Newcastle digital by design

Newcastle is a city that faces forward, embracing change. Its powered by people and inspired by fresh ideas. For us, technology is all about possibilities. It's about reaching higher, every time. Our passion for a digital revolution is driven by all we know we can deliver.

Connections. They're the key. And when it comes to digital connectivity, Newcastle is at the fore. It starts on the streets. And travels under the sea.

- 97.2 per cent of Newcastle is enjoying superfast broadband – the highest coverage in the country. *(Go Digital Newcastle)*

- The Great North Care Record is an example of a unique digital transformation programme involving the region's clinical commissioning groups, hospital, mental health and ambulance trusts working together to make patient information appropriately accessible for individual healthcare, service planning and research. They have pioneered digital consent and have just achieved 100 per cent of GP practices sharing records two-way with out of hours, ambulance and accident & emergency departments. *(AHSN Network)*

- Stellium Data Centres and Aquacomms are building North Sea Connect - the first modern, high capacity subea fibre-optic system connecting Newcastle to mainland Europe, Dublin and the US.

From playground to PHD, Newcastle's education and skills sector is equipping people with digital skills for the future.

- Newcastle University's Computer Science is ranked number one for its research impact, above Cambridge and Imperial. *(Research Excellence Framework)*

- North East Futures UTC opened in September 2018 with support from industry leaders including Sage, Ubisoft and Accenture. The school for 14-19 year old's focuses on health, life sciences and cutting-edge digital technologies.

- Newcastle alumni include masters of the tech world - Apple's Sir Jony Ive and Snapchat's Nick Bell, as well as leading physicist Peter Higgs.

- Professor Sugata Mitre (Hole in the Wall experiment) of Newcastle University was winner of the 2013 TED Prize.

- The North East has the highest percentage of STEM and computer science students in the UK. *(Invest North East England)*

- Newcastle Helix, the largest city centre development of its kind in Europe, will play home to national centres of innovation for Data and Ageing.

Space, skills, support and syndicates. By removing the barriers to growth, encouraging entrepreneurs and embracing the established, we're creating the perfect environment for success.

- We are home to an impressive list of innovative startups and established major players that are all part of a vibrant, supportive and collaborative digital sector.

- Our city is the birthplace of Europe's leading pre-seed accelerator programme Ignite.

- Standout names include gaming giants Ubisoft, US Linux brand Red Hat, Viewpoint and the global HQ of Sage *(one of only 2 FTSE 100 software companies)*, alongside local heroes Bede Gaming, Zerolight, Partnerize and Scott Logic.

- The sector employs nearly 18,000 people locally, with the opportunity for a further 7,000 jobs to be created over the next 3 years.

- Turnover for the sector stands at £1.25bn, with an anticipated 28% rise over the next three years.

- Newcastle is home to the regions three leading cluster organisations Dynamo, Digital Union and Newcastle Tech Trust supporting different parts of the tech ecosystem but ensuring collaboration is at the fore.

- Strengths in data, AI, games, enterprise software and cyber security.

Newcastle. A city of innovation. A city of transformation. As the second fastest growing digital sector outside London, we have all the foundations in place.

- A project led by Cisco, a city centre street has been transformed into a smart street, enabled with digital technology for intelligent lighting, smart parking and waste management.

- And with £3.5m invested in sensors and open data by Urban Conservatory at Newcastle University, we have the largest set of publicly available real time data in the UK.