Partnering with ambitious regions to accelerate the growth of scaleups.

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Trusted, Authentic, Proven Support.



#### The Landscape

Public sector-funded business support has been instrumental in fostering entrepreneurship and innovation, particularly for early-stage companies. This emphasis has undeniably spurred the growth of new enterprises and strengthened the broader economic landscape. However, it is crucial to also address the distinct needs of high-growth and scale-up businesses, which are key drivers of economic and social progress.

Scaleups, businesses that consistently achieve year-on-year growth of over 20% in turnover or employment—or often both—are vital engines of the economy. They continue to be more productive than their peers across almost every sector, highlighting their critical role in the economy. Despite their substantial economic impact, scaleups are often overlooked due to their relatively small numbers, leading to a disparity in support and recognition that can result in missed growth opportunities.

Given the pivotal role of scaleups in driving prosperity, it's essential that ecosystems are equipped to support these high-growth companies. Scaleups are not just larger small businesses; they are engines of innovation and job creation that require finance, talent, global market access, R&D, and leadership support. We are committed to supporting regional economies to be more responsive to the needs of scaleups. "In 2023, despite representing less than 0.5% of the SME population, 33,955 scaleups employed 3.1 million people and generated £1.3 trillion in the UK. This accounts for more than 58% of total SME turnover."



#### What the data tells us

Supporting scaleups drives significant economic, employment, social, and environmental benefits, including:



#### Economic

- Boosts GVA and raises regional productivity
- Strengthens local supply chains
- Drives innovation and international growth
- Attracts capital
- Retains wealth locally



#### Employment

professionals to the

• Improves graduate

apprenticeship opportunities

jobs locally

Brings skilled

retention

area

Creates

- Creates high-quality • Embeds corporate social projects locally
  - Promotes social cohesion

Social

• Engages with education collaborations with schools and higher education

#### Environmental

- Encourages circular economy
- Creates green jobs
- Drives innovation in sustainable technologies

#### Form

#### Partnering for success

We partner with stakeholders in the public, private, and academic sectors, bringing our expertise and support to drive regional innovation, economic growth, and sustainable development.



# Our approach is threefold:

#### Leadership Development

Supporting leaders who play a key role in advancing their local economies.

The Ecosystem Leadership Programme offers collaborative workshops, expertled masterclasses on current trends and best practices, and networking events to foster connections and peer learning. 02

#### Ecosystem Insights

Conducting evaluations to help authorities identify the current state and potential of their business environment, providing a foundation for informed strategic planning and development.

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#### Scaleup Support Programmes

Specialising in designing and delivering bespoke business and leadership support programmes for scaleups in high growth sectors.

#### Impact Through Partnership

# GATHER

Gather - Catalysing Growth in the Digital, Creative, and Tech (DCT) Sectors

#### Background

In partnership with the Liverpool Combined Authority, Form created Gather to address the growth bottleneck in the DCT sector within the Liverpool City Region. This targeted intervention, spanning over 5+ years, has helped transform a fragmented sector into a cohesive ecosystem, accelerating the development of the region's DCT companies.

#### **Our Role**

- Programme design, development, and delivery Offering sector-led guidance and support to business owners and leaders.
- Tailored offerings Includes leadership programmes, scale-up support initiatives, executive coaching, networking events, and one-to-one mentoring.
- Ecosystem conductor Acting as a catalyst for growth and new initiatives, including community and supply chain development, and amplifying good news stories.

#### **Impact and Achievements**

- 205 companies supported
- Creation of 314 jobs
- Addition of £11 million in GVA, with future impacts exceeding £253 million

Farm Urban

#### **Companies Supported Include**



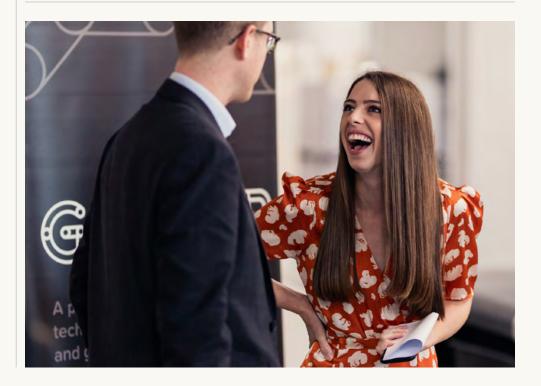
Milexa.





"Our area is fortunate to be home to a thriving digital and creative sector that supports tens of thousands of local jobs and delivers an abundance of training opportunities. I want to put those businesses in the best possible position to succeed. Through our investment in Gather, we have helped hundreds of local employers to strengthen their workforce and create quality, secure, and wellpaid jobs for local people."

Steve Rotheram, Metro Mayor of the Liverpool City Region



#### Impact Through Partnership

### GREATER CONNECTED AMPLIFY

Greater Connected & Amplify – Supporting High-Growth Businesses in Manchester

#### Background

Greater Connected and Amplify are programmes developed and delivered by Form, targeting high-growth businesses across Greater Manchester. These programmes offered tailored growth support and peer networks to address the unique challenges faced by rapidly expanding businesses.

#### **Our Role**

- Programme series delivery Designed to challenge and refine business strategies for companies with £1m+ in revenue.
- Year-long support for £2m+ businesses High impact programme consisting of international study trips, access to board advisory and regular cohort content delivery.

#### **Impact and Achievements**

- 300 companies supported
- Creation of 50+ jobs
- In the first year, participating companies collectively increased their turnover by £15m

#### **Companies Supported Include**













"Huge thanks to the Amplify Programme! Six months after attending, we've seen a 21% increase in revenue and a significant growth in our profitability"

co-founder of Onefile

Form



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A little about us...

## Form is a proud B Corp dedicated to accelerating high-growth digital, creative, and tech businesses globally.

We partner with cities and regions to deliver targeted business support for high-growth businesses and their leaders, ensuring economic growth that is inclusive and sustainable.

Every year we support hundreds of businesses, providing the tools and insights needed to scale responsibly and sustainably.

#### Impact by Numbers

- Companies supported: 1,380
- Turnover increase: £139m+
- High value jobs created: 2,400+

### growth.**¤** platform

"Gather has enabled local businesses to develop resilience, strengthen strategies and grow. This success cannot only be seen with the number of jobs that have been created and safeguarded but also by the fantastic feedback from the businesses involved." We would love to chat more about accelerating your ecosystem and high growth businesses.

> Darren Balcombe Partner Darren@form.studio







#### UNIFORM

"For the last ten years, Form has been a trusted advisor of Uniform, we see them as an extension of our board. Their insights, strategic thinking and understanding of our market have made them a brilliant partner as we seek to push the boundaries of growing a truly remarkable company."

Nick Howe, Managing Director of Uniform

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