



NAME
TIM HULSE

COMPANY
ECOVERT SOLUTIONS

TITLE
FOUNDER

WEBSITE
ECOVERTSOLUTIONS.CO.UK



PROFILE **TIM HULSE**

If you would like to learn more about Senior Enterprise visit the website www.seniorenterprise.ie



Tim had worked for many years selling computer software. *'I worked selling multimillion dollar software to large banks but was let go because I was too expensive and over skilled.'*

After he lost his job, Tim stayed positive and focussed on continuing his Master's degree in Architecture from the Centre for Alternative Technology, which he had begun whilst still in employment. *'Previously, I was away from my family a lot with work, and I originally began the Masters for something to do in the evenings. However, I really began to enjoy it. After I lost my job it provided me with a real focus and the knowledge which I would then use to become self-employed.'* Tim gradually became more interested in sustainability and decided to write his thesis on exploring the challenges of making houses in conservation areas zero carbon, with a view to starting his own green company once he completed his degree.

Tim completed his masters in July 2011 and started devoting time to his business in September. He began researching how to get EcoVert Solutions off the ground and looked into developing a website and creating partnerships. It was at this point that Tim became aware of The Prince's Initiative, a partner of the Senior Enterprise Initiative and the 'Preparing to run your own business' course - *'I had a chat with someone from The Prince's Initiative about the course and was particularly interested in the section about creating a business plan. Although I had already got my business moving, I hadn't taken the time to write a business plan and I thought it would be really beneficial. That was the main reason why I signed up and I'm so glad I did.'*

Tim found the training on the course really pushed him to be self-directed. I'm still in touch with my course group which is really

great for support and advice; however, I was also offered free mentorship and great networking opportunities.'

Until that point, Tim was disappointed to find a lack of support for the over 50s in business - *'Everywhere I looked for support, I was turned away. There is a lot in the news about youth unemployment but less of a focus on my generation. I know a lot of people my age who have been let go after many years of working and the lack of support is incredibly demoralising.'*

EcoVert Solutions focuses on green refurbishments for older properties, such as extending and enhancing people's living space while reducing their energy bills significantly.



Tim is really enjoying being his own boss and having the flexibility in working hours to spend more time with his family - *'For me, it really is great being self-employed. I much prefer being able to do work which I'm interested in and having the ability to control what I'm doing'*

For more information about EcoVert solutions, check out Tim's website, www.ecovertsolutions.co.uk/ or email tim.hulse@ecovertsolutions.co.uk

> **STARTING & PARTNERING**

> **INVESTING & ACQUIRING**

> **ADVISING & INNOVATING**

