

Case study: DB Sheetmetals

In February 2018, a specialist sheet metal company in Haverhill needed to replace old lighting to help with inspection and reduce costs but did not have the time or funding available to make the project happen.

By working with West Suffolk's Community Energy Programme, DB Sheetmetals were able to get technical and financial support from the council's Environmental Health team to help them reduce costs and save money on their energy bills. This enabled the company to undertake a site wide replacement of the old lighting with new energy efficient LED bulbs with minimal disruption. This has not only improved light levels for vital inspection work but has also saved energy, reduced bills by over £3,400 and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

The council's innovative energy performance approach provided 100% finance of the project costs and mirrors the latest innovations in the energy efficiency industry. DB Sheetmetals are repaying the cost of the project monthly and the council's Community Energy programme, working closely with the installer IC Lighting, has provided a guarantee that the energy savings will repay the capital expenditure in 3.7 years.

Caroline Law from DB Sheetmetals, said: *"Replacing this lighting was important for the business to help us modernise, provide a better service and reduce energy costs. But like most small businesses finding the finance and having the time to do this is difficult. The Council and its Community Energy Programme were able to project management the procurement and installation as well as helping us gain a grant from Business Energy Efficiency Anglia. This has meant we have been able to install the new LEDs and pay back the secured loan over time. Quite simply, it is unlikely the project would have happened without the Council's Environment and Energy Team support."*



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