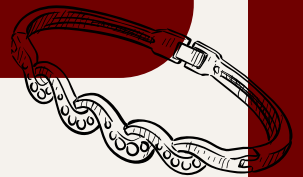


BISHOPSLAND EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Rural England Prosperity Funding (REPF) has allowed Bishopsland to make their site more eco-friendly and cost-effective in order to continue supporting young silversmiths.

Bishopsland Educational Trust is an internationally recognised charity that is dedicated to the training and education of young people in the craft of silversmithing. For the past 30 years, they have encouraged the careers of over 200 silversmiths and jewellers in the UK.



The Project

Bishopsland needed REPF to help renovate Grade II listed farm buildings to provide low carbon-impact teaching workshops, offices and community engagement facilities. With REPF, they were able to deliver low-carbon objectives by installing air source heat pumps and a heat recovery system, an EV charging point, bike racks, an online digital teaching capability and removing asbestos.



Goals

**Make the
site more
sustainable**

**Reduce
running
costs**

**Aid the
Trust's
growth**

Why was the project necessary?

Hills Yard had become disused and was in a state of disrepair. Bishopsland is the only silversmithing organisation within the Heritage and Rural Skills Centre and they usually have twice as many applicants as places - indicating a need to expand their operations to meet demand. Bishopsland are now able to admit more young craftspeople to their residential training programme.



Benefits of the project

Residents and Students

The relocation allows them to recruit a cohort of 12 residents (an increase of 50%). Their Alumni network of over 300 will also be able to remotely join masterclasses via the new digital teaching technology installed with REPF.

Environment

The new site has an EPC rating of 'A', in part due to the new sustainable energy technologies that have been adopted. Hills Yard is within cycling distance of student accommodation and cycling is encouraged with the new bike racks and EV chargers.

Community

Bishopsland is vital for preserving cultural heritage and cultivating craft skills. The project was preceded by overwhelming support from their Buscot community consultation. Now, their maintenance, cleaning, driver and catering facilities are locally sourced, and their students and staff support local businesses.



Funded by
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Vale
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