BRE Trust Strategy 2017-2021
The BRE Trust is the largest independent charity in the UK dedicated to improving the built environment for the benefit of people. Created in 1997 following the privatisation of BRE, the Trust uses the profits made by the BRE Group of companies to fund new research and education programmes that help to meet its goal of ‘building a better world together’.

For the last 20 years the BRE Trust has supported the BRE Group to develop products, services, standards and qualifications which bring about positive change in the global built environment. It has also supported its university partners and the wider built environment community by commissioning relevant research to deliver new information and insight which has, in turn, extended knowledge and skills. During this time the BRE Trust has become a valuable and respected brand.

It has funded over £20m research, published over 300 new or revised titles and supported more than 300 post-graduates through its university partnerships during this time. It has leveraged significant additional funding from both government and private sector sources, resulting in a growing network of partners and collaborators.

We are however, facing changing times with global trends and drivers such as population growth, increased urbanisation, climate change adaption and resource depletion, along with the acceleration of international development. This has resulted in significant challenges for the sectors that deliver and operate built environment assets and also the people and businesses that occupy them. New knowledge, innovation and skills will be required to meet these challenges, and this is where the BRE Trust will help.

The advancement of digital technology has both disrupted and enabled the way in which traditional products and services are deployed, and the rate of change continues at a pace. The BRE Trust has already embraced the use of digital dissemination platforms but will play a more active part in adopting digital approaches in its research and education programmes for the benefit of its community.

The Trust has largely focused on aspects of the UK and European markets. However, the communities its supports operate globally, so extending the outreach and impact of the charity internationally is a key goal. This will be achieved through new strategic partnerships and new funding sources.

It is, therefore, the right time for the development of a dedicated strategy to ensure that the BRE Trust becomes a digitally led, global leader in the built environment, demonstrating value and extending its impact on behalf of industry and wider society both in the UK and internationally.
The BRE Trust is a leading global charity dedicated specifically to research and education in the built environment.

**Objectives**

1. To grow the size and impact of the programme
2. To extend international research delivery and influence
3. To increase global outreach and engagement
4. To support integrated lifetime learning
5. To maintain and protect reputation and independence
6. Actively support the success of the built environment sector

**Our vision**

To enrich the lives and businesses of citizens by supporting the delivery of sustainable buildings, communities and cities.

**Our mission**

To enable transformational change within the built environment through research, demonstration and education as a premier charitable Trust.

The research we carry out and the knowledge we generate helps those working across the built environment to create a better homes, buildings, infrastructure and communities. We create impacts which influence social, environmental and economic change for the benefit of people.

- Resilience to climate changes
- Enhanced resource efficiency
- Reduced CO₂ emissions
- Improved resource efficiency
- Reduced injury and death onsite
- Healthy cities
- Extended independent living
- Increased asset value
- Extended knowledge economy
- Increased productivity
- Reduced injury and death onsite
The BRE Trust programmes encompass the full scope of the built environment.

**People**
- People – the social interaction of citizens with the built environment, exploring health, productivity, safety and wellbeing. Considering the impact of demographic changes and cultural differences on future assets.

**Recent topics**
- Independent living
- Productivity and wellbeing
- Environmental impact on health
- Biophilic design

**Property**
- Property – the delivery of assets which are built and operated efficiently and sustainably, increasing value to businesses who occupy them. Resource efficiency, renewable and efficient energy and adaptability to future changes of use are critical factors.

**Recent topics**
- Building quality and safety
- Modern methods of Construction
- Whole systems Security
- Building Performance monitoring

**Places**
- Places – the robustness and resilience of communities and cities to natural and man-made external environmental influences. Climatic effects, biodiversity and the interaction between buildings and their surroundings are a priority.

**Recent topics**
- Air quality
- Flood resilience
- City systems
- Post-disaster recovery
BRE Trust funded research commissions world class capabilities to investigate new challenges and opportunities, providing evidence-based data and information that industry needs to ensure a healthy, safe and sustainable built environment.

**Future focus**
- Wider international context of industry and societal challenges
- Connect and integrate with other world class researchers globally
- Multidisciplinary approach and collaborative working to ensure outputs are shared widely

**Programmes:**

**research**

300+ projects supported in the last 10 years

200+ direct partners from gov, industry and academia

£26 million direct funding, £50 million+ leveraged

Future focus

The BRE Trust has shared the outputs of its research through validated publications and tools to highlight new knowledge and data, as well as illustrate the potential of new technologies and innovations.

**dissemination and demonstration**

The BRE Trust has shared the outputs of its research through validated publications and tools to highlight new knowledge and data, as well as illustrate the potential of new technologies and innovations.

**Future focus**
- Use of digital platforms to extend outreach globally
- Evaluate the potential of innovations through demonstrators and pilot projects
- Showcase new innovations to increase industry uptake

£4 million direct funding, £2 million+ leveraged funding in last 10 years

300+ new or updated titles supported

100,000+ visitors to BRE Innovation Parks

over 100,000 direct sales and 2 million downloads
The learning and skills programme ensures that outputs from research are valid to create new training modules, supporting the learning needs of professionals in our industry now and in the future.

**Future focus**
- Transfer of existing knowledge to new active learning outputs
- Extend static knowledge to active learning via certified training
- Alignment/partnership with relevant skills providers to ensure consistency of validated content and maximise outputs

**Programmes: learning and skills**

- **5000+** graduates of BRE Academy
- **120** CPD modules produced

**University partnerships**

The Trust launched its University Partnerships programme in 2006 to extend research and teaching capabilities activities relevant to the built environment our extending network in the UK and abroad is extending the capabilities for research and teaching in the built environment.

- CE University
- Innovation Park
- BRE University Centre for Excellence
- BRE Strategic partnership
- BRE Academy Partners

Online delivery now **20%+** of total training provision
Part of the BRE Trust
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The BRE Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales.
No. 1092193 and Scotland No. SCO39320