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The most diverse tech startups of London in 2021



Despite Brexit, London is at the centre of Europe's burgeoning tech scene, and the tech companies from the capital backed Europe to reach record levels of tech venture capital funding in 2020.



UK's tech industry has expanded 10-fold in the last ten years, enabling the creation of hundreds of fast-growing tech companies that are set to challenge Silicon Valley in the coming decade, according to a recent analysis by [Dealroom.co](https://www.dealroom.co) and the Digital Economy Unit.

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we think you should follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#) and keep a tab on in the coming years.

OweMe



Image credits: OweMe

Founder/s: Nisha Singh, Nishant Singh



Founded year: 2016

Funding: £785K

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Blend Net    



Image credits: Blend Network
Founder/s: Yann Murciano

Founded year: 2016

Funding: £10.3M

Sector: Fintech

This peer-to-peer property lending marketplace connects lenders directly with the

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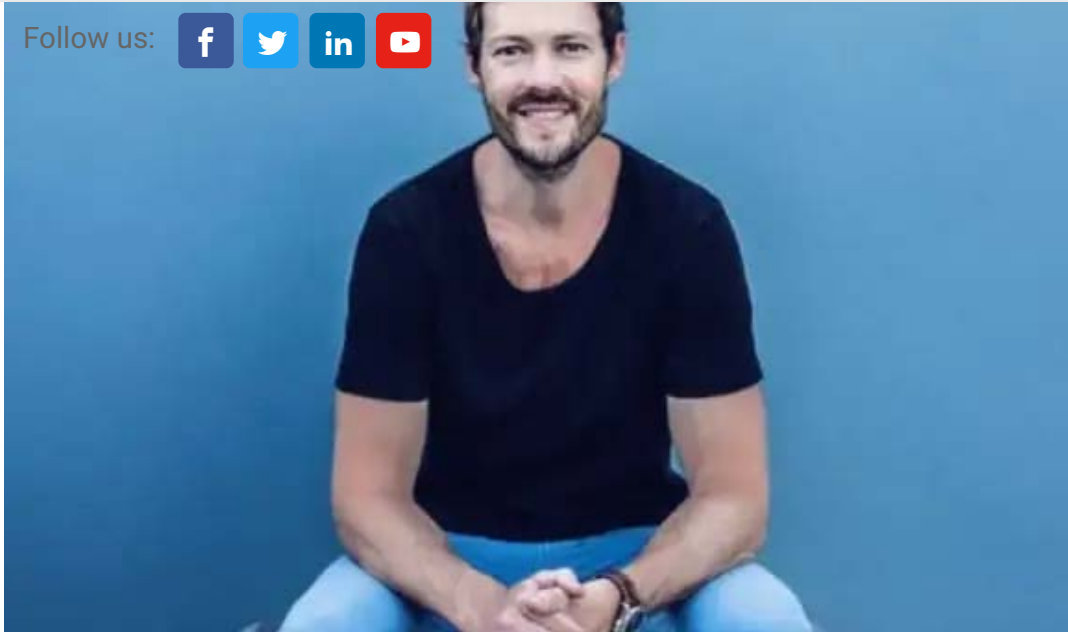


Image credits: Howamigoing

Founder/s: Julian Cook, Kim Monney

Founded year: 2018

Funding: £1.1M

Sector: HR tech

After seven years of toil and terrible performance review processes at J.P. Morgan, Goldman Sachs, and Gresham Partners, investment banker Julian Cook founded [Howamigoing](#) in 2018 to empower employees across the globe while doing away with pointless performance reviews.

The employee performance management company is based in London and provides

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Follow us:



Image credits: Oddbox

Founder/s: Deepak Ravindran, Emilie Vanpoperinghe

Founded year: 2016

Funding: £3.3M

Sector: E-commerce

According to [Oddbox](#), over 3 million tons of fruits and vegetables are wasted before they even leave the farm and that's why London-based tech startup Oddbox exists. Founded by a husband-and-wife duo, Oddbox's mission is to fix [UK's food waste problem](#) by rescuin

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Follow us:



Image credits: Kidadl

Founder/s: Sophie Orman, Hannah Feldman

Founded year: 2017

Funding: NA

Sector: E-commerce

This one is a female-founded, London-based **edtech scaleup** serving families across the globe looking for content and resources designed to entertain and educate their children. When the COVID-19 hit, it also pivoted from an app-based business and showcased family events and activities.

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Image credits: Oja

Founder/s: Mariam Jimoh



Founded year: 2018

Funding: NA

Sector: E-commerce

Founded by a [serial entrepreneur](#), strategy consultant, and diversity specialist in 2018, [Oja](#) is an attempt to transform access to cultural groceries & world foods. The company connects local cultural grocery stores to customers via fast & eco-friendly delivery across the UK.

VeeLoop

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Image credits: VeeLoop

Founder/s: Patricia Salume, Randa Bennett

Founded year: 2017

Funding: NA

Sector: Retail tech

VeeLoop is an online payment system that lets teenagers put items in a virtual cart for their parents/guardians to approve and checkout. This also protects teens from giving out their personal details leaving themselves vulnerable to cybercrime.

During the COVID-19 crisis, the Ealing-based startup also volunteered to do their neighbours' shopping in the early lockdown. Further, they also launched a new payment system for volunteers shopping for vulnerable people – for quick reimbursements.

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Image credits: Neu Robotics

Founder/s: Cyril Lutterodt, Jonathan Chavez

Founded year: 2016

Funding: NA

Sector: Infrastructure

Neu Robotics provides handy custom robotic solutions, including practical and user-friendly AI-powered robotic platforms. These solutions automate repetitive and manual tasks to collect, store and analyse data.

Headlight AI

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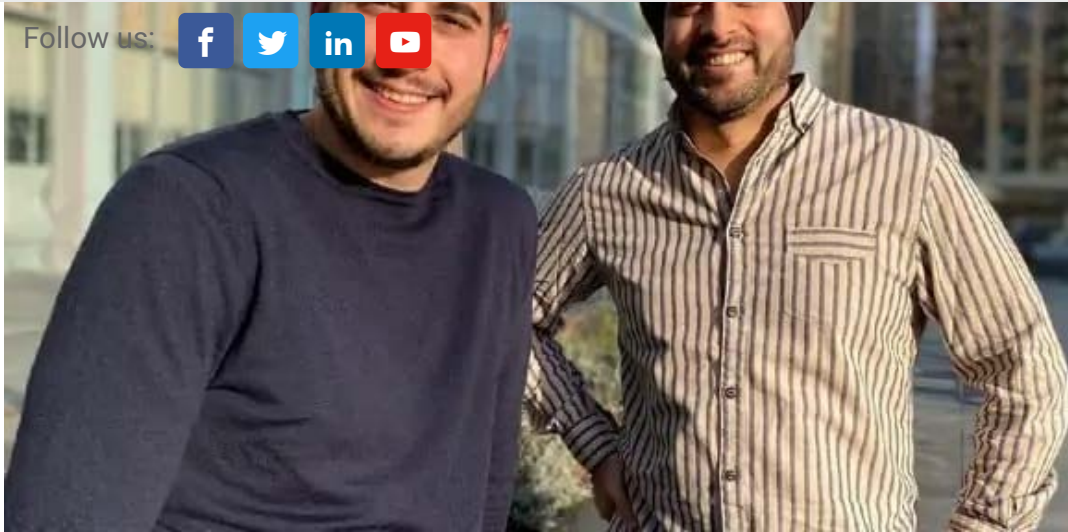


Image credits: Headlight AI

Founder/s: Jameel Marafie, Puneet Chhabra

Founded year: 2017

Funding: NA

Sector: Infrastructure

London-based tech firm [Headlight AI](#) is a technology company developing sensing, mapping and data processing solutions for extreme environments. It focuses primarily on solutions for subterranean infrastructure, such as tunnels, sewers, and culverts, where GNSS or GPS signal is denied, which makes accurate localisation challenging.

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Image credits: Circulor

Founder/s: Douglas Johnson-Poensgen, Veera Johnson

Founded year: 2017

Funding: \$14 million (nearly £10 million) in Series A funding

Sector: Blockchain

Ciculor has developed a cutting-edge software platform to trace the movement of materials and components in industrial supply chains, from source to manufacturer. The system applies multiple verification methods at each step in the process to spot errors or attempted manipulation of supply chain data.

The blockchain tech firm has signed up major global mining and manufacturing companies, delivering for example solutions to track CO2 emissions resulting from battery production.

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Koalaa

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Image credits: Koalaa

Founder/s: Nate Macabuag

Founded year: 2020

Funding: £125K

Sector: Health tech





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pen or cutlery to help with tasks like walking, skip, paint, saw, ride a bike, or play the drums or a guitar. Follow us:     Alongside, wearers become part of the Koalaa Community and are provided with a 'limb buddy', which supports them every step of the way. The founder, [Nate Macabuag](#), was recently named in Forbes' 30 under 30 listing for social impact, highlighting the most influential people under the age of 30 from across the world.

Do It Now Now



Image credits: Do It Now Now

Founder/s: Bayo Adelaja

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of Afro-Caribbean people living in under-served communities around the world.

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The open innovation organisation is committed to bringing social empowerment to communities across the globe bringing together entrepreneurs, startup teams, social innovators, investors and philanthropists together to tackle tough issues.

BYP Network



Image credits: BYP Network

Founder/s: Kike Oniwinde

Founded year: 2016

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down their efforts to 'break the Black narrative'. Founder, Kike Oniwinde is a Forbes 30 under 30, Maserati Top 100 Most Innovative Founders and a Financial Times Top 100 BAME Leaders in Technology.



Foundervine



Image credits: Foundervine

Founder/s: Izzy Obeng

Founded year: 2018

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Vendoir

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Image credits: Vendoir

Founder/s: Yoma James, Oshoma Zekeri and Charles Ofoegbu

Founded year: 2020



Your Shoe Destination

6thStreet

SHOP NOW

Funding: £170K

Sector: Event tech

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Image credits: Xplorealm
Founder/s: Reedah El-Saie



Your Shoe Destination

6thStreet.com 6thStreet

SHOP NOW

Founded year: 2019

Funding: 272K

Sector: Edtech

London-based [Xplorealm](#) is the world's first educational mobile games app offering diverse and inclusive fact checked subjects, aligned with the National Curriculum, thro

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Image credits: Fixing Dad

Founder/s: Anthony Whittington, Ian Whittington



Founded year: 2013

Funding: NA

Sector: Publishing

Fixing Dad is an international health engagement organisation that works with organisations and policymakers to help inspire patients, consumers, and citizens to engage with their health. It produces content across a wide variety of health arenas to help inspire, engage, manage, and reverse a range of conditions, including diabetes, obesity, heart disease, mental illness, cardiovascular disease, respiratory illnesses, heart failure, and some forms of cancer.

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inception, nearly 50% of the founders were female-led and more than one-quarter of the founders were from underrepresented backgrounds. A sample of some of their most innovative members revealed they had created more than 300 jobs and raised more than £141 million in funding.

To find out more about how the programme could support your London-based startup to fulfil your growth ambitions, visit businessgrowth.london.

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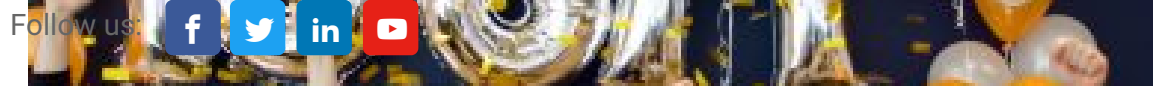


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Akansha Srivastava
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UK fintech company Volt raises £17M to build global instant payments network

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industry use robots to inspect, maintain, and repair platforms

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The Offshore Robotics for the Certification of Assets (ORCA) Hub is a research programme developing **Robotics**, AI, and Autonomous Systems for the offshore sector.

Recently, the **ORCA Hub** secured £2.5 million in funding from UK Research & Innovation (UKRI).

How will the funding be used?

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measurement
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This will allow multiple parties to access the data, understanding the construction process, and allowing companies to identify new efficiencies, potential hazards, and quality control measures.

What is ORCA Hub?

Founded in 2017, the ORCA Hub is led by the Edinburgh Centre for Robotics (Heriot-Watt University and the University of Edinburgh), in collaboration with Imperial College London, the Universities of Oxford, and Liverpool, and over thirty industry partners.

The Hub aims to help the offshore energy industry use robots to inspect, maintain and repair platforms, wind turbines, and other infrastructure with human guidance.

Yvan Petillot appointed as new director

As a part of the funding round, Yvan Petillot, professor of robotics and autonomous systems at Heriot-Watt University and co-academic lead of the National Robotarium, has been appointed as the ORCA Hub's new director.



Pre-Workout Supplements



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He takes over from Professor David Lane, founding director of the Edinburgh Centre for Robotics, who will continue to support the Hub as an advisor to its independent steering committee.

Professor Petillot said: "The ORCA Hub has built a community of roboticists and expertise during its initial phase. This funding extension aims to accelerate the translation of th

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specific industries. Significant industry engagement has been achieved since 2017 with 68 individual research projects, Ph.D. sponsorships, user engagements, and supply of equipment, hardware, software, data, and asset samples taking place with a further 16 projects currently in discussion or pending approval with an estimated value of over £6M. We've spun-out a company and two more are in the process of spin-out, alongside two patent applications enabling developments to be licensed to companies."

Simon Reeve, chair of the ORCA Hub's Independent Steering Committee, said "The Hub's success to date has been greatly helped by the contributions of a wide range of specialists overseeing its strategic direction. An international scientific panel supported the early stages of the Hub, while an industry panel reviews and guides the application of the new technologies. Our Independent Steering Committee is made up of international specialists representing government, public and private sector organisations across a wide range of sectors providing a fresh perspective and the best possible support to achieving the Hub's objectives."

Andrew Tyrer, Challenge Director – Robotics, Industrial Strategy Research Fund, said: "The funding is crucial to widening the scope of our work. With net-zero ambitions underlying industrial plans in every sector, and the chance to rebuild new industries after the pandemic, robotics, AI and automation are vital ingredients for the future."

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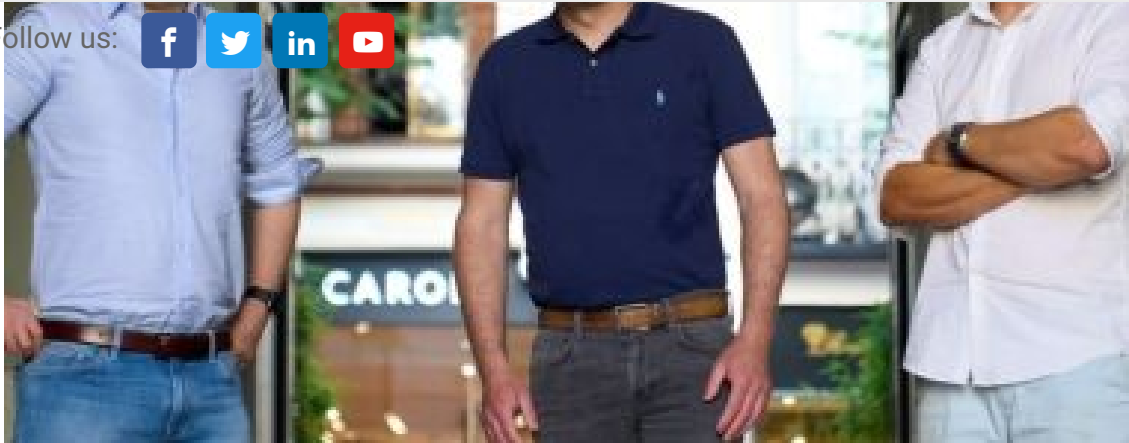
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