# Leeds firm SPG Intelligence launches to accelerate UK AI adoption amid government push



A Leeds-based technology firm has made a strategic move to capitalise on the burgeoning artificial intelligence (AI) sector by launching a dedicated division aimed at helping UK businesses unlock the economic potential of AI. SPG Intelligence, a new arm of Solution Performance Group, is focusing on delivering advanced cloud intelligence, cyber intelligence, and applied intelligence solutions tailored to meet the demands of both the public and private sectors.

Gareth Humphreys, the group's chief executive, noted the urgent need for organisations to adopt AI, stating, “Our clients aren’t asking if they should use AI; they’re asking how fast they can make it happen.” This sentiment reflects a growing trend across the UK, where firms are keen to integrate AI into their operations as quickly as possible, particularly in light of escalating cybersecurity concerns, which reportedly cost UK businesses an estimated £21 billion annually due to cybercrime.

The launch of SPG Intelligence coincides with recent government initiatives aimed at bolstering the UK’s position in the global AI landscape. The UK government has committed £1.5 billion to fuel AI innovation, a move underscored by Prime Minister Keir Starmer in a recent speech where he articulated the importance of AI as a transformative force for economic growth. The Prime Minister highlighted plans to enhance public computing capabilities and create AI Growth Zones, further positioning the UK as the third-largest market globally for private AI investment, surpassing £20 billion since 2016.

This government focus is not isolated but part of a worldwide race for AI dominance. Countries and major corporations are pouring vast sums into AI development. Notably, the tech giants collectively known as the hyper-scalers—Microsoft, Amazon, Alphabet, Meta, and Oracle—increased their capital expenditures by an impressive 48% in 2024, with a significant portion directed toward AI initiatives. China's investment in AI has also surged, with an initial commitment of $8.20 billion to its own AI investment fund, reflecting the intense competitive landscape.

Despite the enthusiasm surrounding AI, challenges remain. A recent report from the UK's Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) concedes that the rapid pace of AI development may introduce risks, such as the spread of misinformation and increased fraud. The CMA emphasises the necessity of regulatory frameworks to oversee the integration of AI into various sectors, thereby safeguarding against potential abuses.

Moreover, initiatives like the creation of an AI chatbot by the UK government illustrate the ongoing efforts to harness AI for public service enhancements. While initial tests showed mixed results, the chatbot demonstrates a commitment to exploring innovative solutions to assist business users in grappling with complex regulations.

Against this backdrop of promise and caution, SPG Intelligence's commitment to expand its capabilities aligns with the urgent call for comprehensive AI adoption among UK businesses. As they prepare to scale their operations, Humphreys expressed confidence in the growing demand for AI and machine learning projects, asserting that the timing is optimal for broader engagement in this vital area of technology.

As AI continues to reshape industries and create new economic opportunities, firms like SPG Intelligence are poised to play a crucial role in facilitating this transformation, responding to the needs of enterprises eager to navigate the complexities of modern technology.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraph 1: [[1]](https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2025/05/14/spg-intelligence-sets-sights-on-ai-boom)
2. Paragraph 2: [[1]](https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2025/05/14/spg-intelligence-sets-sights-on-ai-boom)
3. Paragraph 3: [[2]](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-speech-on-ai-opportunities-action-plan-13-january-2025), [[5]](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5804/cmselect/cmsctech/38/report.html)
4. Paragraph 4: [[3]](https://www.spglobal.com/market-intelligence/en/news-insights/articles/2025/1/race-to-build-ai-accelerates-as-companies-countries-commit-billions-in-funding-87233486)
5. Paragraph 5: [[7]](https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2023/sep/18/ai-uk-competition-watchdog-cma)
6. Paragraph 6: [[4]](https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2024/nov/05/ai-chatbot-launches-on-govuk-to-help-business-users-with-mixed-results)
7. Paragraph 7: [[1]](https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2025/05/14/spg-intelligence-sets-sights-on-ai-boom)
8. Paragraph 8: [[1]](https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2025/05/14/spg-intelligence-sets-sights-on-ai-boom)

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## Bibliography

* <https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2025/05/14/spg-intelligence-sets-sights-on-ai-boom> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
* <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-speech-on-ai-opportunities-action-plan-13-january-2025> - In a speech delivered on January 13, 2025, Prime Minister Keir Starmer emphasized the UK's commitment to becoming a global leader in artificial intelligence (AI). He highlighted the government's pledge of £1.5 billion to support AI innovation, including significant increases in public compute capacity and the establishment of new AI Growth Zones. The Prime Minister also noted that the UK ranks third globally for private AI investment, having raised over £20 billion since 2016, with expectations of further growth as AI adoption accelerates across various sectors.
* <https://www.spglobal.com/market-intelligence/en/news-insights/articles/2025/1/race-to-build-ai-accelerates-as-companies-countries-commit-billions-in-funding-87233486> - This article discusses the rapid acceleration in AI development as both companies and countries commit substantial funding. It highlights China's launch of an AI investment fund with an initial capital of $8.20 billion, focusing on general equity investment and asset management. The piece also notes that the five major hyperscalers—Microsoft, Amazon, Alphabet, Meta, and Oracle—increased their capital expenditures by 48% in 2024, collectively spending over $231 billion, with a significant portion directed toward AI initiatives.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2024/nov/05/ai-chatbot-launches-on-govuk-to-help-business-users-with-mixed-results> - The Guardian reports on the UK government's launch of an AI chatbot on the Gov.UK website aimed at assisting business users in navigating the complex regulations. The initial test run of the GPT-4o technology showed mixed results; while it could explain regulations, it was unable to provide predictions or opinions. The experimental system is being tested by up to 15,000 business users before potential wider availability.
* <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5804/cmselect/cmsctech/38/report.html> - The UK Parliament's Science, Innovation and Technology Committee published a report on the governance of artificial intelligence (AI). The report discusses the establishment of the i.AI team, comprising 30 technical experts, to design and implement AI solutions across government departments to improve public service delivery. It also highlights the Public Sector Productivity Programme, which aims to secure productivity benefits from applying AI to routine tasks across the public sector, with £4.2 billion allocated for this purpose.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/l0056wxf> - BBC News covers the UK government's launch of its AI plans, with Prime Minister Keir Starmer describing artificial intelligence as the 'defining opportunity' of our generation. The segment discusses the government's commitment to becoming a global leader in AI and the strategic initiatives outlined to harness AI's potential for economic growth and public service transformation.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2023/sep/18/ai-uk-competition-watchdog-cma> - The Guardian reports on the UK's Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) warning that the rapid expansion of artificial intelligence (AI) could have negative outcomes. The CMA highlighted risks such as the proliferation of false information, fraud, fake reviews, and high prices for AI services. The article emphasizes the need for regulatory oversight to mitigate these potential threats as AI technologies become more integrated into various sectors.