

# TECH LONDON ADVOCATES



## IMMIGRATION FOR TECH

Tech London Advocates is an independent network of 4,000 tech professionals, entrepreneurs and business leaders in the capital, across the UK and in more than 50 countries around the world. We are a significant voice of the private sector of tech in London with links to other tech hubs across the UK, Europe and the rest of the world.

Tech is the fastest growing sector of the UK economy, but a major skills shortage threatens its future. The uncertainty created by the vote to leave the European Union risks damaging our ability to hire, and so the sector must identify and implement flexible immigration solutions that reassure entrepreneurs and address the skills gap.

This flexible approach should recognise that immigration needs of tech companies are varied, with start-ups requiring different solutions to scale-ups or larger firms.

TLA will continue to lobby for an environment where UK tech firms can access the very best of global talent in order to continue to grow London into a world class technology hub.

Below are our recommendations for an immigration policy that supports London's tech industry.

---

EU WORKERS: THE GOVERNMENT MUST CLARIFY THE FUTURE WORK STATUS OF THE EUROPEAN ENTREPRENEURS AND WORKERS CONTRIBUTING TO THE UK TECH SECTOR

---

THIRD PARTY VISAS: ACCELERATORS, INCUBATORS AND VC FIRMS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO SPONSOR VISAS FOR THE STARTUPS AND SCALEUPS THAT THEY SUPPORT

---

PILOT NEW VISAS: A PILOT 'LONDON VISA' AND 'TIER 5 TECH VISA' SCHEME SHOULD BE INTRODUCED TO ALLOW LONDON TO DRAW ON INTERNATIONAL TALENT TO FILL INDUSTRY VACANCIES, PARTICULARLY ON A SHORT-TERM BASIS

---

VISA REFORM: THE GOVERNMENT MUST EXPAND THE EXCEPTIONAL TALENT VISA AND GRADUATE ENTREPRENEUR SCHEME, AS WELL AS IMPROVE TURNAROUND TIMES TO CAPITALISE ON THE EVOLUTION OF THIS FAST-GROWING SECTOR

---

London remains one of the world's most important hubs for startups and scaleups.  
Let's keep on working together to fulfil its potential.

