

# 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 workshop extension was opened in December 2017, its impact had an immediate effect on the overall productivity of the business. The increase in overall floor space also enabled products to be handled and worked on without the constant concern of being damaged by a cramped working environment – our productivity has risen, reworks diminished and staff moral increased through the creating of an excellent working environment.

We have also noticed a significant effect on visiting customers' perception of the business as the entire workshop now has a fully professional look and feel. All the above factors have played a part in developing the market for our new elevating roof product and our order book is now full until October 2018."

## 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!"