



Case studies



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Case studies

Case study 1 Bike-a-lot

Audio content is not available in this format.

[Bike-a-lot audio case study](#)

Business description

Bike-a-lot is a motor cycle training school for all levels of rider. After years of working in the public sector, Nicky learned to ride a motorcycle. Enjoying the experience so much led to instructor training and a temporary job working for a training school. Nicky then took voluntary redundancy and with a partner, Cameron, purchased a range of motorcycles and rent an industrial unit. The work is seasonal with winter months being quiet.

Staffing

Two trainers working together, no admin staff.

Business requirements

Assets

A range of ten motorcycles, including two instructor bikes (purchased).

Communications equipment.

Training room.

Storage facility.

Skills

Trainers to be fully qualified instructors.

Turnover

£80,000.

Case study 2 JJ Components

Audio content is not available in this format.

[JJ Components audio case study](#)

Business description

JJ trained as an electrical engineer and worked for five years in an electronics company. He enjoyed solving electronic problems and designed a range of bespoke solutions for the company. After building up close relationships with customers and identifying a niche market for these skills, JJ bought a large 'pick and place' component manufacturing system, rented a small industrial unit and began creating specialised products for industry and education. JJ now supplies an international client base and employs two people in the assembly department.

Staffing

One electrical design engineer.

Two assembly technicians.

Business requirements

Assets

Pick and place component equipment (leased).

Industrial unit (leased).

Skills

Electronic expertise.

Turnover

£280,000.

Case study 3 Mucky Pets

Audio content is not available in this format.

[Mucky Pets audio case study](#)

Business description

Mucky Pets is a small dog grooming and walking service. Alex studied dog grooming at the local college and started Mucky Pets alongside a part-time job in a local convenience store.

Staffing

One person, part time, fits around other jobs.

Business requirements

Assets

Grooming room (shed equipped with water, electricity and tools).

Skills

Vocational training in dog grooming.

Turnover

£8000 p.a.

Case study 4 Red Bush Brewery

Audio content is not available in this format.

[Red Bush Brewery audio case study](#)

Business description

Sam has worked on the family farm since the age of ten. Given the economic changes in farming, the family have been exploring ways of diversifying. Sam noticed a number of buildings on the farm were not being used and agreed with the family to use these buildings to set up a micro-brewery. Sam arranged the finance to purchase second-hand brewing equipment, employed a member of staff who had been made redundant from the brewing industry, and now produces 20,000 bottles of beer a year sold through local farmer's markets and specialist shops. Sam helps out in the brewery when farm duties allow.

Staffing

One full time member, staff at farm help out as required.

Business requirements

Assets

Brewing and bottling equipment (owned).

Farm building (owned by farm).

Skills

Brewing expertise.

Turnover

£79,000.

Case study 5 Turn-it-round

Audio content is not available in this format.

[Turn-it-round audio case study](#)

Business description

Charlie served time in prison for theft and on release found it difficult to get a full-time job. Working with the advisors in the prison, Charlie identified that this was a very common issue and saw an opportunity to use the knowledge and experience gained to make a difference. Charlie sought funding and set up a social enterprise supporting ex-offenders in gaining employment on their release and helping them to settle into the role.

Staffing

Four full-time staff (three ex-prisoners) and a range of volunteers.

Business requirements

Assets

No specific assets – all staff work from home.

Skills

Careers advice and experience of prisoner resettlement.

Turnover

£155,000.