



DORSET
Local Enterprise Partnership

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Local Growth Fund (LGF)

End of Project Report

Construction & Engineering Project,
Bournemouth & Poole College

PROJECT SUMMARY

Funding was requested to deliver a project that addresses skills gaps and supports the Dorset LEP's Strategic Economic Plan in line with the Talented Dorset ambition to achieve a highly skilled and adaptive workforce.

The project has created three physical spaces at North Road Poole which will now support students wishing to progress into strategically important local sectors. These construction areas will now provide a central focus to promote the development of employability to ensure students are work ready and enter industries as more productive employees.

Overall the Construction has achieved what was initially set out in the original bid, albeit slightly reduced through the year due to students not being allowed to attend because of Covid-19. The three impressive spaces that have been created, are now having an impact on the overall student experience.

The students have been using the areas since the college returned to full use following the pandemic and these have consisted of full time brickwork, plastering and Painting & Decorating courses.

The engineering area now also operates with the most up to date machinery due to the allocation of funds.

Project start date	01/11/2019
Project construction start date	23/03/20
Project completion date	31/08/2020

CHANGE REQUEST

Following a decision made by the Dorset LEP Board in November 2020, the project budget was increased by £152,798, from £610,675 (including business case assessment fee) to £763,473, and the project was extended from November 2020 to February 2021.

OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES:

The output has generated three modern facilities for practical trades. The photos below show an example of the new areas.

The engineering area had new machines installed together with computer aided welding machines which enable the students to practice and hone their skills before tackling welding with raw materials.

Summary of outputs:

INDICATORS	FY 2020/21
Area of improved learning floor space	Refurbishment of an existing workshop building of 1464 m2 to accommodate all construction wet trades
New specialist equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investment in machinery and resources in the College's Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing area. - New equipment for specialisms in Marine, Electric vehicle, plumbing, automotive and aviation
New courses and specialisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction of virtual welding to the curriculum - MARINE: New Boatbuilder apprenticeship - MARINE: Another level of training for the Sunseeker International Dealership Training course - MARINE: Diploma in Maritime Studies Marine Vessel Maintenance with Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA) - ELECTRIC DRILLS: new apprentice group - AUTOMOTIVE: Electric Vehicle full cost courses Level 1-4 - AUTOMOTIVE: Delivery of the automotive standards starting in January 2021 - AUTOMOTIVE/ MARINE: EV charging post commercial course - AVIATION: New curriculum in Aviation across programmes for 16-18 EFYP, Apprenticeship route and degree level pathway. - GAS: Core assessment 2, ACS Update 1 (Ideal Zero Governor)





Engineering Machines



Construction Element

Two thirds of the money provided the building works, for construction skills. The remaining third helped with state-of-the-art machinery and all these outputs will help increase the skills base of students when they leave college.

Due to COVID-19 and lockdown as well as social distancing guidance, the areas are just beginning to be used to their full capacity. Students are now catching up with intensive sessions to ensure they complete on time.

These workshops and machinery hubs will enable staff supporting students to access the technology required to upskill students and to develop employability skills to ensure they are best suited for a competitive job market. We will be utilising the spaces to enable students to apply for progression options, higher education, apprenticeships, or employment.

We also hope these areas will become areas that can be used to deliver staff training to promote our Careers Not Courses strategic theme.

We intend to gather feedback from students, parents/carers, staff and employers. We will also monitor the number of sessions delivered via these areas.

Outputs and Outcomes from Increased Funding

The extra funding has been used for new equipment in the Marine, Automotive, Aviation and Gas departments, which included new drills, an electric car with charging points and aviation equipment and tools for a new course which starts in September 2021.

The outputs have resulted to date the following student numbers

Marine

Boatbuilder 18 in No.

Vessel Maintenance 198 in No.

Automotive

Automotive Standards 12 in No.

Gas

Core Assessment 2, ACS Update 60 in No.

Summary of outcomes for the whole project:

INDICATORS	FY 2020/21 (Apr 20-March 21)	FORECAST OUTCOMES				
		FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	TOTAL ACTUAL + FORECAST
New apprenticeships	857	684	704	634	634	3513
New full-time students	992	504	546	570	601	3213
Third sector Investment leveraged (Introduction of new adult re-skilling / upskilling / CPD opportunities)	£0	£40,000	£40,000	£40,000	£40,000	£160,000
Productivity increase (cost savings)	£0	£30,000	£30,000	£30,000	£30,000	£120,000

BENEFITS REALISED TO DATE

One of the significant benefits that these refurbishments and state of the art machinery have been instrumental in facilitating, is the co-location of the bricklaying team that were located away from the remainder of the college. This has enabled the team to work more collaboratively and succinctly putting students at the centre, thus ensuring a holistic student experience. It has also ensured that the teams are working together to share good practice, skills and expertise to support the students who access these areas.

FINANCES

The original budget for this project was £610,675. £400,000 was allocated to the Construction element and £210,000 was allocated to the supply of engineering machinery, and the project was brought in on Budget. There was also £675 for the Business case assessment fee.

There was £39,436 match funding on this project, with no savings as the project was on budget.

LESSONS LEARNT

The project suffered slightly at the beginning, from deliveries of items due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This was obviously unforeseen, and proved to be the only issue throughout the project. All other risks were mitigated by good project management and this was mainly to ensure that the tendered works were completed on time with the necessary specification.

SUCCESS STORY

The main benefits of these construction is that students have benefitted with the overall student experience as well as completing their courses in modern facilities and that staff have worked collaboratively to ensure that our students are well prepared for their next steps.