

SCALING WITH RESILIENCE BUILT IN

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION
TECH CLIMBERS 2024 REPORT

2024

tech 
climbers
liverpool city region

 ACTIVE
PROFILE

BusinessCloud
faster growth through tech

TECHBLAST
LAUNCHPAD FOR GROWTH



LIVERPOOL CITY REGION 2024

THIS YEAR'S PARTNERS

COMMERCIAL PARTNERS



ECOSYSTEM PARTNERS



NATIONAL PARTNERS



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WHAT IS TECH CLIMBERS?

Tech Climbers is a regional list that showcases the top-performing, product-led technology businesses in growth regions across the UK. Published with BusinessCloud and TechBlast, our mission is to shine a light on scaling tech businesses across the UK.

Through our list and events, we offer a platform for startups and scaleups to raise their profile, while putting them in front of the right people who can support their growth journey.

THE CRITERIA

IMPACT

Is the company solving world problems, generating economic growth, and creating positive environmental or social outcomes?

INNOVATION

Is the company developing cutting-edge technology or making ground-breaking digital advancements?

INVESTMENT

Is the technology and commercial model stable? To date, does the company have an impressive growth record that would attract investors?



THE LIST INCLUDES:



MAIN LIST

Celebrates the rising stars in the city region that make Liverpool an exciting tech destination in the UK.



ONES TO WATCH

Up-and-coming businesses with bags of potential, which are on track for future success.

ENTRIES WERE REVIEWED BY SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES FROM OUR PARTNER ORGANISATIONS.

**ENTRIES SOUGHT
FROM ACROSS THE
LIVERPOOL CITY
REGION**



THE MAIN LIST



ONES TO WATCH





LIVERPOOL CITY REGION AT A GLANCE*

3.9%

Estimated growth rate per year**

4.1%

The UK average growth rate**

24.1%

Of the city region's sector is
growing at a rate of 10% and above

27.6%

Of tech businesses are female
founded or female led

*This data has been sourced from a third-party platform (The Data City) and refined according to our interpretation to reflect the product-led tech community.

**Based on employee count.



"We are in an important period for the UK tech sector with many technological changes helping drive new ideas, concepts, and companies. But that doesn't mean it's easy for scaling tech companies. That's why it's important we celebrate and recognise companies doing brilliant things, growing, collaborating in new ways, and securing new investment."

MATT ROBINSON

Head of Negotiations and Regions,
techUK



PRIMED FOR GROWTH

79%

Of entrants have already raised funding, totalling £52.5M to date

110% increase from 2023 entrant data

50%

Of entrants (under 1 year) have already received funding

£2.1M

InnovateUK Launchpad grant funding secured by the Liverpool City Region's tech projects in 2023*

£36k

Average revenue generated from entrants under 1 year

125% increase from 2023 entrant data

The Liverpool City Region is becoming increasingly attractive to investors - just over the last year, the region saw an influx in VC funding and support initiatives. According to [Dealroom](#), since 2019 the city region has seen a 657% increase in VC investment - comparatively, London only gained a 4% increase in the same time period - and our entrant data suggests that this will continue to rise with entrants declaring total funding that's a 110% increase on 2023 data.

*SOURCE: [Innovate UK](#)



EAGER FOR INVESTMENT

80%

Of entrants are looking for funding to grow

7% increase from 2023

47%

Of entrants said 'access to finance' was the biggest barrier to growth

OUT OF THOSE:

89%

Are looking for combined Seed and Series A funding

58%

Are looking for Seed funding



"Liverpool City Region's tech sector is primed for growth. Over the past years we've seen support initiatives and grant schemes show up to support tech businesses, creating a community network that founders have embraced with open arms. The battle for funding will always remain, but if we continue to shine the city region and its brilliant innovations in the spotlight, we can start to help investors and policy makers shift their attention to the North."

HELEN CROSS

Digital and Creative Sector Lead,
Growth Platform



THE HUNGER FOR TALENT

100%

Of entrants are looking to hire talent

89%

Of entrants have, or are working on, an equality, diversity and inclusion policy

14% increase from entrants in 2023

339+

Jobs projected to be created over the next 12 months

14.1% increase from entrants in 2023

Year on year, the number of jobs sought by our entrants is on the rise, reflecting the accelerated growth across the sector.

As the hunt for the top talent increases, it's positive to see a flux of entrants focusing on their DE&I efforts, attracting employees from all backgrounds to help innovate inclusive solutions.



CONCLUSION

Liverpool City Region's tech sector is on the rise! With an increase in the number of support initiatives and community events, our entry data shows an encouraging level of support for early-stage startups, giving them a higher chance of future success.

At a time of adversity, our report and list showcase and reiterate the increase in ambitious founders, the strength of the tech community and the city region's thirst for growth.

"It's been a brilliant year for Liverpool City Region's tech sector! We've seen fantastic new initiatives like Baltic Ventures welcome their first cohort, we came together at the inaugural Liverpool Slush'd and now, we've celebrated the cream of the crop at this year's Tech Climbers list reveal.

Our data shows an impressive level of maturity for Liverpool City Region's tech businesses, with a continued drive to raise investment, create new jobs and establish sophisticated products. We're delighted to play a part in it, and we look forward to taking stock next year and seeing just how far we've come once again."

ANNA HEYES

Founder and Creator of Tech Climbers

PARTNERS



BDO LLP is the leading UK accountancy and business advisory firm focused on ambitious, entrepreneurially spirited and fast-growing businesses. Having operated in the Liverpool City Region for several years, the team continue to invest in their clients' growth by developing their people to provide an unrivalled breadth of services.



Based in Liverpool's Baltic Triangle, Baltic Ventures accelerates early-stage tech companies with global ambition. Over the next 5 years, it will run five cohort accelerator programmes investing in 50 early-stage tech companies.

Baltic Ventures has been established with £4.1m funding from the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority as a not-for-profit company to support the communities it serves.



With a mission to make a difference guiding everything they do, Brabners specialises in enabling public and third sector organisations and private individuals to achieve their goals.

The team provide a full-service legal offering to large and mid-sized businesses, SMEs, public sector bodies, charities, business owners, entrepreneurs and high-net worth individuals.

PARTNERS



Marks & Clerk is a leading global intellectual property firm, working in partnership with businesses of all shapes and sizes all over the world. Its people offer legal, technical and commercial expertise and will shape its services to meet business' needs. They protect, enforce and maximise the value of your intellectual property to support you in achieving your business ambitions.



TD SYNnex is the UK's only provider of all the leading public cloud platforms and is Microsoft's number 1 provider globally. TD SYNnex is uniquely placed to support ISV partners on their journey to the cloud and to success, in the UK and beyond.

RATHBONES

Rathbones offers individual investment and wealth management services. Trusted for generations to manage and preserve its clients' wealth, today the team operate out of 23 locations across the UK and Jersey, with £100.7bn of assets under management for their clients.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



Active Profile has been delivering marketing and PR growth strategies for scaleups at each stage of their journey towards exit for over 15 years. We specialise in building brands and creating demand.

Our models go beyond delivering strategies and tactical campaigns. From objective analysis and expert advice to hands-on coaching and practical cheat sheets and workshops, we build campaigns and go to market plans that ultimately create long-term value.



BusinessCloud brings you news and views from the nation's tech scene, highlighting the businesses and platforms you need to know about. Our website and weekday morning email newsletter reports on funding announcements, deals, appointments and launches, while our Tech 50 innovation rankings are recognised as a validator of tech disrupters of all sizes. We also break down technologies from AI and the cloud to immersive platforms and wearables through in-person and virtual events.



Building a business is hard – but, thanks to technology, the opportunities for growth are more numerous than ever before. TechBlast hears from the people who have been there and done it; those who are on the journey; and figures supporting the UK startup scene. The publication is edited by former Daily Mirror and Eurosport journalist Jonathan Symcox, while award-winning journalist Chris Maguire, former editor of North West Insider, serves as executive editor.

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