

F  
O  
R  
M



Partnering with  
ambitious regions  
to accelerate the  
growth of scaleups.

---

Trusted, Authentic, Proven Support.

Certified



Corporation

## 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 scaleup businesses, which are key drivers of economic and social progress.

Scaleups are businesses that consistently achieve year-on-year growth of over 20% in turnover or employment, and in many cases both. They are vital engines of the economy. Across almost every sector, they remain more productive than their peers, underlining their critical role. Yet despite this substantial economic impact, scaleups are often overlooked because of their relatively small numbers. This creates a disparity in support and recognition that too often leads to 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. That is why we are committed to helping regional economies become more responsive to their needs.

“Despite representing less than 0.6% of the UK’s business population, 34,180 scaleups employed 3.2 million people and generated £1.4 trillion in turnover. This accounted for more than 55% of total SME turnover”

ScaleUp Institute, Annual Review 2024



## 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

- Creates high-quality jobs locally
- Brings skilled professionals to the area
- Improves graduate retention
- Creates apprenticeship opportunities

## Social

- Embeds corporate social projects locally
- Promotes social cohesion
- Engages with education - collaborations with schools and higher education

## Environmental

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

## 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.

# 01

## Our approach is threefold:

### Ecosystem Leadership & Engagement

Supporting policymakers, funders and civic leaders to create the right conditions for scaleups to succeed. This includes national forums such as ScaleLeaders and regional collaborations that connect public, private and academic partners around shared priorities for growth.

# 02

## Ecosystem Analytics & Insights

Feasibility studies and ecosystem diagnostics combine data, analysis and stakeholder engagement to give regions a clear picture of their scaleup economy and practical options to focus resources where they will have the greatest impact.

# 03

## Scaleup Growth Support

Working directly with business leaders to build leadership capacity and commercial focus. Support that strengthens decision-making, sharpens strategy and helps businesses grow in resilient and sustainable ways.

## 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, scaleup 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

### **Companies Supported Include**

**Cybertill**<sup>®</sup>

**Milexa**<sup>®</sup>  
GROUP

**Farm Urban**

**Supply Well**

**MGISS**

**springpod**<sup>®</sup>

“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 well-paid 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**

 **Naveo Commerce**

 **Onefile**



 **REASON  
DIGITAL**

 **Space48**

 **Social**



**“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”**

Susanna Lawson,  
co-founder - Onefile





## A little about us...

Form is a proud B Corp committed to building fairer, stronger economies. We work with economic leaders to design and deliver support that helps scaleups and high-potential businesses grow, while strengthening the ecosystems around them.

Every year we support hundreds of businesses with the tools and insights needed to scale responsibly and sustainably. This work has delivered measurable results;

- Companies supported: 1,380
- Turnover increase: £139m+
- High value jobs created: 2,400+
- Investment raised: £31m+



“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.”

Janice Mears, Head of Business Growth at Growth Platform - Liverpool City Region Growth Company

If you're working to strengthen your region's scaleup infrastructure or shaping how ambitious companies grow, we'd love to hear from you.

**Darren Balcombe**  
Partner

[Darren@form.studio](mailto: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 - Uniform

