



Closer bonds between City College Plymouth and MVV Energie in the making

City College Plymouth and German utility company MVV Energie have been working together to develop opportunities for apprentices and students both in Mannheim and in Plymouth by building up an exchange project within the Leonardo European exchange programme. MVV Energie is the parent company of MVV Environment, who are currently developing an energy from waste plant at North Yard, Devonport.

The first group of students from Plymouth visited Mannheim this month. On the British side, the exchange was organised by the Partnership Team at City College Plymouth, coordinated by Catherine Shepherd who also chaperoned the visit. She commented that the visit had been hugely beneficial to the students and to the College. When thanking MVV for the opportunity to visit, Charles Pond, who also chaperoned the students, said “MVV as a company is extremely impressive; the scale of the operations you carry out and the efficiency of the processes and procedures. What was also very noticeable, was the enthusiastic and happy working environment, and the ethos that surrounded both sites; a really motivating experience for all of us.”

The European Commission’s Leonardo da Vinci Programme funds practical projects in the field of vocational education and training. Initiatives range from those giving individuals work-related training abroad to large-scale co-operation efforts.

Prior to the current visit, members of the Plymouth Manufacturers Group and staff from City College Plymouth went to Mannheim in August last year and members of MVV Energie’s training team came to Plymouth in November.

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Additionally, apprentices and their teachers from MVV Energie will visit Plymouth in the second half of the year.

Sharron Robbie, Head of Corporate Relations for City College Plymouth, said: “This co-operation is a great opportunity for the College to support MVV as they search for the technical expertise they need for the Energy from Waste plant at Devonport.

“At the same time, it is a chance for MVV to integrate with the local community and to demonstrate their commitment to the community they work in.

“Our visit to Mannheim last year gave us a useful insight into the dual education system used in Germany, which has proven over the years to be a very sound training method. At the same time, we gave an account of our system in Britain, so that MVV could learn about our standards of training. This will be very useful for them when looking for employees in Plymouth.”

Joint projects between MVV and City College Plymouth are also supported by MVV Energie’s subsidiary company MVV Environment Devonport (MED) Ltd. MED have joined the Employer Endorsement Scheme run by City College Plymouth and are helping to fund an apprentice there, working closely with the College and offering site tours and presentations for students and staff as well as delivering presentations for them. .

MED’s managing director, Paul Carey said: “MVV Environment Devonport Ltd is pleased to announce that they have signed up to City College Plymouth’s Employer Endorsement Scheme. This is a major step forward for us as it highlights further, our intent to engage fully with the local community.

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“We have an on-going commitment to education and training and we see our relationship with the College supporting this ethos. The College is working with us to distribute an annual Apprenticeship Bursary, which will support young people into careers within the construction or engineering industries. This is something that we are very passionate about.”

Plymouth, 18th May 2013

- ENDS -

Notes to editors:

MVV Environment Devonport Limited is an English registered company with its registered office in Plymouth. It is the subsidiary company of MVV Umwelt. Both companies are members of German utility company MVV Energie, whose headquarters are in Mannheim. MVV Umwelt provides flexible solutions for waste disposal, producing environmentally sustainable energy. In Germany, MVV Umwelt operates six Energy from Waste and biomass plants, managing 1.6 million tonnes of waste a year. With over 45 years' experience, MVV Umwelt is in the top three companies in Germany in its field.

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MVV Environment Devonport Ltd
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Members of the MVV Energie
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