

# SCALEUP DASHBOARD

**Signalling those in South Yorkshire on a pathway to scale**

# TECH SY

THIS IS

# SOUTH YORKSHIRE

On our path to strengthen and support the region's tech ecosystem, TECH SY is bringing a new dashboard to signal the startups that are showing the signs of scaling.

In our January 2026 update, we've made some changes. We now have two distinct lists, with the methodologies for each in the pages below. The first is our 'pre-scale' dashboard, identifying those on a pathway to scale, but with limitations in their growth not qualifying them as a scaleup.

Our second list, the scaling dashboard identifies those who have launched in the last 10 years, and are scaling, but excludes the well established large tech businesses, such as Twinkl in the region.

## **What does this mean?**

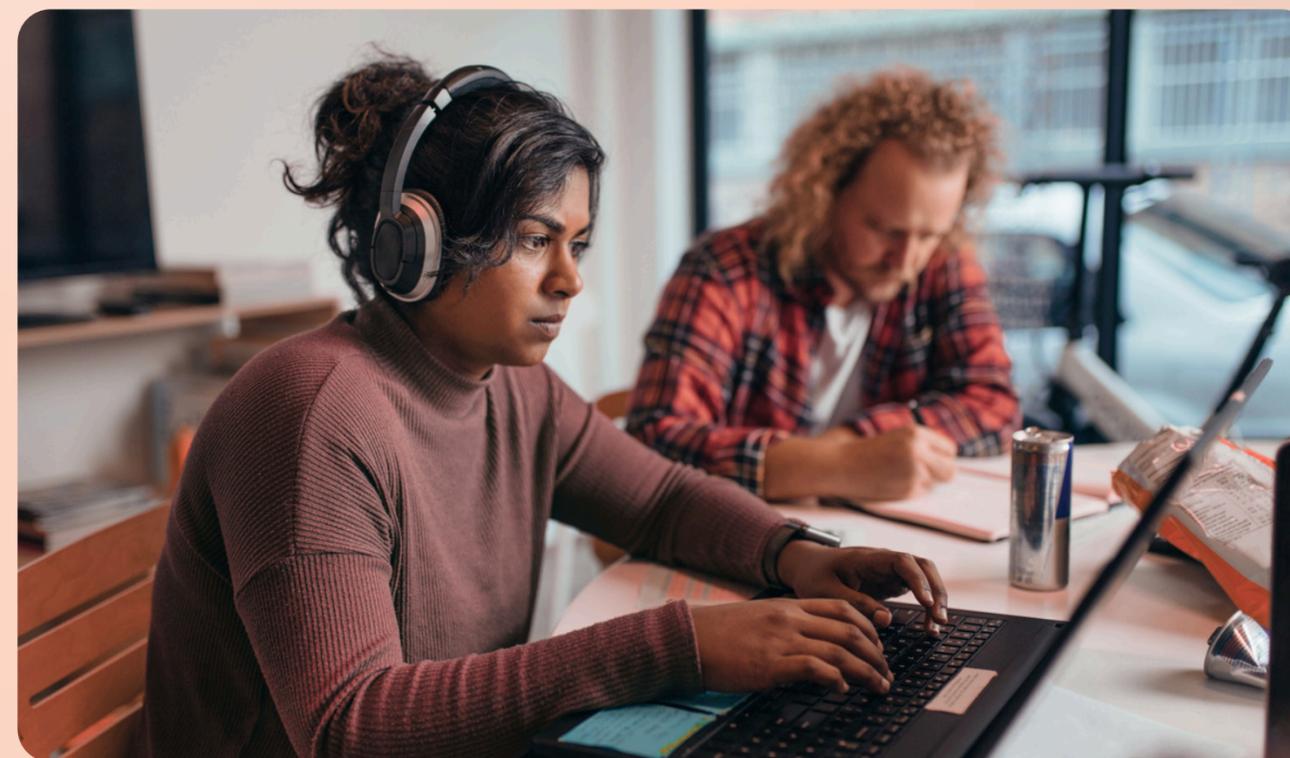
The most accepted definition of a scaleup is exceeding 20% annual growth in either turnover or employee numbers over a three-year period. Our dashboard will utilise available data to help us identify businesses, still in the startup phase, but showing numbers that suggest they could be on a path to hitting those 20%+ figures.

Those in the scaling list are hitting those 20% growth figures.

## **Why are you looking for these?**

South Yorkshire doesn't have huge numbers of tech startups that are scaling. We are using the same data to see the ones which are scaling, but identifying the ones to watch will help us to make sure that they are on our radar. Are they receiving the support they need? Are their local business support teams aware of them? We can find out about their barriers to scaling and learn from them.

We also hope that we can elevate the businesses we profile. Identifying them as being ones to watch will hopefully enhance their ability to attract talent and investment. Secondly, it means we can improve our understanding of the ecosystem. We can see the sectors our businesses are thriving in, and better position our future accelerators and support systems in the region to better fit the needs of our startups.



## Methodology

Our aim is to surface both the startups that aren't yet scaling, but are being tracked on Dealroom. Our 2026 update also sees us showcase the successful scaling companies who have launched in the last decade who are emerging as key players within the ecosystem.

Our full breakdown of the searches can be found at end of the document.

## Pre-scale

We've set our parameters from the data we have available to view the current group of startups who show continual growth of at least 10%, but aren't at the scaling status of 20% year on year.

Some key metrics which we've looked at include employee growth and recent funding rounds. We also have boundaries to the data, searching for those who have yet to raise more than £7.5m total, and have been launched in the last 6 years. We have also put in restrictions to employment numbers so that businesses shown must have at least 5-25 employees.

## Scaling

Our new to 2026 scaling businesses were identified by looking for those that had launched since 2016, had at least 20 employees, and we're a top 25% employee growth business.

Interestingly, the eight businesses identified were all launched 2019 or later.



**Predictive intelligence throughout the startup lifecycle. Dealroom collect millions of unstructured data points each month and turn it into actionable intelligence. Rather than creating a score about a startup's general quality or performance, Dealroom Signal is specifically aimed at surfacing the most promising upcoming funding opportunities.**

## The Challenge

The conversation in creating the dashboard has been the availability of the data. Larger, scaling businesses have more data available to providers such as Dealroom and Beauhurst - turnover data, for example.

As we're searching for early-stage businesses, the information isn't always complete, so the process requires some manual filtering and checking.

If you think your business should be featured please contact us, but also consider if the data is available. Our ask for startups is to share all your growth stories, as even a post on LinkedIn about a recent hire, small grant or VC investments will be tracked and added to these databases.

Our aim is to be transparent, whilst providing value to founders on a path to success.



# Pre-scale

Criteria	Threshold or Indicator
<b>Region</b>	South Yorkshire, United Kingdom
<b>Founding or HQ Regions</b>	Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, Sheffield
<b>Tag: Outside Tech</b>	Exclude
<b>Company Type: Service Provider</b>	Exclude
<b>Company Type: Government nonprofit</b>	Exclude
<b>Data Type</b>	Verified
<b>Minimum Employees</b>	5
<b>Maximum Employees</b>	25
<b>Company Status: Acquired</b>	Exclude
<b>Company Status: Closed</b>	Exclude
<b>Growth Stage: Mature</b>	Exclude
<b>Employee Rank</b>	Top half, top 25%, top 10%, top 5%
<b>Founded Since</b>	2020
<b>Total Funding Maximum</b>	£7.5m
<b>Last Funding Round</b>	Early VC, Grant, Late VC, Seed

# Scaling

Criteria	Threshold or Indicator
<b>Region</b>	South Yorkshire, United Kingdom
<b>Founding or HQ Regions</b>	Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, Sheffield
<b>Tag: Outside Tech</b>	Exclude
<b>Company Type: Service Provider</b>	Exclude
<b>Company Type: Government nonprofit</b>	Exclude
<b>Data Type</b>	Verified
<b>Minimum Employees</b>	20
<b>Maximum Employees</b>	No limit
<b>Company Status: Acquired</b>	Exclude
<b>Company Status: Closed</b>	Exclude
<b>Growth Stage: Mature</b>	Exclude
<b>Employee Rank</b>	Top half, top 25%, top 10%, top 5%
<b>Founded Since</b>	2016
<b>Total Funding Maximum</b>	No Limit
<b>Last Funding Round</b>	Seed, Series A, Series B, Grant,

# TECH SY | PRE-SCALE DASHBOARD



Company name	Sector	24 month employee growth	Launched	Last round	Total VC raised	Dealroom signal	
 <b>Exciting Instruments</b>		125%	2021	Seed	£4m	£4.1m	 85%
 <b>Fyous</b>		100%	2020	Seed	£1.3m	£2.9m	 78%
 <b>Unicorn Biotechnologies</b>		14%	2020	Grant	£370K	£2.4m	 72%
 <b>Future Greens</b>		50%	2021	Seed	£500K	£850K	 70%
 <b>Suiso</b>		18%	2021	Seed	£134K	£3.3m	 69%
 <b>MetalloBio</b>		0%	2021	seed	£710K	£3.1m	 62%
 <b>Productive Machines</b>		-20%	2021	Grant	£240k	£2.9m	 58%
 <b>The Build Chain</b>		0%	2021	Seed	£1.7m	£3.4m	 55%
 <b>Motion Exercise</b>		0%	2021	Seed	Angel	-	 55%
 <b>Tubr</b>		-12%	2020	Seed	£154k	£620K	 54%
 <b>SCI Semiconductor</b>		0%	2023	Seed	£350k	£2.5m	 53%

# TECH SY | SCALING DASHBOARD



Company name	Sector	24 month employee growth	Launched	Last round	Total VC raised	Dealroom signal	
 IntelliAM		600%	2023	Seed	£500K	£580K	<div style="width: 85%;"><div style="width: 85%;"></div></div> 85%
 Sitehop		153%	2021	Seed	£3.2m	£13.5m	<div style="width: 84%;"><div style="width: 84%;"></div></div> 84%
 Tickets For Good		140%	2019	Seed	£3m	£3.7m	<div style="width: 83%;"><div style="width: 83%;"></div></div> 83%
 Phlux Technology		76%	2020	Seed	£134K	16.7m	<div style="width: 80%;"><div style="width: 80%;"></div></div> 80%
 Steel City Interactive		40%	2020	Seed	£500K	£15m	<div style="width: 80%;"><div style="width: 80%;"></div></div> 80%
 NuBreed Hotels		31%	2019	Grant	£240k	££3.9m	<div style="width: 74%;"><div style="width: 74%;"></div></div> 74%
 Aegiq		64%	2019	Seed	£1.7m	£5.6m	<div style="width: 72%;"><div style="width: 72%;"></div></div> 72%
 Four Jaw		17%	2020	seed	£710K	£3.3m	<div style="width: 71%;"><div style="width: 71%;"></div></div> 71%

## What next for the dashboard?

The TECH SY Scaleup Dashboard was initially launched at Climb25. This version is our second launch of the document.

We have plans to update and republish the dashboard on a regular basis, with the hope that it evolves and continues to profile new waves of founders doing good things in South Yorkshire.

There are of course some notable businesses that have just missed out on hitting our criteria, so we've listed some of the growing businesses that are exceeding the data boundaries in one way or another. For example, Bumper were launched in 2013, and would arguably sit at the top of the 'scaling dashboard' if not for that.

Whilst this dashboard highlights amazing companies, it misses the larger, well established businesses such as Twinkl as we would classify them as being well known within the ecosystem and to potential investors.

In the not too distant future, we may look at developing a dashboard to ensure those that are scaling are being profiled too, so keep an eye out.

If you have questions or suggestions please get in touch with us at: [techsy@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:techsy@barnsley.gov.uk)

[techsy.co.uk](http://techsy.co.uk)

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