Hotspot Cambridge has double the tech density of the average UK cluster

- **Cambridge has double the digital density of the average UK town**
- **Cambridge has 15,503 digital tech jobs v UK average of 4,596**
- **Cambridge has a digital tech sector turnover of £2.4bn - which is £152,000 per employee**
- **Cambridge's meetup scene is thriving - with data science and internet of things two big themes**
- **Brexit is named as one of the top three challenges in Cambridge**

Cambridge's position as one of eight cities in the UK with a higher digital density than average has been confirmed by the publication of new data from Tech Nation, the organisation that works to accelerate the digital tech sector across the UK.

Cambridge has double the digital tech turnover of the average UK town, which means that the University city relies to a much greater extent than other locations on tech sector employment.

When we look at the number of jobs in the city, there are **15,503 digital tech jobs** compared to 4,596 digital tech jobs in other UK cities and towns.

Cambridge, which is home to some of the fastest growing tech companies in the UK like Darktrace and GeoSpock, has a **digital tech sector turnover of £2.4bn.** In comparison, the average digital tech sector turnover is £803mn.

By looking at **digital tech turnover by employee** - the proportion of digital tech turnover that is attributable to each worker - we can see that it is a huge **£152,000**. The average figure for the UK is £99,000.

Finally, business births - the number of new companies started in the digital tech sector each year - reached 145 in Cambridge last year.

The Treasury Minister made his remarks ahead of a Tech Nation on Tour event at the Bradfield Centre, a new home for innovative businesses and entrepreneurs at the heart of Cambridge's Science Park. The co-working space will run accelerator programmes for growing companies, as well as provide space for smart, ambitious businesses and help them grow to scale.

When it comes to challenges, running a business from Cambridge isn't always easy. The top three challenges identified by Cambridge entrepreneurs were: cost of living, access to talent and Brexit, indicating that Cambridge may rely more heavily than other locations on overseas talent. After Cambridge, the only other UK city to state Brexit as a top three challenge was London.

Tech Nation also measured Meetups in Cambridge. Meetups are informal groups that bring people together to discuss a common topic of interest. Two of the most popular tech meetups,

with more than a 1,000 members, are on data science (including AI and machine learning) and the internet of things, indicating how Cambridge's tech scene is thriving at a grassroots level.

While Cambridge has a long list of attractions to tech companies (and investors) the ability to hire skilled workers is really important for many of the businesses that are based here, 50 miles North of London. The University and its research (and research students) provides constant refreshment to the pool of talent in the city.

Robert Jenrick, Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury said: "Cambridge is home to some of the UK's fastest growing tech companies, with over 15,000 digital tech jobs and a turnover of £2.4 billion. It's a city bursting with ideas and potential and we want to support these innovative businesses that are helping to create our new economy. We are investing £21 million over the next four years to make Britain a 'Tech Nation', boosting and connecting burgeoning new tech firms so we can create new jobs across the country."

Laurence Garrett, partner at Highland Europe, who lives near Cambridge and has invested in many Cambridge-based companies including the likes of Starleaf, CSR, and Ubinetics, says: "Investors are always keen to stay close to tech startups founded in Cambridge because they have some of the most exciting ideas and talented people in Europe, not just the UK. The startup community here is full of talented, farsighted people and I have no doubt that more great companies will be built from here over the next decade."

Poppy Gustafsson, who is CEO (EMEA) at Darktrace, says: "The research that goes on in Cambridge is second to none, and our Cambridge HQ is where the machine learning behind our world-leading technology is being developed. Being based here allows us to recruit some of the best machine-learning specialists in the world."

Dr Steve Marsh, CTO of GeoSpock, the five year old company that processes millions of data points in seconds, says: "It's only natural that GeoSpock kept our global headquarters near the source of world-class technical talent coming out of the University and with Cambridge's long history of DeepTech innovation, coupled with the incredibly supportive entrepreneurial network - there are few ecosystems more suited to building the next big thing."

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