

READING REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION

Review 2026

Henley Business School
UNIVERSITY OF READING

RREF
Reading Real Estate Foundation

Our focus



Peter Miskell
Chair of the Board of Trustees, Reading Real Estate Foundation (RREF)
Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education and Student Experience), University of Reading

I'm delighted to share another impressive year of achievements for RREF.

Through the generosity of your support, we have been able to ensure that RREF continues to play a crucial role in ensuring that our students continue to be supported and enriched during the course of their time at University. This has been particularly welcomed at a time when the higher education sector faces complex organisational and economical challenges, on behalf of all my fellow Trustees, thank you.

The Department of Real Estate and Planning has once again achieved outstanding rankings, with RREF right alongside the academics and professional services staff in supporting student experience on and off campus. Land and Property Management was ranked 1st in the UK, both overall and for research quality (Complete University Guide 2027), whilst Construction, Surveying and Planning was ranked 1st in the UK for graduate prospects (Guardian University Guide 2026). These results and others are a testament to the strength of Real Estate and Planning as a discipline at Reading, and to the impact of our work in supporting students to engage positively with industry professionals.

Next year RREF marks its 25th Anniversary, a fantastic milestone for the foundation, with a full year of celebratory activity planned I am excited to see our community come together and celebrate as we not only look back and reflect on 25 successful years of RREF but continue to look forward to ensuring there are many more years to come. Thank you once again for being part of our story – I look forward to sharing more in the next Anniversary special review.



Kerry Johnston
Executive Director, Reading Real Estate Foundation (RREF)
Director of Engagement, Employability and Entrepreneurship, Henley Business School

In an increasingly competitive economic climate for students and institutions, another busy academic year has passed for RREF as we continue to support initiatives and activities that raise awareness of the industry.

Thanks to RREF donors and industry supporters, 2026 saw another fantastically well attended Pathways to Property Summer school, encouraging diversity and new talent into the sector, alongside the vitally important activities that create a unique experience for our students. Despite the challenging environment, your support enables students to continue to feel the impact of RREF during their education, whether this is through student funding to enable attendance, hardship grants for students in crisis, enhanced enrichment at our Evening Lectures or through the vital connections to industry that our RREF Mentoring Scheme provides for students.

The strength and breadth of our community was truly reflected at our RREF Recognition Evening, a standout night of the year for us. It was amazing to hear speeches from our bursary recipients with supporters, mentors and students in attendance and able to see the impact of RREF. If you couldn't join this year, I hope to welcome you soon.

RREF, wouldn't be RREF without the community of alumni, donors and supporters that are a vital part of what has enabled RREF to stay so strong for the last 24 years, and as we look forward to our 25th Anniversary year in 2027 I look forward to celebrating and connecting with you. But once again, thank you.

Meet the Board on p.20

Connecting industry and academia to widen opportunity

As Reading Real Estate Foundation (RREF) approaches its 25th anniversary, we proudly celebrate the partnerships that have transformed lives, advanced research and strengthened the real estate profession over the past quarter of a century.

Since its establishment in 2002, RREF has brought together academia and industry to widen access to careers in real estate, support world-leading research and foster collaboration that benefits students, industry and society.

Positioned within Henley Business School and aligned with one of Europe's leading centres for Real Estate and Planning, RREF is uniquely placed to connect academic excellence with professional practice. Through the generosity and commitment of our supporters, we continue to encourage talented students from all backgrounds to pursue careers in real estate, support early-career researchers exploring the challenges facing the sector, and create opportunities for industry and academia to work together in shaping the future of the profession.

As we look ahead to our 25th year, we remain committed to building a more diverse, innovative and sustainable real estate sector. None of this would be possible without the continued support of our donors, corporate partners and volunteers, whose generosity enables us to create opportunities that benefit students, industry and society alike.

Increasing diversity

Our Pathways to Property project aims to widen access to the real estate profession by raising awareness of and aspirations about the vast range of careers available within the sector.



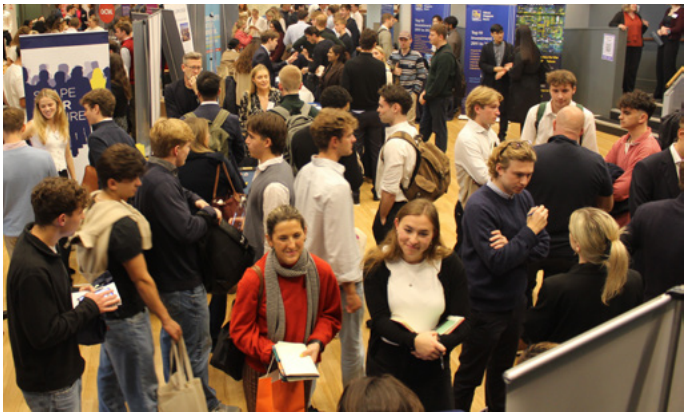
Developing talent

Through our financial support and student engagement programme we strive to ensure that the same opportunities are available to all students with the talent and ability to study at Henley Business School, regardless of their personal circumstances.



Exploring new ideas

We support the internationally recognised, cutting-edge research from the Department of Real Estate and Planning at Henley Business School through PhD funding for new talent; seed funding for new lines of enquiry; and funding of new innovations in teaching and learning.



Your impact

Thanks to the generosity and ongoing commitment of our donors during the 2025–26 academic year, we have continued to deliver a wide range of initiatives across our three strategic pillars: widening access to the sector, increasing awareness of the diverse career opportunities available, and driving innovation and research.

Your support enables us to attract talented students to the Department of Real Estate and Planning at Henley Business School, regardless of their background, and to equip them with the skills and opportunities needed to succeed in the industry through mentoring, professional development and industry engagement.

It also allows us to advance pioneering research that expands knowledge, informs practice and helps shape the future of the real estate and planning professions.

Through your continued support, we are creating opportunities for the next generation of industry leaders.

RREF Highlights 2025/26

23
UG and PG prizes awarded

£ 222,802
total amount disbursed to students

12
internship bursaries

£ 59,000
disbursed to 8 students as greatest financial need bursaries

245
mentoring partnerships

£ 21,231
disbursed over 12 access internship summer bursaries

3
seed-funded research projects

£ 62,340
disbursed as 3 PhD studentships

135
participants at Summer School 2026







"This has been one of the most rewarding experiences I have had. I leave with a far greater understanding of the real estate industry, increased confidence, new friendships, valuable skills and an even greater motivation to pursue a career within the sector. Thank you to everyone who made this incredible opportunity possible!

Pathways to Property Summer School 2026 Participant



Widening access to the industry

Pathways to Property

Launched in 2012, the Pathways to Property project aims to widen access to the real estate profession by raising awareness of and aspirations about the vast range of careers available within the sector. Led by RREF, the project was established as a response to the recognised lack of diversity in the industry. Through a successful outreach programme, the project exposes students from less advantaged and non-traditional backgrounds to opportunities within the property industry.

Summer School

The fourteenth Pathways to Property Summer School took place between 14-17 July 2026, at the University of Reading campus. 135 students from Year 12 of school/college joined us over the course of four days to take part in taster lectures, a site visit, sessions offering careers advice, a group project and the opportunity to meet a selection of recent graduates, apprentices and professionals during a vibrant careers fair. In addition to learning about the property industry, the participants were able to learn some key networking skills, develop their confidence, improve teamwork, presentation and time management skills and meet other like-minded young people. We will continue to work closely with the participants through the course of the Pathways programme and they will be invited to take part in both our work experience and e-mentoring programme. They will also be able to apply for a bursary of up to £30,000 in financial support if they study a property related degree at Henley Business School over three years of study, as well as additional support as required from the team to progress their journey into the industry. We would like to thank all the industry volunteers who joined us during the Summer School to share their experiences with the participants and provide feedback on their final presentations. Many thanks also to Lincoln for hosting the outstanding site visit this year.

948
applications to the 2026 Summer School

56%
of the 2026 Summer School attendees were female

1,422
students have completed our Summer School since 2012

135
Summer School attendees in 2026

83%
of the 2026 Summer School attendees were living in area of deprivation (IMD Quintile 1 or 2)

Additional activities

We have delivered seven Insight Days in Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge and two in London. 138 young people attended these events. Insight Days give young people an alternative way to engage in the programme, strengthening engagement with schools and industry partners in locations across the UK. At these events, participants develop knowledge of the industry, undertake a site visit and present project work to a panel of industry experts. Participants of Insight Days can join the Summer School participants in being able to undertake work experience placements, e-mentoring and apply for bursaries as a part of their journey on the Pathways to Property programme. A Taster day was held by the Real Estate and Planning department at the University of Reading for those who applied to our summer school, but weren't able to secure a place.

Open Online Course (OOC)

The OOC has been designed by leading academics at Henley Business School to encourage more students to consider pursuing a career in property. Lasting three weeks and requiring around 6 hours of study, the online course is a great resource for younger students beginning to think about their career options or students that are unable to join the Pathways to Property Summer School. Since the course was launched in 2018, around 32,000 students have signed up to complete the OOC.

School outreach

The Pathways to Property team attended multiple online and face to-face careers events throughout 2025-26 to get young people thinking about careers in property and answer their questions. These events were a mixture of school talks, webinars and careers events. In addition, we provided schools with a selection of pre-recorded content that could be shared with students, providing them with more information about careers in property, routes into the industry and how to get support through the Pathways to Property programme.

> "This experience [2026 Pathways to Property Summer School] strengthened my passion for pursuing a career in real estate development and planning. It conveyed to me that great developments are not just about impressive buildings, they are about creating places that are inclusive, accessible and beneficial for everyone.
>
> **Pathways to Property Summer School 2026 Participant**

86%
Summer School attendees were eligible to receive free school meals

78%
attendees are likely or very likely to consider a career in property

74
participants undertook work experience placements in 2025-26

In 2025-26 we...

Attended **26** events

Engaged with at least

2,100 students

78 teachers







Access Internships

Alongside the Pathways to Property programme, we continue to champion equal access to the sector by raising awareness, improving understanding, and showcasing the wide range of career opportunities available in Real Estate and Planning.

RREF Access Internships

We are committed to promoting Real Estate and Planning as a field of study and career choice for talented students from all backgrounds.

The Access Internship Scheme is central to this ambition, helping to remove social and experiential barriers to entry for students from a wide range of backgrounds, including those who may not have existing professional connections within the sector.

In the summer of 2026, eleven students completed internships across ten host firms. The programme was hugely successful in helping participants build confidence, expand their professional networks, and strengthen their employability in a competitive job market.

We are hugely grateful to this year's host firms for their valued support, which plays a fundamental role in the success of the scheme.

10 companies involved

11 students participated

£20,531 jointly funded by RREF and host firms as access summer bursaries

> "These programmes are important because they create opportunities for students who may not have existing industry connections. They help make the property industry more accessible by providing meaningful work experience, professional guidance, and networking opportunities.
>
> **Katie, Access Internship Scheme 2026 participant**

The AreYou? Bursary

Established in 2023 through the generosity of real estate entrepreneur Richard Upton, the AreYou? Bursary supports talented undergraduate students from non-traditional backgrounds who face financial barriers to studying Real Estate and Planning at Henley Business School. The bursary provides £20,000 per year throughout each recipient's three-year degree, enabling students to focus on their studies and make the most of the opportunities available to them.



Financial support

RREF is committed to supporting students financially – from providing bursaries that help them attend university to offering up to £1,000 Hardship Grants for those facing unexpected financial difficulties. Without this support, many students would be unable to begin or complete their studies, with their future prospects significantly affected by their circumstances.

£5,215 disbursed to 8 students as hardship grants

£57,500 disbursed to 8 students as pathways to property bursaries

£59,000 disbursed to 8 students as greatest financial need bursaries

> "The bursary has helped remove financial stress from my university experience and opened more opportunities for me to explore different sectors with real estate. It has allowed me to attend open days, join talks, and take part in workshops without worrying about cost. It has also given me space to think about my goals, join societies and have a study – life balance.
>
> **BSc Student, Aubrey Orchid-Lisle Bursary recipient 2025-26**

> "Receiving this bursary has had a significant impact on both my academic journey and personal wellbeing. It has provided me with financial stability, allowing me to focus fully on my studies without the added pressure of needing to work part time.
>
> **Oliver, MSc student, Drivers Jonas 1725 Bursary recipient 2025-26**

> "I am incredibly grateful, not only to them, but for the many opportunities and doors that have been opened for me. Your support has not only eased financial pressures but has directly enabled me to maximise the opportunities available at university
>
> **BSc Student, Landsec Bursary recipient 2024–25**

> "Looking back, I am very aware of how much this bursary has shaped my experience at university. It has allowed me to study and grow with focus and ambition while still enjoying everything university life has to offer. I am truly grateful for your generosity and for the positive impact your support continues to have on students like me.
>
> **BSc student, Keith Eliott Bursary recipient 2024–25**



Student support

In addition to financial support, RREF delivers a range of activities that provide REP students with valuable networking opportunities and help them build industry connections while supporting their personal and professional development.

RREF Careers Fair

The annual RREF Careers Fair offers students a valuable opportunity to deepen their understanding of the real estate industry and gain practical insights. It enables students to connect with a wide range of companies, build their professional networks, and prepare for upcoming internship and graduate placement opportunities. For participating firms, the fair is also a chance to engage with talented students who benefit from a high-quality education.

35 employers

270 students attended

Student Wellbeing Programme

Since 2019, RREF has funded the Student Wellbeing Programme, providing tailored support to students studying Real Estate and Planning. The programme helps students navigate academic pressures, maintain their wellbeing and develop practical strategies to support their success throughout their studies.

Led by Dr Alicia Peña Bizama, a Chartered Counselling Psychologist and Occupational Psychologist, the programme offers one-to-one tutorials both in person and online, providing students with a confidential and supportive space to discuss challenges and develop strategies to help them reach their full potential.

In the 2025-26 academic year, it placed particular emphasis on the transition into studies. Engagement remained strong across both undergraduate and postgraduate students, including home and international cohorts. Students consistently described the support as a valuable and supportive resource during their time at university.

> "Overall, the event gave me a great chance to network and left me much more confident in the areas of real estate that I could see myself in. Moreover, I felt I gained a more robust knowledge of the Real Estate industry as a whole. Many thanks to RREF for this fair.
>
> **BSc Real Estate Student**

> "I never imagined how profoundly it would impact me. From the moment I connected with Alicia, her support was unwavering [...] Her empathy, understanding, and practical guidance helped me rebuild not only my confidence but also my mental resilience.
>
> **MSc Real Estate Student**

RREF mentoring

Eighteen years after it was first launched, the RREF Mentoring programme continues to change the lives of aspiring Real Estate professionals at Henley Business School. Balancing intensive study with active preparation for life in the workplace can be highly challenging.

Our mentors provide invaluable guidance and support to help ease this transition. From advising on job applications and sharing industry insights, to opening doors and helping students expand their professional networks, the mentors on this programme continue to make a significant difference to our students.

How can I get involved?

Our mentors play an important role in helping students build their confidence, knowledge and networks as they explore careers in Real Estate and Planning. Through sharing their experiences, offering practical advice on applications and interviews, and introducing students to their professional networks, mentors provide valuable insight and encouragement as students take their next steps towards a career in the sector.

The progress students make through these relationships is hugely rewarding to see, and the time and expertise our mentors contribute can make a lasting difference. We are always looking to grow our mentor community and welcome professionals who would like to support the next generation of talent.

Thank you to all our mentors for the time, commitment and expertise you continue to give to our students.

245

mentoring partnerships in 2025–26

The impact on mentees

> "Having a mentor has been really useful and reassuring as I have someone in the industry who I can ask questions and learn from.
>
> **BSc Real Estate student, 2025-26**

> "Being paired with a mentor through RREF gave me a much clearer picture of how the industry actually works day to day. The practical insight and honest advice I've had access to has been invaluable in shaping my career direction.
>
> **BSc Real Estate Finance student, 2025-26**

Mentors experience

> "Mentoring has given me tremendous self satisfaction and enjoyment by meeting so many talented young people who I am confident will enhance the quality of the profession.
>
> **Mentor since 2016**

If you would like to become a mentor, find out more **here**

RREF Recognition Evening

This year's RREF Recognition Evening saw more than 100 guests come together to celebrate the life changing impact of RREF, thanks to our generous hosts, Stephenson Harwood LLP.

A number of new initiatives were introduced to help facilitate networking between industry guests and our students. Prior to the event, students were offered the chance of some coaching in networking skills to help them feel more confident in approaching our supporters on the evening. We also provided guests with colour-coded lanyards so that guests could tell the difference between students and our industry guests. The result was a vibrant and dynamic networking session. Students gained invaluable insights into the industry, and our supporters not only learned how they are making a real difference, but also heard about some of the challenges facing the next generation of Real Estate professionals.

We heard from two beneficiaries who told of the profound impact the support of RREF has had. Kimy Mahan, who attended Pathways Summer School, and is a recipient of the Pathways Bursary said *"A sincere thank you to everyone who supports RREF. What you're doing truly makes a difference. It opens doors for students like me and gives us the chance to aim higher."*

We also heard from second year student, Margaret Bouh: *"Coming from a background where higher education wasn't something I was naturally exposed to, stepping into this space has been a big transition. Through RREF, I've been able to bridge the gap between where I started and where I want to go. I hope to build a career in real estate: contribute positively to communities, and be part of shaping spaces that genuinely improve people's everyday lives. RREF will continue to play a vital role in that journey. The network, the opportunities, and the continued support in development will help me navigate the industry, grow professionally, and ultimately give back in the future. Your support genuinely changes lives. I am a direct example of that."*

Our 2027 Recognition Evening will be even bigger and better, as we celebrate 25 Years of RREF support. We will share details with you as soon as these are available.









Supporting academic excellence

£12,250 disbursed to 2 students as John Miles Memorial Scholarships

£62,340 disbursed to 3 students in RREF PhD Scholarships

John Miles Memorial Scholarship

The John Miles Memorial Scholarship Fund was launched in 2022 in memory of Reading alumnus John Miles by his former business partners. The scholarship celebrates academic excellence and supports outstanding students studying an undergraduate degree in Real Estate and Planning.

Since the 2024-25 academic year, the scholarship has been awarded as a tuition fee scholarship, covering the recipient's second year of study. The award is given to the highest performing first year student across the three Real Estate and Planning undergraduate programmes, based on their overall end of year marks. Alongside the financial support provided through the scholarship, recipients have the opportunity to gain valuable industry experience through work experience opportunities with Green & Partners and DTRE.

In 2025 the Scholarship was awarded to Gemma Lance who is studying BSc Real Estate. She says:

> "I am absolutely delighted to be this year's recipient of the John Miles Memorial Fund. This is an incredible achievement for me and will have a significant impact on my life at Reading. It is such a generous award and will go a long way to help me concentrate on my studies.
>
> **Gemma Lance, 2025-26 recipient**

PhD scholarships

We are committed to advancing research and support postgraduate students undertaking PhDs in Real Estate and Planning, helping them to begin their research careers at Henley Business School.

These awards play an important role in strengthening the department's research community, enabling us to attract talented researchers and give them the time, resources and academic environment to develop.

In 2025-26, the below candidates received a RREF PhD Studentship:

- **Amirhossein Bakhshi, research topic:** Big data insights into residential segregation and its impact on housing prices.
- **Gyojun Shin, research topic:** The impact of sea-level rise and government funding for coastal erosion risk management on commercial property price.
- **Boo Il Lim, research topic:** The Influence of ESG Disagreement on REIT Risks and Returns; Different responses to Climate-related risks according to the ESG rating agencies create confusion for investors.

> "RREF's support has continued to play an important role in my PhD journey, giving me the stability and opportunities to develop as both a researcher and an academic. Over the past year, I have been able to advance my research, present my work at national and international conferences, contribute to teaching, and engage more actively with the wider academic community. These experiences have significantly strengthened my confidence, skills and academic ambitions.
>
> **Amirhossein Bakhshi, PhD Student**

Corporate support

Creating shared value through partnership

5

Corporate Patrons

We are incredibly grateful to our Corporate Patrons for their continued generosity, commitment and partnership. Their support extends far beyond financial contributions, helping to develop future talent, advance research and strengthen connections between academia and the real estate profession.

As strategic partners of Reading Real Estate Foundation, our Corporate Patrons benefit from meaningful opportunities to engage with the next generation of real estate professionals. Through initiatives such as our mentoring programme, Real Estate Careers' Fair and RREF Evening Lecture Series, they build relationships with talented students, raise their employer profile and share industry knowledge and expertise. These partnerships also offer valuable opportunities for employee development and volunteering, while demonstrating a shared commitment to social mobility, education and the future of the profession. Together, we are creating lasting value for students, industry and wider society.

Together, our Corporate Patrons are helping to:

- **Develop future talent** through mentoring, careers events and industry engagement.
- **Advance research and innovation** by supporting academic research and early-career researchers.
- **Strengthen collaboration** between academia and the real estate profession.
- **Create opportunities for students** through bursaries, scholarships and employability initiatives.
- **Shape the future of the profession** by championing diversity, innovation and responsible leadership.

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Knight Frank

ELDRIDGE

savills

Industry Sponsored Prizes

RREF works in partnership with industry sponsors to offer a range of prizes designed to motivate students to achieve their full potential. These awards recognise academic excellence and encourage students to make the most of the outstanding resources, teaching, and support available at Henley Business School. Prizes are awarded both for exceptional coursework and, at graduation, for overall academic achievement and excellence. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Savills and Stephenson Harwood LLP for their generous support of our prizes this year.

- **£3,516** total disbursed as **industry sponsored prizes**
- **18** Savills Teamwork prizes, totalling **£1,516**
- 2 Stephenson Harwood Property Law Student Prizes, totalling **£2,000**

RREF Sponsored Prizes

Thanks to the generous support of RREF's Corporate Patrons and individual donors, the Foundation is able to fund a number of prizes each year. These awards recognise academic achievement and outstanding engagement, celebrating students who have made an exceptional contribution to the Department while encouraging excellence across the Real Estate and Planning community.

If your organisation shares our ambition to develop future talent, strengthen industry-academic collaboration and shape the future of real estate, find out more **here**

Teaching and learning

Funded research

The Department of Real Estate and Planning has enjoyed over 55 years of academic excellence and its programmes are regularly ranked among the best in the UK. With decades-strong links to the property industry, the department's faculty have been curating a significant knowledge exchange for many years. Current students, graduates and the industry all benefit greatly from this partnership and the knowledge that is produced has a discernible impact beyond academia.

5
research projects supported

£10k
awarded in seed funding



RREF seed funding

One way that RREF contributes to this activity is by providing seed funding for new areas of enquiry. Examples of how such funding is spent includes: student research assistance for data collection and analysis, support for the costs of interviews and fieldwork, and funding for hosting workshops and symposia that have facilitated collaboration and enabled the dissemination of research to new audiences. The following projects were among those receiving funding in 2025/26:

- **Alexandros Skouralis**
  Measuring the impact of flood risk on UK commercial properties
- **Carlo Corradini & Lukas Makovsky**
  Rail disinvestment and uneven regional innovation: causal evidence from the 'Beeching Axe'
- **Pin-te Lin & Yuan Zhao**
  Corporate (Re)Location and Housing Affordability
- **Xiaolun Yu**
  Urban Control Policies, City Development, and Housing Markets: Evidence from China

The David Robins Fund

Another way RREF supports quality research is through the David Robins Fund. The David Robins Fund has been created with the generous bequest of Dr David Robins, a Geography alumnus who graduated from Reading in 1954 before going on to gain a PhD and develop a career in town planning, notably developing the discipline in South Africa.

The fund has been created in David's memory to support the development of outstanding research in Town and Country Planning at the Department of Real Estate & Planning. This year the following project received funding from the David Robins Fund.

Professor Gavin Parker, Dr Mark Dobson & RA Jingheng Huang were awarded £4908.22 in funding to pursue the question, 'What Motivates Planning Activist Groups in England? Empirical evidence from the Community Planning Alliance membership.'

Opportunity and Impact:

Strengthening the RREF network for all

The RG10 Committee saw some notable changes this year with the appointment of new Co-Chairs – Ryan Letley and Lauren Trigg. Previous Chair, David White, made an enormous difference in the role, bringing in new event ideas, focusing on the provision of invaluable benefits for the RG10 members and ensuring the RG10 activities aligned with the overall RREF aims. We are truly grateful for all his hard work and are delighted that he has now joined our Engagement Committee.

Under new leadership, the Committee continues to deliver a range of activities for Real Estate and Planning graduates from the past decade. This year they have worked hard to bring back Site Visits to their portfolio, and have looked at the best times to host networking events to offer most benefits to our new graduates. They are also continuing their series of webinars providing insight into global Real Estate careers.

If you have opportunities that would be beneficial to our recent graduates, such as site visits or hosting a panel or networking event, please get in touch here. **rref-info@henley.ac.uk**

RG10
Reading Real Estate Foundation

Connect with the RG10s **here**

RREF Engagement Committee

The first year of the newly formed Engagement Committee has proven to be highly impactful. The committee has been instrumental in helping design a programme of activity throughout the year, exploring new ideas and event formats to help our network gain as much as possible from their connection to RREF. This has included the introduction of a RREF Podcast, a refreshed RREF Recognition Evening and a look ahead at the activities for the 25th Anniversary, including identifying opportunities to generate sustainable financial support to secure the future of the Foundation.

The committee continues to look at collaborative initiatives and strategic outreach, to drive engagement efforts to raise awareness of RREF, deepen community involvement, and strengthen relationships across the real estate sector.

If you're interested in getting involved with the RREF Engagement Committee or supporting our fundraising activity please contact us here. **rref-development@henley.ac.uk**

For any collaboration opportunities or events, please contact the RREF Events Team on **rref-events@henley.ac.uk**



Shaping the future of RREF

We can only continue to deliver such a consistently high standard of impact through the generosity of our donors, supporters and volunteers. The collective commitment of REP alumni, friends and industry partners enables RREF to fund and support a wide range of initiatives that benefit the Real Estate sector.

How can I get involved?

RREF relies on the support of both individual and corporate donors to help us continue our work and grow as an educational charity. Whether through financial contributions, mentoring current students, sharing expertise, or volunteering time in other ways, every contribution is valued and greatly appreciated.

Get involved **here**

Volunteering

Volunteers remain at the heart of the success and impact of RREF's initiatives. We are sincerely grateful to the mentors, guest speakers, placement and internship hosts, committee members, and the many other professionals who generously give their time and expertise.

We are deeply thankful to the hundreds of professionals who, through their voluntary efforts, are actively contributing to the growth and excellence of the Real Estate industry.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, whether as a mentor, speaker or in another capacity, please get in touch.

You can volunteer **here**

Get in touch

We always welcome feedback, insights into industry best practice, perspectives on current sector opportunities and challenges, and updates from across our community.

RREF-development@henley.ac.uk

Celebrating Our Past, Building Our Future

In 2027, Reading Real Estate Foundation will celebrate two significant milestones: 25 years of the Foundation and 15 years of Pathways to Property.

These anniversaries provide an opportunity not only to reflect on what has been achieved, but also to bring together the community of supporters, alumni, students, academics, volunteers and industry partners who have made that success possible.

Over the past 25 years, RREF has helped transform lives through education, widening participation and industry engagement. Through scholarships, outreach activities, mentoring and experiential learning opportunities, the Foundation has enabled talented young people to access opportunities that may otherwise have been beyond their reach.

Since its launch in 2012, Pathways to Property has become a nationally recognised programme, helping thousands of students better understand the opportunities available within the real estate and built environment professions.

As we look ahead to 2027, we want to celebrate these achievements by reconnecting with the people and organisations who have shaped our journey and by creating new opportunities for engagement.

Connect and Celebrate

A programme of anniversary events and activities will bring together our growing network.

Throughout the year, we will share stories from the Foundation's history, showcase the impact of Pathways to Property, and celebrate the people whose commitment has helped make both initiatives such a success.

Supporting the next 25 years

While anniversaries naturally invite reflection, they also encourage us to think about the future.

Demand for programmes that widen access to higher education and careers in real estate continues to grow. More young people are seeking support, guidance and opportunities to realise their potential. Ensuring that RREF can continue to meet that demand requires long-term investment and partnership.

Our anniversary celebrations will serve as a launchpad for the Foundation's next chapter. We invite you to consider how you can help sustain and expand our impact through:

- Annual and regular giving
- Corporate partnerships and sponsorship
- Event sponsorship opportunities
- Legacy and philanthropic gifts
- Volunteering time and expertise
- Becoming advocates and ambassadors for our work

Together, we can ensure that the opportunities created by RREF continue to transform lives for many years to come.

To get involved, please email.
rref-development@henley.ac.uk

Join the RREF Fundraising Community!

For over two decades, the Foundation has played a vital role in shaping the future of the real estate profession. By funding scholarships, supporting academic research, and enhancing student opportunities, RREF helps ensure that the next generation of industry leaders is diverse, talented, and equipped to respond to a rapidly changing built environment.

During this time we have built a community of supporters, some of whom have chosen to support RREF by undertaking fundraising challenges and tasks to raise vital funds. From playing sports, running marathons or baking cakes fundraising for RREF is a fun and enjoyable for individuals and organisations alike, and as a team we will offer support and guidance along the way.

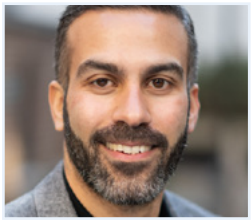
Learn more about fundraising for RREF **here**

> "Supporting educational charities helps ensure that talented young people can still pursue their ambitions. This, in turn, is great for our industry and ensures that motivated and intelligent people are coming through.
>
> Fundraising with RREF made that goal easy to pursue. The team supported the effort through letters, social media and a simple donation process, making it straightforward for supporters to contribute.
>
> **Felix Fiennes, who ran the Arctic Marathon in 2023 to support the George Fiennes Bursary. Read more here.**



Meet the Board

Industry trustees



Paddy Allen
Global Head of Investor Solutions/Executive Leadership Team, GSA - Global Student Accommodation



Professor Emerita Ginny Gibson
Non-Executive Director, ABE & Portsmouth Naval Base Property Trust



Ben Ingram
Head of Real Estate, Armstrong International



Russell Jewell
Senior Advisor, Untold Living (from March 2026)



Samantha Kempe
Co-founder/CIO IMMO



Kat Norton
Director, Development Management, Savills



Christopher Staveley
Executive Director, Head Office Capital Markets EMEA, JLL (from March 2026)



Catherine Webster
CEO Thriving Investments

University staff



Chair: Professor Peter Miskell
Pro-Vice Chancellor, (Education and Student Experience)



Professor Kleio Akrivou
Director of the Centre for Business Ethics and Sustainability, Henley Business School



Professor Angelique Chettiparamb
Joint Head of Real Estate Department & Research Division Lead, Real Estate and Planning, Henley Business School



Jean-Pierre Choulet
Deputy Chief Operating Officer (previously Director of Operations & Strategic Projects), Henley Business School (until July 2026)



Professor Eamonn D'Arcy
Joint Head of Real Estate and Planning & PG Programme Area Director, Real Estate and Planning, Henley Business School



Professor Richard Tranter
Research Professor of Rural Economy, Agri-Food Economics and Marketing

Donor recognition

1 August 2025 to 31 July 2026

Pathways to Property supporters

We are immensely grateful to the organisations whose generous financial and in-kind support makes Pathways to Property possible. Our partnership enables us to open doors for young people from under-represented backgrounds and equipping them with the knowledge, confidence, and connections to succeed. Together, we are helping to build a more diverse and inclusive profession. Thanks to your support, we are able to inspire the next generation of talent and help build a more diverse and inclusive industry.

Gold Level

Accessible Retail
British Land
Eldridge Capital Management
Savills plc
SEGRO plc
The Worshipful Company of Chartered Surveyors
UPP Foundation

Silver Level

Aubrey Orchard-Lisle Charitable Trust
Cadogan Estates
The Crown Estate
Oxford Properties

Bronze Level

Barclays plc
Carter Jonas LLP
Colliers International (UK)
Eastdil Secured Savills
Frogmore Real Estate Investment Managers Ltd
Gooch Cunliffe Whale LLP
Great Portland Estate
Grosvenor Estate Management Ltd
Hollis Global Ltd
Industrial REIT & Life Science REIT
Kajima Properties (Europe) Limited
Knight Frank LLP
Montagu Evans
Shaftesbury Capital
W.P. Carey Inc.

Other supporters

Bayfield Training
Moda Living



Pathways to Property Volunteers

In 2025/6, individual supporters and firms volunteered over 1,500 hours to support the Pathways to Property project by:

- Supporting the 2026 Summer School, from hosting site visits to engaging with the students throughout the week
- Engaging students and teachers through our school outreach programme
- Hosting a work experience placement
- Hosting and participating in seven regional Insight Days
- Acting as industry mentors

Donor recognition

RREF supporters

We would like to thank the following organisations and individuals for their generous support of the Reading Real Estate Foundation. Your partnership enables us to widen access to higher education, support students throughout their studies, advance research, and strengthen the future of the real estate profession. Thank you for being such an important part of the RREF community.

Corporate patrons

Organisations who commit to supporting RREF with an annual gift of at least £5,000–£10,000.

- Eastdil Secured Savills
- Eldridge Capital Management
- Indurent
- Knight Frank LLP
- Savills plc

Student prize sponsors

Organisations who sponsor graduation prizes for Real Estate & Planning students.

Company	Prize supported
Savills plc	Savills 'Dragons Den' Teamwork Activity
Stephenson Harwood	Award for the best performing undergraduate and post-graduate in the Property Law Module

Access Internship Bursary sponsors

Organisations that support the RREF Access Internship Bursary.

- Apache Capital Partners
- Avamore Capital
- Carter Jonas LLP
- GCW
- Grosvenor Estate Management Ltd
- Lambert Smith Hampton
- Newmark
- The Crown Estate
- The Dot Group
- Tritax Management Ltd



We are very grateful to all the companies who support RREF through corporate partnerships, community initiatives, and generous contributions. If your organisation is passionate about nurturing talent, driving innovation, and making a lasting impact, we invite you to join our growing network of Corporate Patrons.

To find out more or explore how you can get involved, please contact us at

RREF-development@henley.ac.uk

Donor recognition

Major donors

Organisations, Trusts and Individuals who have made a significant contribution to RREF of £5,000 or above.

Name	Graduation year	Fund supported
Nigel Bennett	1989	Greatest Need
Tony Dean	2000	Greatest Need
Keith Elliott	2008	Keith Elliott Student Bursary
Aubrey Orchard-Lisle Charitable Trust	–	Aubrey Orchard-Lisle Charitable Trust Bursary
Mark Ridley	1984	Greatest Need
Richard Tranter	1973	The John Tranter Memorial Fund
Richard Upton	1988	AreYou? Bursary

Ambassadors

Organisations, Trusts and Individuals who have made a contribution to RREF Annual Funds between £3,000 and £4,999.

Name	Graduation year	Fund supported
Stafford Lancaster	1989	Greatest Need
Anne Robins	–	David Robins Town & Country Planning

Pioneers

Organisations, Trusts and Individuals who have made a contribution to RREF Annual Funds or other RREF Funds between £1,000 and £2,999.

Name	Graduation year	Fund supported
Mike Brown	1983	Greatest Need
Paul Cable	1979	Greatest Need
Sandy Copeland	–	Drivers Jonas
Paul Disley-Tindell	1991	Greatest Need
Robert Fowlds	1983	Greatest Need
Nigel Fox	1989	Greatest Need
Ginny Gibson	1981	Greatest Need
Andrew Reynolds	1979	Greatest Need
Dominic Rowe	1988	Student Support
Paul Smith	1982	Student Support







Donor recognition

Friends

Individuals who support RREF Annual Funds or other RREF Funds with a single or regular donation of up to £1,000 each year.

Name	Graduation year	Fund supported
Alastair Adair	1992	Greatest Need
Andrew Aherne	1987	Widening Participation
David Ainsworth	1979	Greatest Need
Jeremy Aitchison	1979	Greatest Need
Paddy Allen	2005	Greatest Need
Simon Baker	1989	Greatest Need
Aurora Barrett	2020	Greatest Need
David Bass	1975	Widening Participation
John Birtwistle	1978	Greatest Need
Carol Byrne	–	Peter Byrne Research Excellence
Jean-Pierre Choulet	–	Greatest Need
Andrew Clark	1976	Greatest Need
S Cove	–	Greatest Need
Graham Cox	2026	Greatest Need
Richard Cutler	1989	Student Support
Michael Dean	2004	Greatest Need
Mark Disney	1988	Widening Participation
Crinan Dunbar	1998	Greatest Need
Matthew Edgar	1984	Greatest Need
Julian Evans	2007	Greatest Need
Tamzin Eyre	1996	Greatest Need
Iain Franklin	2012	Greatest Need
C K Galbraith	–	Greatest Need
Tish Gauci	–	Greatest Need
James George	1973	Greatest Need
David Green	1990	Greatest Need
Toby Hall	2005	Greatest Need
Amy Holmes	–	Greatest Need
Alex Housego	2011	Greatest Need
Joanne Johnson	1984	Student Support
Kenneth King	1989	–
Nick King	1989	Student Support

Name	Graduation year	Fund supported
Alexander Kington	1999	Greatest Need
Rod Lockhart	2003	Greatest Need
Andrew Marshall	2006	Greatest Need
Alister McCutchion	1995	Greatest Need
Martin Miller	1995	Greatest Need
Gregory Moore	1983	Greatest Need
Julian Norbury	–	John Miles Memorial Scholarship
Keith Norman	1988	Greatest Need
Kat Norton	2004	Greatest Need
Will Noy	2009	Greatest Need
Bunmi Olafare	2008	Greatest Need
Nick Pemberton	1995	Greatest Need
Lewis Prosser	2011	Greatest Need
Bill Redfern	1981	Greatest Need
Michael Regan	1989	Student Support
Robert Richardson	1998	Greatest Need
Oliver E Rippier	2004	Greatest Need
Amaya Ruckmal	–	Greatest Need
Martin Shaw	2006	Greatest Need
Sara Simpson	–	John Miles Memorial Scholarship
Chris Staveley	1995	Greatest Need
Douglas Stevens	1977	Greatest Need
Sarah Thorley	2018	Greatest Need
Alastair Thomas	1977	Greatest Need
Rob Timmins	2011	Greatest Need
Crispin Topping	1982	Greatest Need
Felicity Topping	1980	Greatest Need
Mike Wickins	–	John Miles Memorial Scholarship
David White	2015	Greatest Need
John Wythe	1978	Widening Participation

Become a donor here

We also would like to thank those who have chosen to give to us anonymously across all levels of support.

"RREF is what truly sets Reading apart from other universities. Having access to industry is invaluable in helping develop a career in real estate, and RREF facilitates this. Through the evening lecture series, careers fair and RREF Recognition Evening, I have developed my networking skills and learned so much from industry professionals. It has given me the confidence to explore opportunities outside of university, such as attending major industry conferences, and also in interviews, helping me find my path following graduation.

Part 2, BSc Real Estate Student

Stay connected

Henley Live

Henley Live is Henley Business School's online community which has dedicated areas for Real Estate and Planning alumni and RREF's key supporters. The platform has been designed and customised to be the home of networking and learning.

Key features include:

- Regular expert knowledge and access to past webinar recordings
- RG10 Group
- Peer-to-peer and graduate-to-student mentoring
- Careers support for recent graduates
- Live community map
- Upcoming global events

What next?

All REP alumni and RREF supporters are warmly encouraged to join. Simply visit the webpage and click 'request to join'. Once you are accepted, you can start networking, learning and much more.

Register for free today **here**

Are you receiving the monthly RREF newsletter?

Stay connected with RREF news, activities and upcoming events.

Sign up for your newsletter **here**

Make sure you stay up to date on our social media.

You can follow us here:

rref_charity

reading-real-estate-foundation

Legacy Giving

Creating a Legacy with Reading Real Estate Foundation

A legacy gift is more than a donation; it is an enduring commitment to creating a future where education unlocks potential, drives innovation and transforms lives for generations to come.

By leaving a gift in your Will to Reading Real Estate Foundation (RREF), you become part of a lasting legacy of opportunity, progress and transformation. Your generosity can help talented students access higher education regardless of their financial circumstances, support pioneering research that advances the real estate profession, and ensure that talent, not circumstance, defines success.

Legacy gifts can support many different aspects of RREF's work. Whether your passion is widening access through Pathways to Property, funding bursaries and scholarships, supporting research or developing the next generation of real estate professionals, we would be delighted to discuss how your gift can best reflect your interests and values.

How to leave a legacy gift

We recommend seeking advice from a solicitor or professional adviser when making or updating your Will. There are several ways you can remember RREF while ensuring your loved ones are provided for.

The main types of legacy gifts are:

Residuary gift – A percentage, or the remainder, of your estate after debts, funeral expenses and any specific gifts have been paid.

Pecuniary gift – A gift of a fixed sum of money, which can be index-linked to preserve its value over time.

Specific gift – A particular asset or item that can be retained or sold to support the work of Reading Real Estate Foundation.

Reversionary gift – Assets that are left to family or friends during their lifetime before passing to Reading Real Estate Foundation in the future.

Your solicitor or professional adviser will be able to advise on the option that best reflects your wishes.

If you choose to remember Reading Real Estate Foundation in your Will, we would be honoured if you let us know. Any information you choose to share will be treated in the strictest confidence and is not legally binding, but it enables us to thank you personally and recognise your extraordinary generosity during your lifetime.

Gifts to qualifying UK charities are exempt from Inheritance Tax. In some circumstances, leaving at least 10% of your taxable estate to charity can also reduce the rate of Inheritance Tax payable on the rest of your estate from 40% to 36%.

Find out more **here**



Individual Gift



Corporate Donation & Partnership



Volunteer

If you are considering leaving a legacy to Henley Business School, or would like to discuss your intentions in confidence, please contact:

Tish Gauci
p.e.gauci@henley.ac.uk
+44 (0)118 378 4096



For more information, please contact:

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Charity Number 1092627

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