



# ENGINE SHED: INFRASTRUCTURE HUB



IMPACT  
FOR  
SCALEUPS

JOB CREATION  
**480**

REVENUE  
TO LOCAL ECONOMY  
**£7.99m**

FINANCE  
ACCELERATOR PROGRAMMES  
**£104m**



INFRASTRUCTURE

provided accommodation for **300** people

people used Engine Shed meeting rooms **20k**

Engine Shed is a collaboration between Bristol City Council, the University of Bristol and the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership. Opened in December 2013, the hub creates an ecosystem by facilitating connections, activities and opportunities across the city. 30,000 people are estimated to have visited the building in 2015/16.

## COLLABORATION AND INSPIRATION

Engine Shed is open to anyone in the Bath and Bristol region and does not have a specific sector focus. Rather, it focuses on cluster building to stimulate economic activity. It has hosted, sponsored and initiated 63 networking events in its first three years of operation. It supports the local authorities, the LEP (itself a tenant) and Invest Bristol & Bath in their work. It enables co-working for small enterprises, access to networks, and hosts and supports events to connect actors in the ecosystem. In May 2017, Engine Shed appointed a full-time 'Scale Up Enabler' to develop the broader scaleup ecosystem.

Engine Shed also hosts a number of accelerators (including **Oracle** and the world-leading **Bristol SETsquared Centre**), provides meeting spaces to support collaboration (rooms for hire and members' Business Lounge).

It has hosted a number of school groups for talks and exposure to the working environment of world-class tech start-ups. More than 1,900 primary school children

have carried 'maker' type activities<sup>11</sup>. Overall, it has welcomed over 600 academic colleagues from across the region.

'Investors in Residence' offer their time for scale-up businesses to discuss investment options nationally and locally. This informal service helps both businesses and investors better understand the market and share experience.

Engine Shed is a strong model of an infrastructure hub that is a fertile, inclusive place to invigorate and support the regional ecosystem and stimulate long-term economic growth. Planning permission is now being sought for Engine Shed 2 that will add 44,000 sq. ft. of space for companies.

*"Bristol was chosen as one of Oracle's first global startup programmes, selected for the region's vibrant, unique and flourishing start-up ecosystem. As the Engine Shed is based in the Bristol Temple Quarter Enterprise Zone, and the home of a world class business incubator, SETsquared was a natural choice for Oracle to base their first UK Accelerator programme."*

**MARINA TRAVERSARI**  
Bristol Programme  
Manager, Oracle Startup  
Cloud Accelerator

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about the programme: <http://www.scaleupinstitute.org.uk/scale-up-programmes/>

<sup>11</sup> A new school of educational thought that focuses on delivering a constructivist, project-based learning curriculum.

## + CALL TO ACTION

This demonstrates the importance of place in fostering a vibrant scaleup ecosystem. It shows how a physical hub can stimulate economic activity by building a cluster and facilitating connections, activities and opportunities.