

Where we began

When British coal mining was at its peak in the early 1900's, it was one of the UK's most important industries and employed nearly 1.2 million people.

As the industry contracted and large numbers of pits closed, it had a devastating impact on the communities that once relied on them for jobs, housing and social support.

By the late 1990s, former coalfield areas had a lack of employment opportunities, experienced high levels of poor health and many people had no or few qualifications.

In 1999, The Coalfields Regeneration Trust was established in response to recommendations made by the government's Coalfields Task Force. It was set up as an independent charity with a focus to support the communities and create opportunities for their people.

