

June 17, 1981

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before 15.00 HOURS, THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 1981.

£5 173 000 READAPTATION GRANTS FOR STEEL WORKERS

The European Commission has announced readaptation grants totalling £5 173 000 to finance measures to help workers in the British steel industry who are affected by plant closure and modernisation. Of this total, £2 617 000 is allocated to workers in the Welsh steel industry. A press conference will be held in our Cardiff Office, at 4 Cathedral Road, on Thursday June 18, at 11 a.m. to explain the Welsh grants in more detail. Representatives of workers affected will attend.

The grants are made under Article 56 of the European Coal and Steel Community. They will be used to help fund current schemes for early retirement, retraining and income support which are administered by the Department of Industry. The breakdown of the allocation in England is as follows:

1. Sheffield, S.Yorkshire - £95 000

For 83 workers affected by the closure of Edgar Allen Mining Products Ltd rolling mill and heat treatment department. Closure took place last year.

2. Round Oak, West Midlands - £610 000

For 308 workers affected by the partial closure of the Round Oak Steel Works Ltd Level Street Mill, following a drop in demand for seamless tube rounds.

3. Sheffield, S.Yorkshire - £41 000

For 30 workers made redundant by the complete closure of all steelmaking activities at Thomas Turton and Sons Ltd.

4. Warrington, Cheshire - £750 000

For 715 workers affected by the closure of the Bewsey Road works of British Steel Corporation. The plant closed last year as a result of falling demand for wire rod.

5. Bilston, West Midlands - £750 000

For 438 workers affected by the closure last year of the British Steel Bilston works.

6. Rotherham, S.Yorkshire - £310 000

For 214 workers affected by the closure last year of four bar mills at the Millsands site of British Steel's Rotherham Works. The mills were of the hand-operated type.

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