



# Fully-funded business support



Start your innovation and growth journey today















There is help out there for you, so make the first move. It's not that scary!



Forward Programme – for businesses based in Birmingham & Solihull – Over 200+ Members









## Fully funded Digital business support



Barclays Eagles Labs Ecosystem
Partnership programme called **Digital Direction**. For digital
businesses in the region









## **Digital Direction**



The **Digital Direction** Programme provides 40 businesses access to the Digital Lab & Equipment, Sound Lab\*, Immersive 9m screen, Co-working space, Digital Office, Podcasting, co-working & fully-funded Events





Diverse Innovation Accelerator Programme

- Inclusive Innovation: Fully-Funded Business support for 10 Women-Led and/or culturally diverse businesses
- Events/Masterclasses
- Mentors
- → Showcase 18th March
- → Peer to Peer Learning
- → Evaluation/Next steps

















## Enabling growth from start to scale-up









#### British Council - DAE Bootcamp

A 6-month boot camp for design-led startups in Argentina – from mentoring to master classes supporting over 30 businesses

### Launch of NEW Digital Labs

Including showcase partnerships with Barclays, supporting over 40 businesses with digital R&D.

And the new Sound Lab in collaboration with Arup and utilised by students.

#### Funded Business Support Programmes

Secured over £3 in funding for start to scale support programmes., supporting over 250 businesses. Including UKSPF, Diverse female entrepreneurs, Global Growth company, Barclays Eagle Labs





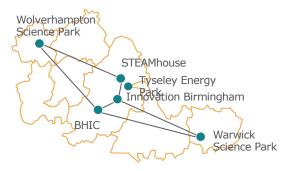
## The Global Growth Programme 2024

## **GLOBAL GROWTH PROGRAMME 2024**

Consolidating the West Midlands' reputation as an attractive destination for international tech companies

Accessing the whole region

## **6 Landing Hubs**



Designed for the needs of target customers
4 Tech Sectors



Access to the whole WM Ecosystem

3 Layers of



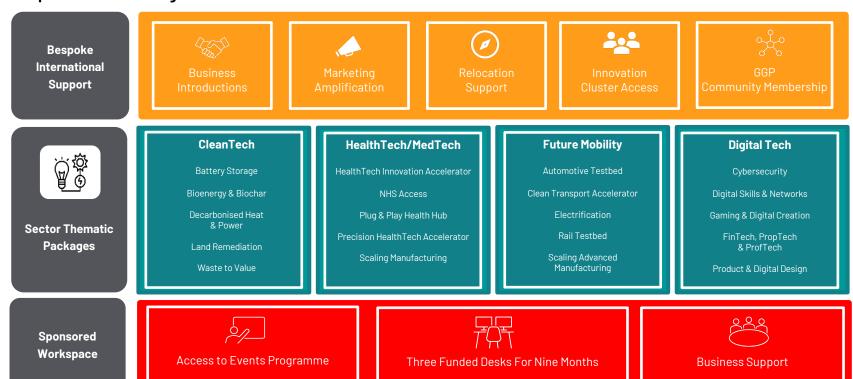
new tech businesses landing across the West Midlands in 2024/5

**400** 

high value jobs to be created

### THREE LAYERS OF SUPPORT

The Global Growth Programme provides access to 20 industry-specific modules of support and five elements of bespoke assistance designed for international businesses





## **CreaTech Frontiers**

The West Midlands, despite its thriving tech sector and world-class cultural institutions, faces a persistently fragmented creative industries landscape dominated by freelancers and microbusinesses. These issues limit the region's ability to innovate and fully leverage its cultural and technological assets for meaningful economic, social, and cultural impact.

### **Objective:**

Establish a dynamic CreaTech cluster that drives innovation and growth by integrating technology-enabled creativity with the region's unique cultural strengths.

### **Key Components:**

- A £1.8m R&D funding programme for SMEs.
- A network of four interconnected labs offering world-class facilities and computing infrastructure for collaborative R&D.
- R&D pilot projects in partnership with major cultural organisations (e.g., Birmingham Opera Company, Royal Shakespeare Company).
  - Comprehensive business support including investor readiness, IP protection, and international showcasing.
  - Skills and talent initiatives with student internships and Collaborative Doctoral Awards.

### **Governance & Impact:**

- Led by Birmingham City University in partnership with key HEIs and cultural organisations.
- Inclusive programming that embeds Equality, Diversity, and Sustainability, with impact measured by City-REDI.



## CreaTech Frontiers Opportunities for Collaboration

Participate in showcases and **R&D collaborations** to boost regional/ global visibility for West Midlands CreaTech cluster, linking regional tech priorities

Collaborate on strategies to attract and leverage additional public and private investment

Co-host networking, dissemination, and training events to **connect CreaTech businesses with broader tech ecosystems** 

Work together on **policy advocacy and strategic frameworks** that underpin sustainable regional growth.

