



Centre of Vocational Excellence

New specialist facilities to support engineering apprenticeships

Summary

Worcestershire LEP has invested £950,000 in the Centre of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) to support engineering apprenticeships in particular by providing a new specialist facility in partnership with Worcestershire's training provider, the Worcestershire Group Training Association. The Centre of Vocational Excellence will continue to upskill the county's workforce and has had proven success with the quality and quantity of apprenticeships delivered.

The Background

- The Centre of Vocational Excellence consisted of two spaces of up to 15,000sqft
- The units were made up of 10,333sqft and 4,224 sqft respectively for £1.5million
- £950,000 of investment arrived through Worcestershire's Local Enterprise Partnership's Local Growth Fund and £70,000 through the New Homes Bonus funding from Worcester City Council, as well as match funding from HWGTA
- The new centre replaced Herefordshire & Worcestershire Group Training Association's current operation in Worcester to provide a brand new state of the art facility with increased capacity for delivering engineering skills development for the manufacturing, processing, finance, legal and service sectors across Worcestershire.

Key facts

LEP: Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership

Location: Worcester, Worcestershire

Project completion: December, 2017

LGF funding: £950,000

Estimated potential outputs: 20 jobs created and training provided for several hundred learners each year at all levels.



The Benefits

- Training provided for several hundred learners each year, at all levels in Worcestershire.
- **Gary Woodman, Chief Executive of Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership said:** "It is great to see the new Centre of Vocational Excellence in operation. This specialist facility will help to support the development of many engineering apprenticeships and I am confident that the facility will help to raise the skills of our local workforce, which is great news for business and the local economy."