

Innovative [Data Commons](#) for UK tech reveals record first half \$4.8bn venture capital investment in 2019

- Tech Nation and Dealroom launch database that reveals digital tech economy activity across the entire UK, ahead of London Tech Week - [datacommons.technation.io](#)
- Database reveals record first half venture capital [investment of \\$4.8bn](#) into UK tech companies
- At launch, the database contains information on 33,000 startups and 22,000 transactions, with details on thousands of investors and more
- Includes information on infrastructure providers, accelerators, universities, support agencies and workspaces
- Combines managed, user-generated and submitted content
- The data is open and searchable locally and regionally, with plans to add to it with further contributions from partners and stakeholders

London, 4th June 2019: Tech Nation, the leading scale up network for entrepreneurs, and Dealroom are together launching a [Data Commons for UK Tech](#), a ground-breaking national database that is set to become a vital resource for entrepreneurs and could spark a new wave of investment in tech startups across the country. The new database reveals that venture capital investment into UK tech companies broke new records in the first half of 2019, totalling \$4.8bn in the first five months of the year.

As of today, the new Data Commons can be accessed from Tech Nation's website and provides a 360-degree view of the rapidly evolving innovation economy right across the UK for investors, entrepreneurs and policy makers. It is launched ahead of London Tech Week as part of the UK's ambition to lead the world in providing open data and includes detailed information on individual technology businesses, founders, investors, VC funds, angels, accelerators, universities and service providers to the sector.

Example data you can find inside:

- List of [72 UK unicorns](#) (both realised and current)
- List of [78 potential future unicorns](#) based on funding and valuation momentum
- Record first half venture capital [investment of \\$4.8bn](#) into UK tech companies
- List of [1,600 female-founded](#) startups
- All the [largest funding rounds of 2019](#)

The innovation economy is thriving in every region across the UK but a lack of comprehensive information on activity and emerging trends within the national ecosystem could be impeding even faster growth. By creating an inclusive Data Commons, Tech Nation and Dealroom want to

provide a world-leading resource that can help Britain's emerging technology companies to fulfil their potential.

The data commons will provide investors and entrepreneurs with the information they need to develop their business plans and network with a broad range of potential partners within the ecosystem, to accelerate their growth. For instance, the platform provides founders with an opportunity to see who else is working in their field, the success stories to date, growth indicators and where businesses in the same sector are concentrated.

Digital Secretary Jeremy Wright said: "This timely initiative from Tech Nation and Dealroom is a world-first with the potential to spark a new wave of investment in the UK's tech startups and help create new jobs and prosperity across the country.

"International and UK-based investors are pumping record amounts of cash into our thriving technology industry and, as they arrive in the capital for London Tech Week, this new tool will provide them with a rich new open data source to inform their decisions."

Adam Hale, Board Member, Tech Nation, said: "I registered as soon as I saw this. Data like this is key to building a community of success in the UK which sits at the heart of Tech Nation's mission. This data allows people to understand and navigate the community, informing them what to know and also who to know. It will highlight opportunities for partnership, collaboration, investment and even angels by area. For those based in the UK's largest town, Reading and places like it, this kind of information allows us to compete globally."

Lesley Eccles, Serial Entrepreneur and Board Member at Tech Nation, said: "When you're building a technology business, speed is vital. Having access to a high quality database of relevant investors, potential partners and service providers specialising in the tech space, means that UK tech companies will be able to make the right decisions more quickly. The Data Commons by Tech Nation and Dealroom provides the tools to make meaningful connections and informed decisions. This will ultimately help UK tech businesses connect locally to grow globally."

George Windsor, Head of Insights at Tech Nation, said: "Robust, comprehensive data is the foundation to informed decisions and innovative solutions. This open database will help all of us to build a true picture of the UK's fast-growing tech sector, to spot opportunities, make smart connections, reduce costs and drive innovation. Our team will work on the ground across the 11 regions and nations to encourage adoption and contribution to this resource and to make sure that it truly captures the entire ecosystem. Tech Nation is proud to play our part in this important work, enabling the UK to stand apart and to lead the world by producing actionable data for everyone."

Yoram Wijngaarde, CEO and Founder at Dealroom, said: "Dealroom was founded around a central mission to make discovery of promising companies easier for everyone, with a particular

focus on startup ecosystems and investment opportunities. The Data Commons for UK Tech represents a special project for us. As a system that is open to all, we believe it will ensure that stakeholders in Britain's innovation economy have the data and insights they require to make good decisions as well as encourage users to become part of a community in which data is shared for the good of everyone."

Bringing Transparency To UK Innovation

Openness is key to the effectiveness of the project. The platform provides a secure space that allows members of the tech community to pool information that will benefit the wider community. In addition to analytics and other data provided by Dealroom, the database is enhanced by a broad range of third party submitted and user-generated content. All users will be invited and encouraged to upload relevant information, so that an already rich well of data will grow organically, providing an accurate picture of trends and activity within the tech startup scene.

Access to the system will be open to all, including founders, investors, policy makers and researchers.

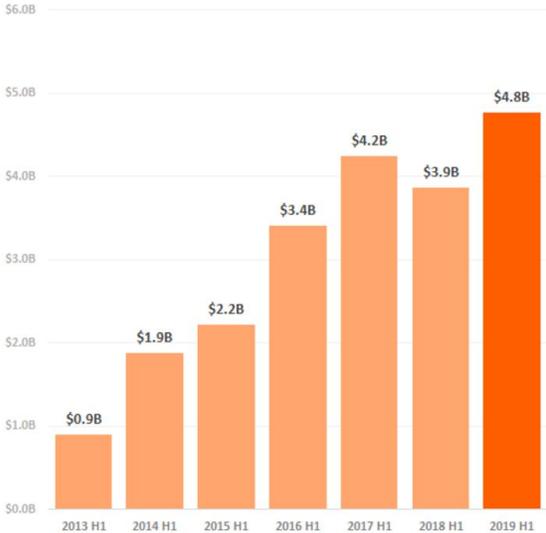
Creating a Level Playing Field

The UK's digital tech economy has thrived in recent years despite an uneven playing field in terms of information around the support ecosystem. Many successful startups - and a significant number of unicorns - are emerging in parts of the country that are not normally considered to be tech hotspots. However, coverage of the sector outside London is inconsistent.

By providing a national database that is searchable at local and regional levels, the Data Commons aims to redress imbalances of information. Thus an investor based in Scarborough or Weston-Super-Mare can search the local area for investment opportunities and a startup can use the system to identify the nearest, incubators, accelerators or investors. Tech Nation's Entrepreneur Engagement Managers, who are on the ground across the UK, will work with emerging technology companies to encourage a flow of user-generated data.

Annex: UK venture capital investment in first half (up to 1 June for 2019)

All-time record VC investment in first half of 2019 in UK



Notable investment rounds in 2019

<p>Greensill</p> <p>\$800M</p>	<p>deliveroo</p> <p>\$575M</p>
<p>OakNorth</p> <p>\$440M</p>	<p>ovo energy</p> <p>\$240M</p>
<p>checkout.com</p> <p>\$230M</p>	<p>wejo</p> <p>\$100M</p>
<p>STARLING BANK</p> <p>\$90M</p>	<p>GOCARDLESS</p> <p>\$75M</p>
<p>nutmeg</p> <p>\$54M</p>	<p>Inivata</p> <p>\$53M</p>