

## Background

The Techscaler contract between the Scottish Ministers and CodeBase Ltd makes clear that international focus and activity form a core part of the provider's contractual responsibilities.

This international dimension is integral to the programme's purpose: to strengthen Scotland's position as a globally competitive start-up hub and to ensure that its start-up economy operates at a standard consistent with leading international peers. The contract specification (Schedule 1) and the successful tender response embed specific, contractually enforceable requirements relating to international engagement and activity, including:

- **Support for Scottish Government-led international work** – The provider must support any work led by the Scottish Government to raise the international profile of the Scottish ecosystem, including international visits, communications activity and work to target inward investors.
- **Exposure to global expertise** – The contract requires the provider to include regular contributions from expert organisations and individuals external to the Scottish ecosystem, ensuring that Scottish founders are regularly exposed to the best international thinking, approaches and techniques.
- **International credibility and networks** – The provider is expected to maintain evidence of international credibility, including relationships with leading international accelerators, investors and corporates, to connect Scottish founders to global opportunities.
- **Engagement and representation abroad** – The approved tender commits the provider to hosting and engaging international delegations and acting as an ambassador for the Scottish ecosystem at major international events and conferences.
- **Performance and outcomes** – The contract's performance framework includes metrics on international entrants, investors and the number of companies trading internationally, reinforcing that internationalisation is a measurable outcome under the contract.

In summary, international activity is a contractual obligation. The provider is required to collaborate with the Scottish Government to promote Scotland internationally, integrate global expertise into delivery, and ensure that Scottish start-ups are connected to leading international networks and markets.

*I would like full details of all the guests on each of these trips and their business names. This should include the names of the CodeBase employees who went on each trip and, if possible, what role they had on the trip. Please outline where the attendees stayed during the trip, as well as CodeBase employees. If CodeBase employees stayed in separate locations, please provide details of this.*

#### TSV1

Allan Cannon	Krucial
Alex Gordon-Furse	Playmaker (Now Portday)
Luis Ibarra	Ecerto
Cat Divers	National Support Network
Matt Freer	Infix
Alex Macdougall	Unbagged
Linda Grant	Valla
Richie Wan	Refer My Jobs (Now Seeker)
Daniel Grant	notation.dev
Olga Maksimova	Lovat Compliance
Chris Hughes	Estendio
Eilidh Mutch	Your Spin Ltd (Now Tavora)
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase

Two CodeBase employees attended the programme. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

In line with the contractual obligations outlined above, the role of CodeBase employees included supporting participants with signposting local events and opportunities, building connections with partners including investors and other ecosystem builders, providing pastoral support for the cohort, and linking up with the workspace.

Attendees stayed at the Grand Hyatt, San Francisco. CodeBase employees stayed at the same hotel and location as the attendees.

#### TSV2

Kayla-Megan Burns	Podplistic
Jean Bustinza	Viamki
Mark Caulfield	Rethink Carbon
Nicole Christie	Tax Torch
Samantha Clark	Nursery Story
Sam Forsberg	Corvus Dynamic
Matt Jenner	Coursensu
Shiv Kodam	Neuron
Barry Leaper	LiberEat
Grant MacLennan	Bypass
Lewis O'Neill	Niovant
Angela Pretner-Smith	Neve Learning

Inese Pritchard	IPGN Solutions
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase

Four CodeBase employees attended the programme. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information. For this programme, staff did not all attend the entire programme simultaneously which explains the higher number of attendees.

In line with the contractual obligations outlined above, the role of CodeBase employees included supporting participants with signposting local events and opportunities, building connections with partners including investors and other ecosystem builders, providing pastoral support for the cohort, and linking up with the workspace.

Attendees stayed at the Grand Hyatt, San Francisco and the Best Western Inn Redwood City. CodeBase employees also stayed at the same hotels and locations as the attendees. Despite using the same accommodation as TSV1 for part of the visit, hotel costs varied due to factors such as time of booking and travel dates. In the case of TSV1, the programme took place in February outside of conference season and CodeBase was able to negotiate a discounted rate as people were staying for more nights than during TSV2 or TSV3, both of which took place during conference high season.

### TSV3

Natalie Garry	DanceSing
Sam Gray	Energy Mutual
James Buchan	ePass
Andrew Williams	Fyne Labs
Alasdair Harris	LingoTeach.ai
Giulia Marcucci	LumiAlres
Douglas Lawson	MarktoMarket
Shama Rahman	NeuroCreate
Sacha Wright	Practest
Alison Lang	Pure Purpose Ltd
Graeme Kerr	Tethered
Amanda Pickford	ThermaFY
Craig Somerville	Who's In The Room?
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
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Three CodeBase employees attended the programme. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information

In line with the contractual obligations outlined above, the role of CodeBase employees included supporting participants with signposting local events and opportunities, building connections with partners including investors and other ecosystem builders, providing pastoral support for the cohort, and linking up with the workspace.

Attendees stayed at the Holiday Inn & Suites San Mateo and The Grand Hyatt, San Francisco. CodeBase employees stayed at the same hotels and locations as the attendees.

### China

Ayub Shoaib	NomWHealth
Aakanksha Sadekar	Tracker.Health (Now Endwell Care)
Giles Dudley	Stimuliver
Steven Drost (attended on separate business, not paid for by Techscaler)	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
Colin Tan	Delivery Partner, Tuspark
Congcong Wang	Delivery Partner, Tuspark
John Gilhooly	Delivery Partner, Scottish Tech Ecosystem Ambassador

Attendees stayed at the Grandview Hotel Macau, the Harbour Grand Hong Kong, the Holiday Inn Express Shenzhen Futian Centre and the JI Hotel (Shanghai People's Square Middle Fujian Road).

Techscaler also paid for flights and hotels for delivery partners for this programme:

- Colin Tan and Congcong Wang from Tuspark, who were leading the trip, translating, making introductions, and supporting the cohort. They stayed in the same hotels as the attendees.
- John Gilhooly, an ambassador for the Scottish tech ecosystem abroad, who supported the cohort and relationship building with Tuspark. His hotels and return flight were paid for so he could attend to support the cohort.

A CodeBase employee and Steven Drost accompanied the startups in Macau and Hong Kong but did not travel with them to Shenzhen and Shanghai. They connected with local partners, including universities and investors, and provided mentorship and pitch support to the founders. Steven stayed at a different hotel than the attendees (no additional details or cost are available as this was not paid for by Techscaler). His flights were also not paid for by Techscaler. The other CodeBase employee stayed at St Regis Macao and Courtyard Marriott Hong Kong.

We are withholding the name of this employee due to exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applying that information.

### Web Summit Conference (Lisbon)

Elizabeth Pirrie	AccelerateHER
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Irina Preda	TETCo
Lingsay Wong	Data Understood
Maria Bell	Mesomorphic
Mia Risk	Chaffeur Drive Systems
Melissa Sully	SENSECity
Roisin McClory	ScribePro
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
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Attendees stayed at the H10 Duque de Loulé Hotel, Lisbon. CodeBase employees also stayed at the same hotel and location as the attendees.

#### Singapore

Aaron Sarginson	Trigan LTD
Beena Sharma	CCU International
Chris Downie	Pasabi
Jamie Hastings	Bank Statement Check
Klaudia Kleczkowska	Tech Growth Seeker Ltd
Steve Shearman	eCERTO LIMITED
Olga Maksimova	Lovat Compliance Ltd
Ross O'Hanlon	BioLiberty
Wes Beard	Konversable
Ryan Canning	Architextures
Aakanksha Sadekar	Soulful Tech Solutions Ltd
Nathan Clarke	iCreateWords
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
Steven Drost (attended on separate business, not paid for by Techscaler)	CodeBase

Three CodeBase employees attended the programme. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to some of this information.

In line with the contractual obligations outlined above, the role of CodeBase employees included supporting participants with signposting local events and opportunities, building connections with partners including investors and other ecosystem builders, providing pastoral support for the cohort, and linking up with the workspace.

Attendees stayed at the Hotel Lyf One-North, Singapore. CodeBase employee, Steven Drost attended on separate CodeBase business. This was timed to coincide with the programme so that he could provide occasional support and help build connections with investors and other ecosystem partners, including local government agencies as well as UK bodies. Steven stayed at a different hotel to the attendees. No additional details or cost are available as this was not paid for by Techscaler. His flights were also not paid for by Techscaler.

### Japan

Pauline Lecomte	Speech Graphics
Jade Law	Wardog Studios
Elena Höge	Yaldi Games
Justin Alae-Carew	Blazing Griffin
Maxwell-Scott Slade	GLITCHERS
Brian Allen	BearHammer Games Ltd
Robbie Cargill	Buildstash Limited
Jamie Bankhead	Konglomerate Games
Steven Drost (attended on a separate business, not paid for by Techscaler)	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase

Three CodeBase employees attended the programme. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to some of this information.

Techscaler Japan brought eight of Scotland's best gaming companies to Tokyo and Osaka as part of a broader trade mission involving SDI and the Scottish Government. This included a showcase at the Osaka expo.

In line with the contractual obligations outlined above, the role of CodeBase employees included supporting participants with signposting local events and opportunities, building connections with partners including investors and other ecosystem builders, providing pastoral support for the cohort, and linking up with the workspace.

Attendees stayed at the Yotel Ginza in Tokyo and Hotel Hankyu Respire in Osaka. CodeBase employees stayed at the same hotel and location as the attendees. Steven Drost was also present in Japan on separate CodeBase business, timed to coincide with the programme so that he could provide occasional support. Steven stayed at a different hotel than the attendees. No additional details or costs are available as this was not paid for by Techscaler. His flights were also not paid for by Techscaler.

*Please provide a cost breakdown for hotels and flights for each of the trips. Please also detail where, if at all, CodeBase employees or any other attendees paid for their own accommodation or flights and the amounts for this.*

TSV1

Flight Costs	£12,878.71
Accommodation Costs	£34,912.39

TSV2

Flight Costs	£16,588.39
Accommodation Costs	£47,477.84

TSV3

Flight Costs	£15,945.28
Accommodation Costs	£39,641.89

China

Flight Costs	£6,472.66
Accommodation Costs	£5,929.44

Web Summit Conference (Lisbon)

Flight Costs	£1,606.02
Accommodation Costs	£6,380.59

Singapore

Flight Costs	£18,463.98
Accommodation Costs	£21,266.94

Japan

Flight Costs	£20,272.06
Accommodation Costs	£33,380.45

Additional costs charged to Techscaler for programmes and events where CodeBase travelled representing Scotland and the start-up ecosystem internationally can be found below:

SaaStr (San Francisco) 08/09/2022-19/09/2022

Flight Costs	£3,613.61
Accommodation Costs	£8,985.38

Steven Drost	CodeBase
Stephen Coleman	CodeBase
Jim Newberry	CodeBase
Jon Hope	CodeBase

Four CodeBase employees attended this conference.

As part of the Techscaler mobilisation phase CodeBase visited San Francisco to:

- (a) Meet with C-level senior leadership of Reforge, the provider of Techscaler scaleup education, to solidify the new partnership, develop relationships and agree the programme offering.
- (b) Attend SaaStr conference, the world's leading software product and tech startup conference as part of both networking and establishing latest trends to be deployed back into Scotland.

Attendees stayed at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport, Sofitel, London Heathrow and Maldron Hotel, Manchester.

SLUSH (Helsinki) 13/11/2022–17/11/2022

Flight Costs	£502.50
Accommodation Costs	£1,172.74

Steven Drost	CodeBase
Stephen Coleman	CodeBase

Two CodeBase employees attended this conference.

CodeBase attended SLUSH as part of a delegation with Foras, Startup Grind, the Scottish Government and SDI.

Attendees stayed at the Scandic Helsinki Hub.

Saxony (Germany) 26/11/2022-02/12/2022

Flight Costs	£219.21
Accommodation Costs	£158.42

Steven Drost	CodeBase
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<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
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Two CodeBase employees attended this trip. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to some of this information.

Following a previous meeting from representatives of Saxony local government, CodeBase met with representatives of state, big business, startups and academia and participated in a roundtable exchange on the Scottish and Saxony start-up ecosystems. CodeBase also did a presentation on 'What is Techscaler' for members of the ecosystem.

Attendees stayed at Motel One.

Innovation and Tech Show (Brussels) 13/03/2023-16/03/2023

Flight Costs	£0
Accommodation Costs	£275.20

Steven Drost	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase

Two CodeBase employees attended this trip. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to some of this information.

To attend an Innovation and Tech show with the Scottish Government, with the intent to learn from other countries and extend useful business networks.

Attendees stayed at B-aparthotel Grand Place, Pullman Brussels Centre Midi.

New York Tartan Week 10/04/2023-14/04/2023

Flight Costs	£0
Accommodation Costs	£1,055.92

Jon Hope	CodeBase
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One CodeBase employee attended this programme.

To attend a Foras arranged startup programme to NYC Tartan Week alongside Scottish Government representatives. The purpose of which to engage with founders to understand scaling issues, challenges and opportunities and to meet with international connections to enhance the Techscaler and Scottish tech ecosystem network.

The attendee stayed at DoubleTree by Hilton, New York Downtown.

Latitude 59 (Estonia) 23/05/2023-27/05/2023

Flight Costs	£484.99
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Accommodation Costs	£639.77
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<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
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One CodeBase employee attended this conference. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

To network with other ecosystem builders, and scope potential future collaborative events or opportunities to take founders in future.

The attendee stayed at Swissotel, Tallinn.

BECentral (Brussels) 27/06/2023-30/06/2023

Flight Costs	£228.66
Accommodation Costs	£255.29

<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
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One CodeBase employees attended this conference. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

Scottish Government invited CodeBase to the Entrepreneurial Campus Blueprint launch at BECentral in Brussels.

The attendee stayed at Diamant Suites, Brussels

SaaStr (San Francisco) 03/09/2023-08/09/2023

Flight Costs	£3,705.19
Accommodation Costs	£5,332.02

Steven Drost	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
Jon Hope	CodeBase

Three CodeBase employees attended this conference. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to some of this information.

As part of the Techscaler delivery phase of Techscaler CodeBase visited San Francisco to:

- (a) Attend SaaStr conference, the world's leading software product and tech startup conference as part of both networking and establishing latest trends to be deployed back into Scotland.
- (b) Meet with prospective partner who could support in furthering the development of tech and digital skills in Scotland.

Attendees stayed at San Mateo Marriott, San Francisco Airport.



Seven CodeBase employees attended this conference. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

CodeBase travelled to attend the annual Web Summit event for personal development integral to them delivering Techscaler. Web Summit is the world's largest tech conference and is a platform for leading figures in technology, government, and business to connect, network and discuss emerging trends and ideas.

Attendees stayed at Turim Alameda Hotel.

SaaStr (San Francisco) 06/09/2024-13/09/2024

Flight Costs	£2,002.84
Accommodation Costs	£2,286.22

<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
Yasmin Sulaiman	CodeBase

Two CodeBase employees attended this conference. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies some of this information.

As part of the Techscaler delivery phase of Techscaler CodeBase visited San Francisco to:

- (a) Attend SaaStr conference, the world's leading software product and tech startup conference as part of both networking and establishing latest trends to be deployed back into Scotland.
- (b) Meet with prospective partners to broaden investor connections, explore ecosystem partnerships and event partners.

Attendees stayed at the Grand Hyatt and Best Western.

NoCode Summit (Paris) 15/10/2024-19/10/2024

Flight Costs	£609.35
Accommodation Costs	£507.04

<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase

Three CodeBase employees attended this conference. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

CodeBase attended this conference to access content, learning and networks that could enhance their understanding of this critical technology so that it can be used to influence and shape new Techscaler content.

Attendees stayed at Hôtel résidence a la buttes aux cailles.

SLUSH (Helsinki) 19/11/2024-22/11/2024

Flight Costs	£1,589.28
Accommodation Costs	£2,564.34

<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
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<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase

Four CodeBase employees attended this trip. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

CodeBase attended to extend international networks.

Attendees stayed at Marski by Scandic.

Intertrade Ireland VC Conference (Dublin) 04/03/2025-06/03/2025

Flight Costs	£217.10
Accommodation Costs	£255.74

<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase

Two CodeBase employees attended this conference. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

The team attended to explore best practice at a popular conference in the ecosystem which Scotland aspires to learn from. The conference connects early-stage Irish startups with investors, offering a platform for networking, learning about the venture capital landscape, and securing platform for growth.

Attendees stayed at The Croke Park Hotel.

MIT Sloan - Sports Analytics Conference (Boston) 06/03/2025-10/03/2025

Flight Costs	£346.47
Accommodation Costs	£0

<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
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One CodeBase employee attended this trip. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

CodeBase attended to explore the nascent sports tech industry. This conference brings together sports executives, leading researchers, students, and fans to explore how data, technology, and business strategies and transforming sports performance, fan engagement, and business operations.

Accommodation costs for this event were not charged back to Techscaler.

China and Japan 20/05/2025-04/06/2025

Flight Costs	£1,232.31
Accommodation Costs	£474.15
Steven Drost	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase

Two CodeBase employees attended this trip. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to some of this information.

CodeBase were invited to speak at BEYOND Expo, Asia's largest ecosystem event. They also supported Scottish startups who were pitching at the event. They then flew to Japan, where they had been invited to join the Tokyo Innovation Workshop 2025. They met with tech investors who want to establish connections between Japan and Scotland.

Attendees stayed at Oakwood Hotel & Apartments, Azabu Tokyo.

Latitude 59 (Estonia) 20/05/2025-23/05/2025

Flight Costs	£1,125.15
Accommodation Costs	£661.93
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase

Two CodeBase employees attended this trip. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

CodeBase attended the Estonian flagship startup and tech conference, which serves as a major hub for entrepreneurs, investors, and innovators to connect and foster growth in the global tech community.

Attendees stayed at Citybox, Tallinn.

Dublin Tech Fest 27/05/2025-29/05/2025

Flight Costs	£624.93
Accommodation Costs	£1672.16
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase

Four CodeBase employees attended this trip. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

CodeBase attended a major European technology festival held in Dublin that attracts global thought leaders, innovators, and tech professionals to discuss topics like AI, Web3, and cybersecurity. To foster investment and networking opportunities within the city's vibrant tech ecosystem.

Attendees stayed at Clayton Hotel, Ballsbridge.

Tech BBQ (Copenhagen) 26/08/2025-29/08/2025

Flight Costs	£126.21
Accommodation Costs	£391.68

<b>s.38(1)(b) (personal information)</b>	CodeBase
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One CodeBase employees attended this trip. However, exemption s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to this information.

CodeBase attended the leading tech and innovation summit in Scandinavia that has become a major event for entrepreneurs, investors, and tech professionals to connect, share knowledge, and foster growth within the startup ecosystem.

The attendee stayed at ibis Styles, Copenhagen Orestad.

*Please provide what details were provided to the Scottish Government about the partners of CodeBase employees attending the trips. What steps have been taken to ensure the partners paid for their trips and please provide evidence of this is possible?*

No public funds have been spent for any partners of CodeBase employees.