landrestorationtrust.org.uk)  
[www.networkspace.co.uk](http://www.networkspace.co.uk)  
[www.prioritysites.co.uk](http://www.prioritysites.co.uk)

[www.englishpartnerships.co.uk/coalfields](http://www.englishpartnerships.co.uk/coalfields)

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