

Invest BRISTOL + BATH

WELCOME TO A £40BN ECONOMY

The Bristol and Bath region is an economic powerhouse for the UK. This ambitious hotspot is home to six business districts, fast global and UK transport links, and world-class centres of excellence.

The West of England has a strong, internationally recognised digital ecosystem, benefiting from being one of the biggest tech hubs in the country and the largest tech workforce in the South West. Our distinctive digital and tech sectors burst with innovation, creativity, and expertise. We have capabilities in everything from

fintech and immersive creative to artificial intelligence (AI), quantum, and biotech.

This success is underpinned by a cutting-edge Research and Development base, leading academic institutions, and high-calibre graduates. We invite you to invest in this exciting region and be part of an extraordinary success story.

AN ECONOMIC POWERHOUSE IN THE UK:



**A STRATEGIC
LOCATION FOR
46,000 BUSINESSES**



**THE UK'S MOST
PRODUCTIVE
TECH CLUSTER**



**BRISTOL NO. 1
CITY IN UK FOR
TECH JOBS**
(Tech Nation 2022)



**MOST
INNOVATIVE UK
CITY OUTSIDE
OF LONDON**
(Paymentsense)



**HOME TO FIVE
UNICORNS**
(companies
valued at over \$1bn)

ADVANCING DIGITAL LEADERSHIP

The West of England is a globally significant technology cluster, with innovation at its core.

Bristol ranked as: A **TOP 10 UK** Tech city (Data city) & a **TOP 20 EUROPEAN CITY** for tech investment (Tech Nation)

TECH FOR GOOD: The West of England is the place for cutting edge digital research, innovation, and investment

Exceed **85% GIGABIT CONNECTIVITY** by 2025 across the West of England

FASTER AND RELIABLE TRANSPORT AND DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE:

£365 million total investment into rail infrastructure

A world-class 5G network and universal fast internet access by 2030

BOOSTING SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT

Bristol and Bath are renowned for the talented workforce, high-calibre graduates and expansive staff catchment area.



42M people
within 150
miles.



4 top
universities.



86,000
undergrads
and postgrads
in the region.



45 schools rated
outstanding by OFSTED.

INCLUSIVITY

We are building a stronger sense of community by investing in our region's high streets, digital and transport connections.

By connecting communities with training, employment, affordable homes and assisted living technologies, we're giving all our residents a better quality of life.

We're a multicultural region, with over 90 languages spoken and 50 religions celebrated.

QUALITY

We're home to four world class universities.

Sustainable, inclusive communities are at the heart of what we do. That's why we're focussed on developing affordable new homes in our region.

We're investing in new construction skill centres, developing the technology and skills to deliver new homes locally.

INNOVATION AND THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Net zero: Our region is leading the UK towards being carbon neutral and has already reduced emission by 50% since 2005.

Rapid expansion of 5G in the region is actively reducing digital inequality.

Digital Tech for Good: Our digital innovation ecosystem is harnessed to address key regional and global challenges.

KEY AREAS

ENTERPRISE ZONE/AREAS

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL

BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL





©National Composites Centre

KEY DEVELOPMENTS AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

A region at the forefront of innovation

The **University of Bristol's Enterprise Campus**, part of the Bristol Temple Quarter regeneration, will house world-class research and development (R&D) facilities in quantum, digital media, and creative sectors. With £31.5m from Research England and over £75m from the University and partners, the new **Bristol Digital Futures Institute** will feature globally unique research facilities. Among these is the world's first reality emulator—a powerful multisensory digital twin that will enable iterative co-creation of digital solutions.

The **University of Bristol's Smart Internet Lab**, a leading UK Information and Communications Technology research centre, addresses major societal and industrial challenges. Supported by £6m from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, it drives innovations in communication systems while linking academic, business, and international communities. The lab also partnered with the West of England Combined Authority and 12 other organisations, including the University of Bristol Smart Internet Lab, on a 5G project aimed at enhancing productivity in the logistics sector.

Bristol & Bath Science Park hosts two key national Catapults—the National Composites Centre (NCC) and Compound Semiconductor Applications. It is recognised as a world-class environment that accelerates growth for science and technology businesses. Backed by a £900m government investment, the NCC will soon house Isambard-AI, one of the world's first large-scale open **AI supercomputers** and the UK's first **Artificial Intelligence Research Resource**. This new national facility will lead on maximising AI's game-changing potential and safe use of the technology.

The **UMBRELLA** living lab, a testbed for Industrial IoT research, connects five innovation hubs, including the Bristol Robotics Laboratory and the University of the West of England. The testbed, built in partnership with Bristol Research Innovation Labs (Toshiba Europe Ltd), allows digital technology pioneers to develop market-ready products.

The **University of Bath** leads in health and technology research, driving the Bath Riverside Innovation Corridor. The Institute for Coding, led by the University of Bath and partnered with companies like IBM, Cisco, BT, Microsoft and 25 universities, ensures the region's skills remain at the forefront of the fourth industrial revolution.



Whether you're an innovative start-up or established company, contact Invest Bristol & Bath to find out how we can support the future growth of your business.

E-mail: Invest@bristolandbath.co.uk

Phone: +44 (0)117 428 6211

LinkedIn: [invest-bristol-&-bath](https://www.linkedin.com/company/invest-bristol-&-bath)

Twitter: [@Investbristol](https://twitter.com/Investbristol)

Open Data Portal: westofenglandca.opendatasoft.com

