

## Shotton Surface Mine, Cramlington, Northumberland

The Shotton Surface Mine covers 300 hectares of land to the west of Cramlington, north of Newcastle upon Tyne. It has planning permission for the extraction of 5.4 million tonnes of coal. The site started operations in May 2008. The Shotton site will be restored to agricultural, woodland, nature conservation and amenity uses (see plan below).



The site currently employs 140 people. The site also assists in the maintenance of some further 120 services and support personnel located at the company's headquarters in England.

Currently the site inputs £20 million per annum into the regional economy through wages, payments for services and rates.

The coal produced from the Shotton site will continue to go towards meeting the needs of local coal users, such as Alcan at Lynemouth, Northumberland, as well as meeting the needs of the major power stations in the Aire and Trent Valleys. A significant proportion (20%) of the coal extraction from the site is suitable for domestic use. Fireclay is also available on the site and is suitable for brick making and is supplied to local and national brickworks.



Shotton Surface Mine Restoration Plan

Banks is recognised as a leader in the innovation of environmental controls. The company has adopted an environmental policy which is applied to all our sites to ensure high standards of working at all times. Environmental monitoring and regular audits ensure that these standards are met. To confirm our commitment to these standards all environmental monitoring results are shown to the liaison committee, the local authorities and published on our website. The local community is also

invited to take part in the audits. A comprehensive environmental management plan is currently in place for the site which sets down all of the environmental control measures which minimise potential environmental impacts of the mining operations. This includes measures to control and monitor noise, dust and vibration levels. Controls on water discharge from the site and lorry movements are also included in the plan. We work very closely in partnership with local communities.

### **Northumberlandia – Cramlington, Northumberland**

Northumberlandia is a new piece of public art designed by world renowned artist Charles Jencks. The construction has been completely privately funded by the Banks Group and Blagdon Estate. Northumberlandia is a stylised, reclining female figure covered with grass. Northumberlandia has been created from a range of carefully selected material from the adjacent Shotton Surface Mine. The creation of this exciting landform has been made possible by the existence of the mine. The landform sculpture is 400m long, 254m wide, 34m high, and has used some 1.5 million tonnes of materials from the mine in its construction. We estimate that some 200,000 visitors per year are likely to visit the site when it opens to the public.

Northumberlandia will be centrepiece of a 19 hectare public park that will be open to the public by Summer 2013. There will be 6.5km of paths on and around Northumberlandia, enabling visitors to enjoy walking a range of different routes over the landform. Admission to the park will be free of charge, there will be a nominal fee for using the car park. The park will be managed by The Land Trust, a national charity specialising in the care of green spaces.

