



Welcome to the October edition of MIDAS Monthly.

There's no doubt about it. Manchester is having a digital moment. Whilst at one time we might have spoken about the city-region's advances in AI and cyber within the specific context of the creative, digital and tech sector, this month Manchester embarks upon its own Digitober – a month of events, networking, panels, immersive experiences, and opportunities which bring together the tech community right here in Manchester and beyond. It demonstrates how the sector itself has evolved and how its expanse into other areas has revolutionised everything from materials and clinical trials to how we might pay for a coffee.

With Cloud Imperium Games' CitizenCon, Manchester Science Festival and Manchester Tech Festival just around the corner, our city-region has an incredible opportunity to further establish Manchester's position as the Technology city in the UK. Recently topping the SAS index as the most AI-ready UK city for the first time, it all highlights how the region's skills and experience is developing industry on a global scale.

And yet, as such progress moves with pace, it brings with it a magnitude of challenges before us. The way Manchester will navigate this will be through our strength for collaboration. Whether through the work within our incubators, accelerators and co-working spaces or questions asked of panellists speaking at this month's events, it is a fascinating time, and I look forward to seeing where those conversations – and actions – take us.

Joe Manning

Managing Director, MIDAS, Manchester's Inward Investment Agency

Manchester US Mission



MIDAS teamed up with Austin's EY office and some top economic development organisations for a roundtable, brainstorming how the two cities could collaborate in new and exciting ways. Big shoutout to Tony DeLisi, Opportunity Austin, and The University of Texas for making it all happen!

At Q-Branch, Managing Director Joe Manning, Head of Advanced Manufacturing and Low Carbon Rachel Eyre, and GMCA Senior Policy Officer for Culture and Creative Policy Rebecca Swarray discussed investment and Greater Manchester's cultural offerings. AECOM hosted discussions on workforce development and infrastructure, followed by a tour of ACC's education facilities.

The team also met with Cloud Imperium Games ahead of CitizenCon in Manchester and attended the MOVE: Mobility Re-imagined conference to explore future mobility opportunities.

[See more](#)

Highlights & Insights



BNY chooses 4 Angel Square at NOMA, Manchester for new location

Global financial services company has chosen NOMA in Manchester representing the largest regional office deal in a "Big 6" city in the past four years

[Read more](#)



£1.7bn innovation district and neighbourhood in Manchester opens its doors, reveals new name, Sister

The district has also announced its first customer, Sustainable Ventures, Europe's leading climate tech hub, which will officially move into the Renold Building in November. Sister is a joint venture between The University of Manchester and Bruntwood SciTech.

[Read More](#)



The Hive: A Buzzing New Co-Working Hub for Local Businesses

Oldham Council and Upturn (Social Enterprise) have joined forces to launch The Hive, a new co-working space in Spindles Centre. This partnership is the first of its kind in the UK and aims to support local businesses, from freelancers and startups to established companies.

[Read more](#)



Atom Valley: A £1bn megaproject

Atom Valley is a £1billion megaproject which aims to create 20,000 jobs and boost Greater Manchester's economic cloud. The public-private partnership scheme is one of the UK's top construction projects, according to Barbour ABI, which values the project at £1bn.

[Read more](#)

[Read more stories from across Greater Manchester here](#)

Green Finance Report



In partnership with Omdia, MIDAS is producing a report mapping and evaluating the current Green Finance products and services across Greater Manchester, opportunities for further development of this sub sector of finance, and the business case for further inward investment by Financial Services and Fintech into the region.

It will provide an independent assessment of the market activity offered across Greater Manchester for Financial Services businesses (including Venture Capital, Private Equity, Legal and Insurance) and FinTechs or new market entrants looking to develop their business in the Green Finance space.

[Complete the Form Here](#)

Wider view



Greater Manchester's business landscape: innovation and investment

If you're a regular reader of the Financial Times, you may have seen MIDAS' piece discussing how Greater Manchester's business landscape is continuing to thrive. The piece features insight from our Managing Director, Joe Manning, who shares his views on how the growth of the city region is outpacing other UK regions. The city region is now home to the UK's largest economy outside of London, with growth consistently surpassing the rest of the UK over the past two decades – a trend which is set to continue well into the future.

[Read the FT Article here](#)

Culture Spotlight



From Friday 11th October 2024
The Big Manchester Bake

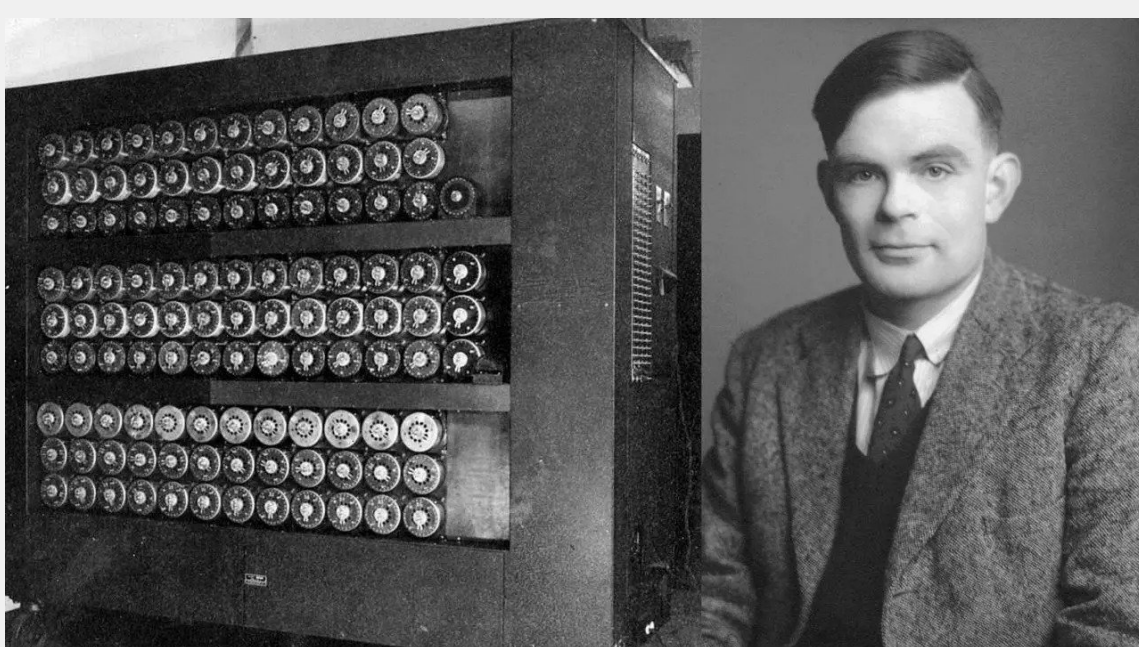
This October, Manchester is turning up the heat with a fun, immersive baking experience right in the heart of the city. Set at a baking marquee, cake-themed bar, hospitality suite, and a beautiful drinks garden, it's the perfect way to enjoy Manchester's vibrant atmosphere.

You and your baking buddy will have 90 minutes to whip up, decorate, and crown the winning bake. Join in for the ultimate way to embrace Manchester's lively, creative spirit.

[Go get your bake on](#)

Did you Know...

Manchester housed the "Father of Modern Computing"



As Digitober is upon us; a month that celebrates and showcases the great work of Greater Manchester's digital sector, we shine a spotlight on the 'Father of Modern Computing' Alan Turing.

Turing first addressed the issue of artificial intelligence as a Deputy Director of the Computing Laboratory at the University of Manchester. Turing's legacy is deeply intertwined with Manchester's rich history of technological innovation.

Today innovation can be seen in the work at the [Turing Innovation Catalyst](#) (TIC). TIC focuses on commercialising and accelerating AI, deep digital tech, and digital trust technologies



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