

Response – Document 1

The original opportunity notice was published on 17/10/2018 with an award being made effective 25/01/2019 and publication of the notice being made via sell2wales on 13/03/2019.

A start up grant as per the opportunity documentation was issued on 25/01/2019 to the successful bidder and Welsh Government is managing the output of that grant via the level of meaningful jobs created, not the spend, as that is business to business spend. Furthermore Profit and Loss figures are pertinent to the operating business as a commercial social enterprise and it is not within the gift of Welsh Government to provide this information as a part of any FOI request.

Due to issues with the landlord carrying out remedial works on premises to make fit for lease purposes access to the available premises was significantly delayed and this work did not commence until June/July of 2019.

All work now completed and lease signed for occupation of premises allowing Elite to complete refurbishment to suit business requirements.

Elite have now taken occupation of the factory with significant fit out work having been completed prior to staff moving in, a number of machinists have been undergoing training with partner organisations. Initial training has been completed and the first cohort of trainees is now busy on the production line within the Ebbw Vale facility. Production commenced in November of 2019 on site and continues to operate against targets.

The better Jobs Closer to Home team have introduced Pilot 1 to contacts across the public sector including Higher Education and work continues with Transport for Wales, Cadw and NHS Shared services, the latter being the first clients to work with the Pilot 1 operator, in addition to this Elite have been successful in winning business with a number of private sector clients they have been successful in winning business with.

To date 9 jobs have been created within the enterprise.