agratas

A TATA Enterprise

DRIVING GROWTH IN SOMERSET AND THE SOUTH WEST

How our battery manufacturing facility will create jobs, growth, and new opportunities for the region

November 2026



HOW WE'RE BRINGING JOBS AND INVESTMENT TO SOMERSET THROUGH ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

The South West has a strong heritage of manufacturing, industry and innovation. We're proud that Somerset will host our new battery manufacturing facility, and as our site rapidly takes shape, it will soon be our turn to contribute to this legacy for many years to come.

Our facility will be the biggest of its kind in the UK and will play a pivotal role in advancing clean technology and sustainable energy. But importantly for local people and communities, our project will create many positive opportunities and benefits for Somerset and the South West.

We will create thousands of new jobs, provide access to exciting new careers in advanced manufacturing, reskill and upskill people, and contribute to local and regional economies and communities. This reflects our strong commitment to our community-first approach, which is rooted in the values of our parent company, Tata Sons.

The full economic benefits from our investment will be significant. Independent analysis we commissioned about the site's potential impact shows that our entire facility will generate gross value added (GVA) and employment equivalent to almost 20% of Somerset's total GVA and employment once we are fully operational.

A total of around £540 million in GVA will be generated in the South West during all peak construction years combined for the full site. Once our facility is fully operational, it is expected to generate more than £700 million in economic value annually for the South West.



The development of our first manufacturing building is well underway, with entirely British sourced steel being used for the building frame. We are making good progress with our project plan as we work towards the start of production for our UK anchor customer, JLR. Construction of our first manufacturing building will support more than 2,200 direct jobs and around 7,500 jobs in the supply chain, for the duration of the build.

When complete, our first building will create around 1,500 well paid jobs, and we are working closely with our skills partner, University Centre Somerset College Group, to develop the right training solutions for our future workforce. At full capacity, our site will support around 4,000 direct jobs. We will also provide hundreds of apprenticeships, opening up careers in battery manufacturing to the next generation of talent.

As we continue to develop our facility, I want to sincerely thank the communities of Bridgwater, Puriton and Woolavington, and our partners including Somerset Council and the regional business community for their support.

We've come a long way already, but this is just the beginning. We look forward to what's next, and with this continued support, we will build a world-class battery manufacturing facility, and a lasting legacy that Somerset, the South West and the UK can be proud of.

Tom Flack, CEO, Agratas

£700m

Once our facility is fully operational, it is expected to generate more than £700 million in economic value annually for the South West.



THE AGRATAS SITE AT A GLANCE

Our first advanced manufacturing building is now over 500 metres long and rises 34 metres tall at its highest point. Construction is progressing ahead of installation of specialist equipment. Since we purchased our 308-acre site, we have completed significant groundwork. This involved site levelling, laying foundations and installing drainage infrastructure, and more than 1.2 million tonnes of stone has been repurposed for these activities. We continue to work collaboratively with our partners on-site to deliver the infrastructure required for a project of this complexity and scale.

June 2025:
More than 19,000 piles were driven into the ground to form the foundations to support the first part of our facility.

June 2025:
Steel frames formed, marking a major milestone in the construction of the facility, and the start of the vertical build.

Mid 2025-late 2026:
Building assembly continues, including the installation of roof and wall cladding and ground floor slab work.

Early 2026:
Construction work for the main substation started, delivered by National Grid, which will bring power to the site.

2026 to start of production
Interim electricity connection for Building One goes live (started late 2024).

Steelwork and cladding work for Building One will be completed.

Building One will be fitted out with state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment that will operate the production lines.

Construction work on the energy infrastructure for Building One and the chemical storage facilities will be completed.

Building One will be operational, and the first battery cells for our anchor customer JLR will be produced.









OUR IMPACT AND THE OPPORTUNITIES OUR SITE IS CREATING

Our battery facility will make a significant contribution to the local economy and prosperity over the coming years, bringing jobs, good salaries, new opportunities and growth to Somerset and the wider South West.

Independent analysis recently produced concludes that this impact will include:

Jobs

- More than 2,200 direct jobs supported during peak construction of the first building (with further direct jobs created for wider site development) and around 7,500 jobs supported in the supply chain.
- Around 4,000 jobs directly supported by our full facility once operational.
- We are taking a local first approach to recruitment for our facility, and these roles will be well paid jobs, which pay above the average both for the manufacturing sector and for the South West.
- Once our site is at full capacity, we will support around 20,000 jobs in total across the UK, which is the equivalent of 8% of total employment in Somerset (2023 figures).
- Almost 300 apprenticeships provided by Agratas during up to 2031, enabling people of all ages to train, retrain, earn and learn, and gain nationally recognised qualifications.

Economic impact (gross value added)

- Total economic impact for the South West of more than £700 million annually from our full facility.
- An additional £540 million in GVA generated in the South West during peak construction years for the full facility.
- The value generated from our full facility in one year of operations will be equivalent to around 9% of yearly GVA in Somerset.
- £9 million directly added to Bridgwater's economy and almost £17 million to the wider Somerset/South West economy in 2028–29, from spending by Agratas' staff.

2.2k More than 2,200 direct jobs supported during construction of our first manufacturing building





Sir Ashley Fox
Conservative MP for Bridgwater



Councillor Bill Revans
Leader of Somerset Council and the Liberal Democrat Group

"This investment by Agratas represents a transformational opportunity for Somerset and its economy. We are excited to see the progress made on site. However, projects of this size cannot be constructed without any impacts, so we have strong controls in place to ensure impacts on neighbourhoods and wider locality are minimised.

"We are pleased to see Agratas confirm their commitments to being a good neighbour and implementing a local first approach. This project must deliver for all, but in particular for local people and businesses. Therefore, we welcome Agratas' promise to upskill and retrain local people across various demographics.

"Through the Local Development Order we have created a requirement for delivery of local benefits, like skills provision and engagement with local supply chains. This will help us build a long lasting legacy for Somerset and raise prospects for all, with particular benefits for our younger generation by creating exciting career paths right here in Somerset."

Councillor Diogo Rodrigues
Leader of the Opposition and the Conservative Group, Somerset Council

"Agratas' investment in Bridgwater offers huge potential for people in Somerset. They will create good jobs and high quality opportunities in their facility. From my previous work with the Chamber of Commerce, I know the scale of their operations will bring major opportunities for small businesses to grow as part of their supply chain. Agratas' emphasis on the local area can have benefits that reach across the economy and local communities."





Councillor Leigh Redman
Leader of the Labour Group, Somerset Council

"This investment by Agratas, in my town, will create a significant number of long term, high value, well paid jobs for local people to access. At the same time, it will also help to continue the education opportunities that started with Hinkley Point C in partnership with Bridgwater & Taunton college (now University Centre Somerset), and many other education bodies, giving local people of every age further opportunities to learn or reskill. We lose too many young people who are forced to move away to learn, often resulting in them staying away to work."

KICKSTARTING NEW CAREERS IN BATTERY MANUFACTURING

For a facility of this size and scale, we need people with a range of skills and experiences. This includes technical skills in automation and data analytics, working with advanced materials and robotics, and the skills needed for operational roles such as HR and logistics.

Developing a safe and skilled workforce to deliver the UK's biggest battery facility

Around 1,500 jobs will be required for Building One, including in operations (which will make up almost 1,000 of these roles), maintenance, quality, technical teams, engineering and logistics:

- We are working to a carefully planned timeline to recruit operational teams, determined alongside construction, equipment procurement, training, and production timings, and are working with partners locally to support our recruitment activities.
- We are inviting people to register their interest in working at the facility. More information about opportunities can be found on agratas.com
- We are currently hiring pre-production roles. In 2027, we will begin and ramp up recruitment for our operational teams, with training in place before the start of production.

1,500 JOBS

Will be required for Building One

Training programmes to close the skills gap

We're committed to opening up access to new opportunities at our facility and we're developing multiple pathways for people to develop new skills and gain experience, and secure long-term, rewarding careers with our business. We will recruit from all backgrounds and will take a community-first approach, working with partners to train people from Somerset and the South West.

This includes providing opportunities for a whole range of people – from those not currently in employment or education, to young people growing up in Bridgwater today, and from people returning to the workplace after career breaks, to those looking to retrain in a new industry:

- We're working with educational institutions including our official skills partner, UCS College Group, to deliver new, tailored courses.
- Within Agratas, we will deliver bespoke battery skills bootcamps to immerse learners in subjects including battery chemistry, manufacturing workflows, and plant safety. Recruits will then be able to rotate across functions within our battery manufacturing facility and take follow-on specialist training modules.
- We will also provide short courses for people who are interested in applying to work with us which will help upskill and reskill potential candidates before they apply to join skills bootcamps.



Andy Berry CBE

Group CEO, University Centre Somerset College Group

"Agratas offers a transformative opportunity for the University Centre Somerset College Group, our students, and the wider Somerset community. Through our strategic partnership, we are incorporating innovative technologies into our curriculum, launching new training programmes, and strengthening industry links that will prepare our students for the high-value jobs of the future.

This initiative goes beyond education – it's about economic renewal. By aligning our workforce development plans with Agratas' needs, we are helping to create thousands of skilled jobs, boost local enterprises, and ensure our region prospers during the green industrial revolution. Together we will create opportunities across our communities for generations to come."

Building a strong apprenticeships programme

We will provide almost 300 apprenticeships in maintenance and manufacturing up to 2031. These will provide people with the opportunity to upskill, reskill, and ultimately, choose a long-lasting career in Somerset.

Our apprentices will work with new technologies in an advanced manufacturing facility, earning as they learn on the job, and working alongside senior leaders and gaining a nationally recognised qualification. Salaries will be higher than the median average in the local area. Level 4 and degree apprenticeships are designed to set people up well to progress smoothly into full-time employment with us. We will announce details of apprenticeships for future years in due course.

Providing this pathway is important as the UK is facing a skills shortage that urgently needs to be addressed.

Often the manufacturing sector emerges as the hardest hit – here, in the South West, for example, around 40% of manufacturing vacancies are unfilled because of a lack of skills.

The independent analysis we've commissioned shows that when more people receive training, the local economy grows faster. Even a small increase in the number of trained workers can raise productivity – more so than simply working longer hours or investing in equipment. That's why the training and upskilling we're investing in won't just fill skills gaps. It will also help boost local economic growth and job opportunities and equip people with the skills they need.



BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

We aim to be a good neighbour for our local communities.

We know building a facility of this size is a big operation. We are engaging closely with our near neighbours and managing any impacts.

We are working with a range of partners to minimise any disruption and to reduce impact on the local community. Our teams and contractors are:

- Ensuring vehicles access our site via the new roundabout on Enterprise Way, directing traffic away from local villages.
- Complying with our Demolition and Construction Environmental Management Plan, which includes measures to mitigate and manage any effect of the construction of our facility on the environment, such as dust suppression, tracking carbon emissions, and protecting habitats wherever possible on-site.
- Carefully managing delivery times, informed by best practice in the industry, and taking on feedback from local stakeholders and Somerset Council.
- Monitoring noise and vibration levels. We also model the noise produced by every planned site activity and schedule work accordingly (for example, we do not carry out noisy work on Sundays).
- Using 'sound reduced' generators and electric plant (rather than combustion engines) wherever we can.

We also want to make sure local people are up to date on our activity and know how to contact us when they need to. Our Community Engagement Manager is based on site in Bridgwater and is regularly out and about in the local community to listen to feedback, concerns and ideas. We produce a newsletter that is delivered to local homes and have a WhatsApp group featuring site updates and opportunities - scan the QR code to join the group. We also share updates on our social media feeds - follow us on LinkedIn and Instagram.

More widely, we are also working with schools and colleges across Somerset to talk about our advanced manufacturing facility and inspire young people about career opportunities with us and we are forging links with local businesses as well as voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector organisations.

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Agratas - A Tata Enterprise



Agratas and TSL community team members at a visit to Willowdown Primary School in Bridgwater in September 2026

"We are at a critical moment in the construction of our facility. Our first manufacturing building is nearly fully enclosed and watertight, which means we can shift from building the structure itself to creating the indoor spaces that will host battery production. Moving from external works to internal fit-out is a significant step. It highlights just how much progress has been made and reflects the expertise, commitment and teamwork helping to bring our Somerset facility to life."

- Brian Stonerock, Head of Capital Projects, Agratas



WORKING WITH OUR LOCAL **SUPPLY CHAIN**

We will make a significant impact in the South West through our supply chain activities and spending. Construction of Building One will support more than 11,000 jobs directly, indirectly through supplier spending, and through induced impacts from spending by employees. In the peak year of activity, construction will support more than 3,000 of these jobs in the South West, equivalent to around 20% of jobs in Somerset's construction sector. A single year of peak construction activity for Building One will add around £176 million to the South West's economy.

From piling engineers to crane operators, to caterers and cleaners, we take a community-first approach and are working with businesses from across the South West, alongside our general contractor leading the construction of Building One, TSL.

S Roberts Group

A family-run local waste management business established in Bridgwater since 1930 and an integral part of our work on the site. They are local leaders in the recycling of commercial waste, and the company has invested in state of the art recycling equipment, enabling them to separate, recycle and recover up to 98% of all the waste collected. The company employs approximately 70 people from the Bridgwater area and all teams are involved in activities on the Agratas project.

Kelston Sparkes Group

Based just over the Mendip Hills in North Somerset, they work across the site and are responsible for groundworks, earthworks and drainage infrastructure. The materials from existing structures and other local sites are recycled, repurposed and re-used in the groundworks. One example of this is the crushing and stockpiling of 400,000 tonnes of recycled concrete for the platform of the facility, avoiding this going to landfill.

"This is an exciting project for both Kelston Sparkes and the surrounding area and one that we are extremely proud to be involved in. We directly employ 50 staff for this site, all from the Somerset region and we use several local SMEs in our supply chain, including Montana Scaffolding from Cossington and JD Pope plant hire from Highbridge."

David Swann, Director at Kelston Sparkes



"The Agratas battery facility marks a pivotal moment for the UK economy, bringing high-value manufacturing, cutting-edge innovation, and long-term technological growth to the South West. As proud Partner members of the Sedgemoor Chamber of Commerce, Agratas exemplifies the kind of strategic investment that transforms regions and is a valued collaborator in our shared mission to connect, promote & support our business community. The Chamber is committed to working closely with Agratas and their suppliers to ensure the region benefits fully from this vital development."

Roger Smith, General Manager of Sedgemoor Chamber of Commerce



Claire Pearce

Chair of the South West Business Council

"The South West is an exciting and dynamic region that is attracting ambitious businesses from across the UK and beyond. The business community and the local authorities in the region have worked to support and deliver this project over many years. It has been a long and complex process to move this site into development but it's fantastic to see the first major construction work taking place. The Agratas facility will generate vital opportunities for partnership, trade and investment that have strategic importance to the region."

PJU Hospitality

Our collaboration with local firm PJU Hospitality started with a team visit to Leather and Lace Bar and Grill, in Chilton Polden, near our Bridgwater site. A friendly chat with owners Julia Wright and Peter Skinner about the facility sparked an idea to provide catering on-site.

It all started with Peter and Julia bringing an Airstream catering van to the construction site during the early build phase - and as the project has grown, so has PJU Hospitality and their catering offer for the workforce.

They now employ a growing team of 15 local people to provide catering services ranging from a coffee bar and snack van to a convenience store and canteen - all offering delicious meals, snacks and treats. They have now moved from the Airstream van to run the services in the 900-seat on-site welfare facility.

Back at the pub where it started, there are also new developments - after a period leasing out Leather and Lace, they are now relaunching the premises as Table 10 and Bar 10, an Indian themed restaurant.

"It's been fantastic to support Agratas and the construction workforce with fresh, locally sourced food and be part of this exciting project. We are growing with them as the project gathers momentum, and have had really positive feedback from our customers.

"Being involved in this project has allowed us to significantly expand our team, which is so rewarding, and it's wonderful to provide opportunities for more lovely local people."

Julia Wright, PJU Hospitality



The PJU Hospitality team has grown over the last year

UPCOMING SUPPLIER CONTRACTS

Our general contractor for Building One development, TSL, is supporting regional businesses to access supply chain opportunities associated with the Agratas development. There are opportunities for subcontractors to join the growing team on-site, including supplier packages such as:

- Drylining
- Soft Flooring
- Painting and Decorating
- Doors and Joinery
- Ceramic Tiling
- Raised Access Flooring
- Internal and External Protection
- Building and Internal Signage
- External Furniture

TSL is working with the chambers of commerce and they will continue to engage with the local business community to ensure that our community-first aims our met.

All packages will be subject to a competitive procurement process. Local businesses will receive constructive feedback where bids are unsuccessful, helping them strengthen their approach to future opportunities.

TSL also plans to hold a 'meet the buyer' event to help interested local companies better understand requirements and develop competitive submissions. Further information will be provided through the chambers of commerce.

METHODOLOGY

The research included in this report was commissioned by Agratas from Capital Economics, an independent macroeconomics research consultancy. Capital Economics provides research on Europe, the Middle East, United States, Canada, Africa, Asia and Australasia, Latin America, and the United Kingdom, as well as analysis of financial markets, commodities and the consumer and property sectors.

This report provides estimates of the economic contribution of Agratas' Bridgwater battery manufacturing facility over the construction and operational phases for the full facility. To do this, Capital Economics produced a bespoke model based on the Office for National Statistics' input-output tables and used a combination of internal data from Agratas, and official public data on the labour market, national accounts, and household expenditure.

Capital Economics estimates direct impacts from Agratas' own activities, the impacts from spending on suppliers ('indirect' impacts), and the impacts from the spending by employees working at the facility ('induced' impacts). This is done for both the construction and operation of the facility, and impacts are estimated locally, regionally, and nationally. Finally, Capital Economics projected all impacts over 25 years, scaling by using average GDP growth, Agratas' spending and wage data.