# OpenAI and Nvidia commit to transformative UK AI data centre investments amid geopolitical shift



Two of the world’s foremost technology companies, OpenAI and Nvidia, are poised to make a landmark investment in the UK’s data centre landscape, signalling a major boost to the country’s AI infrastructure ambitions. The announcement is expected to coincide with an upcoming visit by former US President Donald Trump to the UK, where leaders from both firms, including OpenAI CEO Sam Altman and Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang, will participate as part of a broader delegation.

According to reports, OpenAI and Nvidia plan to collaborate closely with London-based startup Nscale Global Holdings in this venture. Despite being operational for less than two years, Nscale has ambitions to raise billions of dollars in debt and equity to fuel the expansion of data centres across the UK and Europe. Nscale has already committed approximately $2.5 billion (£1.8 billion) over the next three years to develop such facilities, including the recent acquisition of a site in Loughton, Essex. This site is expected to house up to 45,000 of Nvidia’s next-generation GB200 superchips, a clear indication of the scale and technical sophistication involved.

The investment marks a significant shift in the UK’s data centre sector, which, while growing rapidly—£14 billion was committed to new projects in the first half of 2024 alone according to Cushman & Wakefield data—has so far seen limited direct investments from major US AI firms. This move by OpenAI and Nvidia thus represents a pivotal moment, aligning the UK more closely with global AI infrastructure trends.

This development also fits within a wider strategic context. The partnership aims not just to build capacity but to foster "sovereign" AI infrastructure among US allies, a response to emerging global geopolitical challenges in technology. The UK government is reportedly set to support this initiative by providing crucial energy resources, while OpenAI and Nvidia contribute cutting-edge AI tools and hardware. Such collaboration mirrors similar sovereign infrastructure efforts already underway in regions like the Gulf and the European Union. Nvidia itself has projected that sovereign-related deals could generate over $20 billion in revenue in 2025 alone, underscoring the financial and strategic importance of such ventures.

Further background suggests that these new data centre developments may integrate with OpenAI’s broader Stargate initiative, a colossal global data centre investment programme valued at up to $500 billion and backed by major financiers such as Oracle and Japan’s SoftBank. The Stargate project has already seen OpenAI securing massive cloud computing power leases, including a $30 billion annual contract with Oracle to deliver 4.5 gigawatts of computing capacity. While the UK facilities’ precise link to Stargate remains unconfirmed, parallels can be drawn with OpenAI’s ongoing work on a similar high-powered data centre in Norway, which also involves Nscale and aims to deploy 100,000 Nvidia GPUs powered entirely by renewable energy.

Significantly, this AI-driven infrastructure expansion comes amid increasing investments in the UK data centre sector by other major players. For example, the US private equity firm Blackstone recently confirmed a £10 billion ($13.3 billion) investment for a new AI data centre project in northeast England, which promises to deliver thousands of jobs and revitalise previously underused industrial land. This cluster of investments highlights a surge in confidence toward the UK as a competitive location for digital infrastructure, driven by both commercial opportunity and strategic considerations.

While Nvidia and OpenAI have yet to publicly comment on the plans, and other involved parties remain silent for now, these developments underscore the UK’s growing role in the global AI infrastructure ecosystem. The announced investments are expected to deepen transatlantic ties in technology, foster local economic growth, and position the UK as a key hub for next-generation AI powered by advanced computing hardware.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.bisnow.com/london/news/data-center/openai-and-nvidia-to-pour-billions-into-uk-data-centres-130937), [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/openai-nvidia-set-announce-uk-data-center-investments-bloomberg-news-reports-2025-09-12/), [[3]](https://www.ft.com/content/522c141a-39dc-4fb7-a7d8-8fa01e6ef27d)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.bisnow.com/london/news/data-center/openai-and-nvidia-to-pour-billions-into-uk-data-centres-130937), [[7]](https://www.datacenterdynamics.com/en/news/nvidia-and-openai-to-spend-billions-on-uk-data-centers-report/)
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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.bisnow.com/london/news/data-center/openai-and-nvidia-to-pour-billions-into-uk-data-centres-130937> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/openai-nvidia-set-announce-uk-data-center-investments-bloomberg-news-reports-2025-09-12/> - OpenAI and Nvidia are poised to announce substantial investments in UK data centers during an upcoming visit to the country, coinciding with a trip by U.S. President Donald Trump, according to Bloomberg News. The initiative, in collaboration with London-based Nscale Global Holdings, is expected to involve billions of dollars and highlights the surging demand for digital infrastructure powered by advancements in artificial intelligence and cloud computing. OpenAI CEO Sam Altman and Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang are among the U.S. tech leaders scheduled to visit the UK as part of a larger delegation. Bloomberg also reports that several American companies across various industries are planning significant investments in the UK during Trump's visit. Nvidia declined to comment, and other involved parties have not responded to requests for comment.
3. <https://www.ft.com/content/522c141a-39dc-4fb7-a7d8-8fa01e6ef27d> - OpenAI’s Sam Altman and Nvidia’s Jensen Huang are set to announce a significant artificial intelligence infrastructure investment in the UK during a state visit with US President Donald Trump next week. The initiative aims to support the development of new data centers across the UK, potentially worth billions, as part of a broader push to establish “sovereign” AI infrastructure among US allies. The UK government will contribute energy resources, while OpenAI and Nvidia will provide AI tools and hardware. This deal follows a global trend, with Nvidia estimating its sovereign deals could bring in over $20 billion in revenue in 2025. Similar efforts have taken place in the Gulf region and the EU, where major AI investment funds and strategies have been launched. The announcement continues a series of collaborations between tech giants and governments, including the massive $500 billion Stargate project in the US. While the full details of the upcoming UK investment are yet to be finalized, it signals deepening ties between American tech firms and Western governments seeking AI independence. Neither Nvidia, OpenAI, nor UK and US government bodies have commented yet.
4. <https://www.ft.com/content/b4324903-ff53-48c2-bf71-4151cd4f68d0> - OpenAI has signed a major $30 billion annual deal with Oracle to lease 4.5 gigawatts of computing power, marking one of the largest cloud computing agreements in AI to date. The deal is part of OpenAI's ambitious "Stargate" initiative, launched with SoftBank in January 2025, to invest up to $500 billion in building data centers globally, backed by $50 billion from founding partners including Oracle and Abu Dhabi’s MGX fund. Oracle, which will construct multiple U.S. data centers and expand an existing 1.2GW facility in Abilene, Texas, has seen its shares surge to record highs as a result. The contract significantly boosts Oracle’s cloud infrastructure business, which earned $10.3 billion in 2025, and aligns with founder Larry Ellison’s goal of making Oracle the leading cloud infrastructure provider. Oracle also plans to invest $25 billion in capital expenditure next year and purchase $40 billion worth of Nvidia’s powerful GB200 chips. This move reflects OpenAI's strategy to diversify beyond Microsoft, its largest investor and former exclusive cloud provider, by securing additional capacity through new partnerships with providers like Google and CoreWeave.
5. <https://www.reuters.com/technology/artificial-intelligence/blackstone-confirms-13-bln-investment-britain-ai-data-centre-2024-09-25/> - Blackstone, the U.S. private equity firm, has confirmed a £10 billion ($13.3 billion) investment for an AI data center in northeast England, which will be situated on a previously derelict site in Blyth, Northumberland. The project, set to begin construction next year, is expected to create 4,000 jobs, with 1,200 dedicated to construction alone. This comes after previous plans for an electric vehicle battery factory fell through when Britishvolt collapsed last year. The new data center represents a rare growth opportunity for commercial landlords amidst declining prices of other assets. As part of the agreement, Blackstone will also invest £110 million in a local fund for skills training and transportation infrastructure improvements in Blyth.
6. <https://uk.investing.com/news/stock-market-news/openai-announces-stargate-norway-data-center-with-100000-nvidia-gpus-93CH-4195244> - OpenAI revealed plans for Stargate Norway, its first European AI data center under the OpenAI for Countries program, targeting 100,000 NVIDIA GPUs by the end of 2026. The facility, located in Narvik, will initially deliver 230MW of capacity with potential to expand by an additional 290MW in the years ahead. The project represents one of Europe’s most ambitious AI infrastructure investments to date, leveraging Norway’s abundant hydropower, low-cost energy, cool climate, and mature industrial base. The facility will run entirely on renewable power and incorporate closed-loop, direct-to-chip liquid cooling, with excess heat made available to support low-carbon enterprises in the region. OpenAI has partnered with Nscale, an AI infrastructure provider, and Aker, an energy and industry company with a century-long legacy.
7. <https://www.datacenterdynamics.com/en/news/nvidia-and-openai-to-spend-billions-on-uk-data-centers-report/> - In total, the company is planning to spend $2.5 billion ($3bn) in the UK. In a separate announcement made at London Tech Week, Huang said GPU giant Nvidia would be working with Nscale to deploy 10,000 of its Blackwell GPUs in the UK by the end of 2026, presumably at the Loughton data center, though he didn’t specify a location. It is unclear if the upcoming announcement is separate from this plan. The three companies are already working together on Stargate Norway, OpenAI’s data center in the Nordic nation. It will be located in Kvandal, outside Narvik, northern Norway, and will have an initial 230MW of power, with an additional 290MW potentially available in the future. The data center will target to deliver 100,000 Nvidia GPUs by the end of 2026, with plans to expand "significantly" in the years ahead. It is not clear if the UK data center scheme will fall under the Stargate umbrella, though OpenAI has previously said the brand will be used for all its future digital infrastructure projects.