



DORSET

Local Enterprise Partnership

Motor Vehicle Centre of Excellence

End of Project Report

April 2020

Project Summary

Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership (DLEP) secured £250,000 of Local Growth funding to create a Centre of Excellence for Motor Vehicle Technology at Weymouth College. The redevelopment aims to future-proof the College's infrastructure, introduce pioneering industry standards to a growing number of students and support local employment in engineering.

The project upgraded 500m² motor vehicle workshop space and developed hybrid and fully electric vehicle facilities. The current petrol and diesel motor vehicle fleet has been injected by a modern array of hybrid and electric vehicles. An increase in available space will also support the local engineering industry as employers, such as ASM Auto Recycling, gear up to offer new machinery.

Improved facilities and equipment will advance the present College curriculum and increase places on engineering courses at the main Cranford Avenue campus. The transformation aims to advance teaching and produce skilled college graduates to meet current and future local employment needs. The improvements will provide increased College capacity to support apprenticeships and full-time learners. The number of engineering apprenticeships offered is expected to double, from 80 to 160, and increase by 80 places per year thereafter.

Project start date	July 2019
Project completion date	November 2019

Outputs

The project upgraded 500m² motor vehicle workshop space and developed hybrid and fully electric vehicle facilities. The current petrol and diesel motor vehicle fleet has been injected by a modern array of hybrid and electric vehicles. Three new technology vehicles were purchased with two being a Hybrid and one fully electric. 12 second hand petrol and diesel vehicles were also purchased. One 4-post MOT ramp with a new MOT standard headlight beam setter installed alongside; and two 2-post MOT ramps were purchased with the existing ramps being relocated to maximise available delivery space. An increase in available space will also support the local engineering industry as employers, such as ASM Auto Recycling, gear up to offer new machinery.

All outputs have been achieved. To date, Weymouth College reported the following outputs.

INDICATORS	DELIVERED OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES FY 2019/2020
Area of Learning Floor space Created/Improved (m ²)	500m ² (develop and modernise 500m ² of current workshop space making it hybrid and fully electric vehicle compliant as well as replacing the current vehicle fleet with hybrid and fully electric vehicles)
Specialist Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 3 new technology vehicles (2 Hybrid and 1 fully electric) * 12 second hand petrol and diesel vehicles * Two 2-post ramps with the existing ramps being relocated to maximise available delivery space * 4-post MOT ramp with a new MOT standard headlight beam setter installed alongside * Replacement tooling shelving and work-desks * Dedicated hybrid section * CPD on-line training package for the MOT training programme

Outcomes

Improved facilities and equipment will advance the present College curriculum and increase places on engineering courses at the main Cranford Avenue campus. The transformation aims to advance teaching and produce skilled college graduates to meet current and future local employment needs. All Motor Vehicle staff are working through a purchased CPD On-line training package for the MOT training programme.

The following outcomes are projected by Weymouth College to be delivered by 31st March 2025.

INDICATORS	FORECAST					
	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23	FY 23/24	FY 24/25	TOTAL
Jobs created	30	30	30	30	30	150
Jobs retained	30	30	30	30	30	150
Up-skilled jobs	20	20	20	20	20	100
Apprenticeships	160	160	160	160	160	800
Business relocated to LEP region	10	0	0	0	0	10
New business start ups	10	0	0	0	0	10

The improvements will provide increased College capacity to support apprenticeships and full-time learners. The number of engineering apprenticeships offered is expected to double, from 80 to 160 a year, and increase by 80 places per year thereafter (+80 a year, 1,600 extra over 20 years).

All of the planned improvements have been made. Apprenticeship starts are now over 100.

Benefits Realised to date

Other benefits revolve around increased advertising, and the general interest generated amongst local employers.

Workshop space











Review of Project Objectives

RAG Review of Objectives	Status	Comments
Time		The project started on time and completed on time.
Cost		The project came in on budget.
Quality		The Motor Vehicle Centre of Excellence was completed to a high specification including purchased equipment.
Scope		The scope of the project did not change.
Benefits		The benefits of the project did not change.
Risk		All risks were mitigated through the life of the project.

Lessons learned

Everything has gone according to plan, however a learning point was the value of timely and appropriate planning.

Conclusion

The project has worked brilliantly for the College, with over 100 sign-ups for the February Open Day (over double last year). The College is now able to offer hybrid and fully electric motor vehicle units, modules and courses as described within the intent.