# THE CITY OF DONCASTER Creative, Digital & Technology





## THE PLACE FOR TRANSFORMATION

The future for the Creative, Digital & Tech sector is bright.



Working in Doncaster is hugely beneficial for my business. Being able to travel the width and breath of the country easily, means I can collaborate with companies and partners more effectively and efficiently. This means reduced costs and increased productivity and creativity. It's exciting to be part of a business community that loves its city and has an outward facing vision whilst maintaining the charm and integrity of a charming northern city.

Wayne Sables, Creative Director, Wayne Sables Project



Doncaster is home to an exciting range of Creative, Digital and Tech businesses, all proudly choosing the City of Doncaster as a place to thrive and do business.

Joining established world-class innovators are exciting new start-ups and entrepreneurs, committed to tackling industry-challenges through the development of tech and digital solutions.

Doncaster is going through an unprecedented period of transformation, with strong growth across a number of key sectors. The city offers an abundance of good quality, well-connected employment sites and a high quality business support ecosystem.

The City of Doncaster is fast becoming recognised for its industry expertise around Artificial Intelligence, with the work of our businesses providing a solid foundation for taking the next step

towards our ambition to be a Centre of Excellence for AI.

To enable this, we are building a new flagship Digital Tech Hub, due for completion November 2026. This will be a catalyst for driving wider inward investment and growth in this key sector and securing industry leading businesses.

Doncaster business Automated Analytics has already committed to being a founding member of the Digital Tech Hub, bringing expert knowledge, innovation and a desire to enhance the City's reputation on a global stage.

The establishment of this new specialist building will drive sector growth by acting as a magnet for leading digital and tech companies looking for opportunities to scale and grow their businesses and locate here in Doncaster.

### OUTSTANDING CONNECTIVITY

The City of Doncaster's multi-modal transport connectivity offers excellent access to major conurbations, coastal ports and other parts of the UK and beyond, linking east to west and north to south.

Being based in Doncaster provides us with fantastic access to local talent from nearby universities. Doncaster's accessibility and connectivity are attractive assets for growing our business. Being only 90 minutes away from London by train has also helped us expand our national business, while still enjoying the cost benefits of being based in South Yorkshire.

Richard Hanby, Director, Ascendant Solutions



#### Road

At the heart of the UK's motorway network with superb connections to the A1, M18 and M180, with links to the M1 and M62; over 6 million people live within a 45-minute drive of Doncaster.

#### Air

The City of Doncaster Council has signed a 125-year lease to take over the former Doncaster Sheffield Airport (DSA). It has been confirmed Munich Airport International will provide operational and management services to Doncaster Sheffield Airport, with flights set to resume in 2026.

#### Sea

Doncaster is located just 50 minutes to and from Humber Ports, the UK's largest port complex.

In addition, Doncaster has direct rail connections to all major UK ports with facilities designed to handle a wide variety of cargo.

### Rail

- Fantastic connectivity to and from all major UK cities
- 104 UK rail stations directly served from Doncaster
- An average of 67 trains travel every day to and from London, with the journey taking as little as 87 minutes.

Rail passenger journey times to Doncaster	
York	20 mins
Sheffield	22 mins
Leeds	30 mins
Manchester	80 mins
Newcastle	83 mins
London Kings Cross	87 mins
Birmingham	88 mins
Edinburgh	178 mins

Drive times to Doncaster	
Sheffield	40 mins
York	1 hr
Leeds	1hr 5 mins
Birmingham	1hr 45 mins
Manchester	2hrs
Newcastle	2hrs 30 mins
London	3hrs 30 mins
Edinburgh	4hrs 45 mins

# JOIN OUR VIBRANT CREATIVE, DIGITAL & TECH CLUSTER



Doncaster is home to a thriving digital and tech ecosystem featuring a diverse range of businesses, as demonstrated below...

From cutting-edge artificial intelligence and robotics firms to SaaS providers, managed IT services, and cyber-security specialists, the area is growing with a vibrant mix of innovative businesses, all of whom contribute to Doncaster's dynamic and growing digital and tech landscape.





Doncaster is a dynamic hub for the digital and tech industry, the ideal location for our MSP business. Specialising in IT, CCTV, and phone support, we thrive in this innovative and vibrant business environment. With excellent transport connections and great business community, Doncaster offers unparalleled accessibility and growth opportunities. We are proud to be based in Doncaster, contributing to its thriving technological landscape.

Rebecca Thompson, General Manager, Dolphin ICT

### **GREAT ADVANTAGES**

There are many reasons why businesses invest in Doncaster. Here are just some of our key features...





Doncaster offers a range of co-working and office spaces within the City at competitive rates

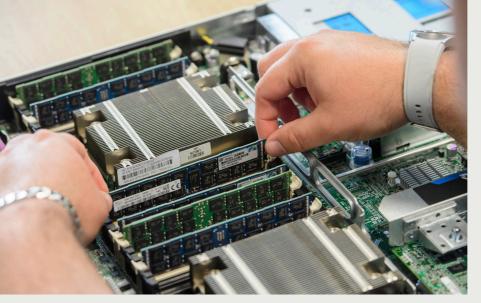


Over 8500 employed across the creative and digital sector



The largest metropolitan borough in the country covering 220 square miles of opportunity

Access to **11.6** million people within a 30 mile radius



78.4% Employment Rate Doncaster has a total labour force of 147,300

> Population: Doncaster - 308,700 South Yorkshire - 1,374,200

### **10** Universities within **1** hour drive time Excellent educational facilities

Proportionately more people hold NVQs up to level 3 than the national average





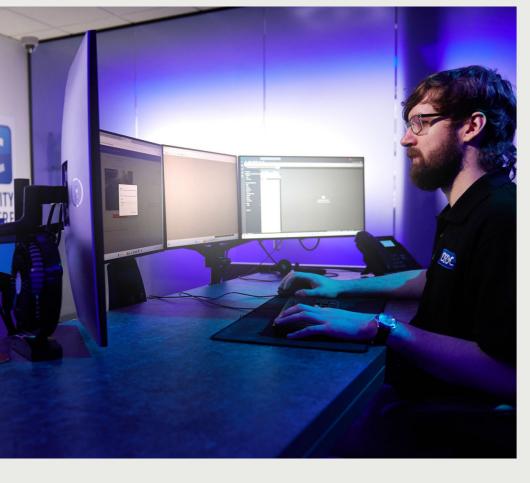
Record levels of inward investment in the last 3 years

£460 million and 4000 jobs created

### INSPIRING CREATIVITY

Creativity is a journey, not a destination. Here in the City of Doncaster we encourage, celebrate and embrace uniqueness. At DSOC, we embrace technology to complement our fantastic Doncaster based 24/7 security team to provide unparalleled monitoring services. We are proud to contribute to Doncaster's vibrant technology scene while ensuring the safety and security of our clients nationwide.

Rob Dovey, Managing Director, DSOC



### **Local Environment**

The UK film and TV industry continues to be attracted to the City of Doncaster; with major productions using our unique range of filming sites and locations as the backdrop for their projects.

With its distinctive and interesting locations, Doncaster has hosted and continues to encourage a range of film and TV franchises, contributing to our creative economy within the city.

Business Doncaster has founded a new Creative, Digital and Tech forum which enables local businesses to play a leading role in shaping the city's economic plans.

In Doncaster, you will see a dynamic and developing pipeline of future skills within the creative, digital and tech industries. This is demonstrated by the joined-up educational and apprenticeship offer through schools, colleges and university programmes across the City.

#### Join us

Many creative, digital and tech businesses choose to be based, invest or relocate to the City of Doncaster, taking advantage of the city's unrivalled connectivity, cost benefits in comparison to other UK cities, and strong local support offer.

Doncaster offers a vibrant and friendly business atmosphere, driven by a strong ambition for growth.

As a city we are committed to the development of a strong Creative, Digital and Tech ecosystem that not only encourages entrepreneurs to achieve their potential, but is also eager to find solutions to the industry challenges of today. At Pense, we combine cutting-edge technology with expert financial advice to help people maximise their pension income. Being based in Doncaster provides us with access to a growing tech ecosystem and a strong talent pool, which has supported our mission to make high-quality financial advice more accessible. The city's connectivity and innovative spirit make it an ideal location for fintech companies like ours to thrive.

Richard Morrall, Chief Executive Officer, Pense



## SO MUCH TO SEE AND DO

Doncaster is the newest city in the North of England offering first class amenities, surrounded by open free spaces and beautiful countryside to explore.

Doncaster has much to be proud of – from its renowned racing calendar, including the classic St Leger Festival which marks its 250th anniversary in 2026, to its rich railway heritage, elegant Georgian and Regency architecture, and the UK's No.1 walk-through wildlife park adventure.









Scan the QR code to explore our latest Visitor Guide and discover Doncaster, your way!

If you are planning a team building day, searching for the best restaurants

and cafes locally or looking to book hotel accommodation then our guide has everything you need.



# SUPPORT FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Our experienced Economic Development investment team can support your business whatever stage you're at. We offer free, confidential, high quality business support and information tailored to your individual business needs. The team are on hand to help find the right business solutions for you.

Below is a comprehensive overview (but not limited to) the services we provide:



Land & Property Search



Local Supply Chain Assistance



PLAN

Innovations & Solutions

**Business** 

& Growth

Strategy



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HR Recruitment & Skills



Sector Specific Forums & Events

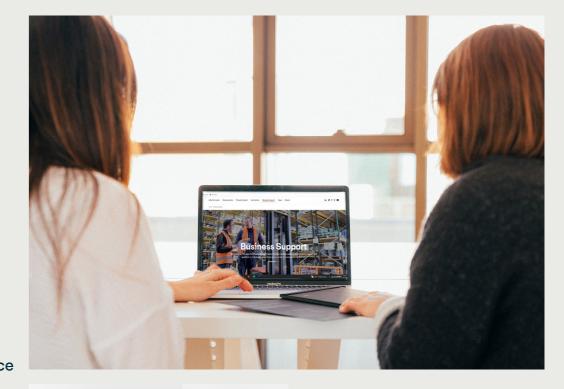


For further information please scan the QR code to visit our sector web page here:



Business Doncaster is the Economic Development arm of the City of Doncaster Council, dedicated to providing support and information to local businesses and those looking to invest, locate and grow in Doncaster.

Whether you are a new start up or an established business, we can help your business thrive, grow and achieve success.







**Gemma Taylor-White** Sector Growth Officer - Creative Digital & Tech Business Doncaster

Let's connect...



For further information please contact me: **+44 (0)1302 737 364** 

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#### **City of Doncaster**

The place to invest, grow and thrive

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businessdoncaster.co.uk

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All statistics & information contained within this document are accurate as of June 2025.

