

CAMPERVAN ELEVATING ROOF WORKSHOP

APPLICANT

Jerba Campervans Ltd
www.jerbacampervans.co.uk

TOTAL PROJECT COST

£76,529

£42,529

(55.5%)

£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 specific skills of the trade as recognised in Jerba's shortlisting for the Scottish Rural Awards in 2018.
- Further enhance the Halfland Barns site to make it more attractive and draw in new businesses.

PROJECT DETAIL

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

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 more attractive to other businesses, thus creating more new rural employment opportunities.



RESULTS

*"The new workshop has enabled us to grow our turnover significantly – from £1.85m in 2016, to £2.17m in 2017 and **£2.67m in 2018**. Our forecast for **2019 is £3.2m**.*

*At the time of the application we had nine FTE employees. By early 2018 this had increased to 14 – all on permanent contracts and paid above the Living Wage. The LEADER funded extension can be directly attributed to **three of these positions.**"*

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!"