

# CAMPERVAN ELEVATING ROOF WORKSHOP

## APPLICANT

Jerba Campervans Ltd

[www.jerbacampervans.co.uk](http://www.jerbacampervans.co.uk)

## TOTAL PROJECT COST

£85,000.00

£51,000

£34,000

Tyne Esk LEADER

Match Funding

## PROJECT AIMS

- Increase the production facilities of Jerba's innovative roof system.
- Expand to create new permanent jobs that are available to the local community.
- Continue to train new employees and develop their specific skills of the trade as recognised in Jerba's shortlisting for the Rural Employer Award at the Scottish Rural Awards in 2018.
- Further enhance the Halfland Barns site to make it more attractive and hopefully draw in new businesses.

## PROJECT DETAIL

Jerba Campervans, formed in 2006, are Scotland's only Volkswagen registered campervan conversion business, and one of only 4 Volkswagen certified bodybuilders in the UK. After 3 years of research and development Jerba Campervans gained a UK patent for a new campervan elevating roof design. The innovation is proving to be very popular with significant UK interest and Jerba have won a number of industry awards over the years.

The project aimed to assist Jerba Campervans with their expansion by creating a dedicated campervan elevating roof facility which would allow room for both the assembling and fitting of the roofs. This was done by increasing the manufacturing floor space by 30% through the removal of an old mushroom poly tunnel and replacing with a new extension. By further redeveloping the old farm area it is expected to be more attractive to other businesses, thus creating more new rural employment opportunities.

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## RESULTS

"The enhanced space has allowed us to provide a fitting only service for the roof elevating product as well as a significant increase in productivity of the full conversions. Our turnover has gone from £1.85m in 2016 to £2.67m in 2018 and the workshop extension has been a vital factor.

The new facility provides a new professional look and feel to the business, notable in customers' reactions when entering the building. Staff morale has also risen with the spacious working conditions, as has productivity and diminished reworks. The improved building has also achieved its aim of attracting more businesses to Halfland Barns, further enhancing the local economy.

In terms of job creation, at the time of application we had nine full time staff. This has risen to 14, all on permanent contracts and paid above the living wage. LEADER has been directly attributable to three of these posts."

## LESSONS LEARNED

"The online LARCS system requires time and concentration to manage, having one dedicated individual who is responsible for inputting information and making claims we feel saves significantly on potential errors and queries.

One of our greatest challenges was obtaining written quotes for the works we required and ensuring that the details given on those quotes matched the Milestones on our LEADER application – we learnt latterly that highly detailed Milestones meant highly detailed quotes and invoices, which many suppliers were at pains to provide!"