

# Boardroom to Building Site

## Skills Gap Survey

**BRE Academy's "Boardroom to Building Site" Skills Gap Survey** comes in response to a convergence of challenges hitting the construction sector and forcing it to change the tried and tested traditional methods it has been used to for several decades.

This survey establishes an understanding of what skills are in short supply and what skills are needed for the industry now and 10 years from now, so that a capable workforce can embrace and deliver transformational change including:



Low-carbon and highly sustainable assets to help the UK achieve its carbon reduction targets



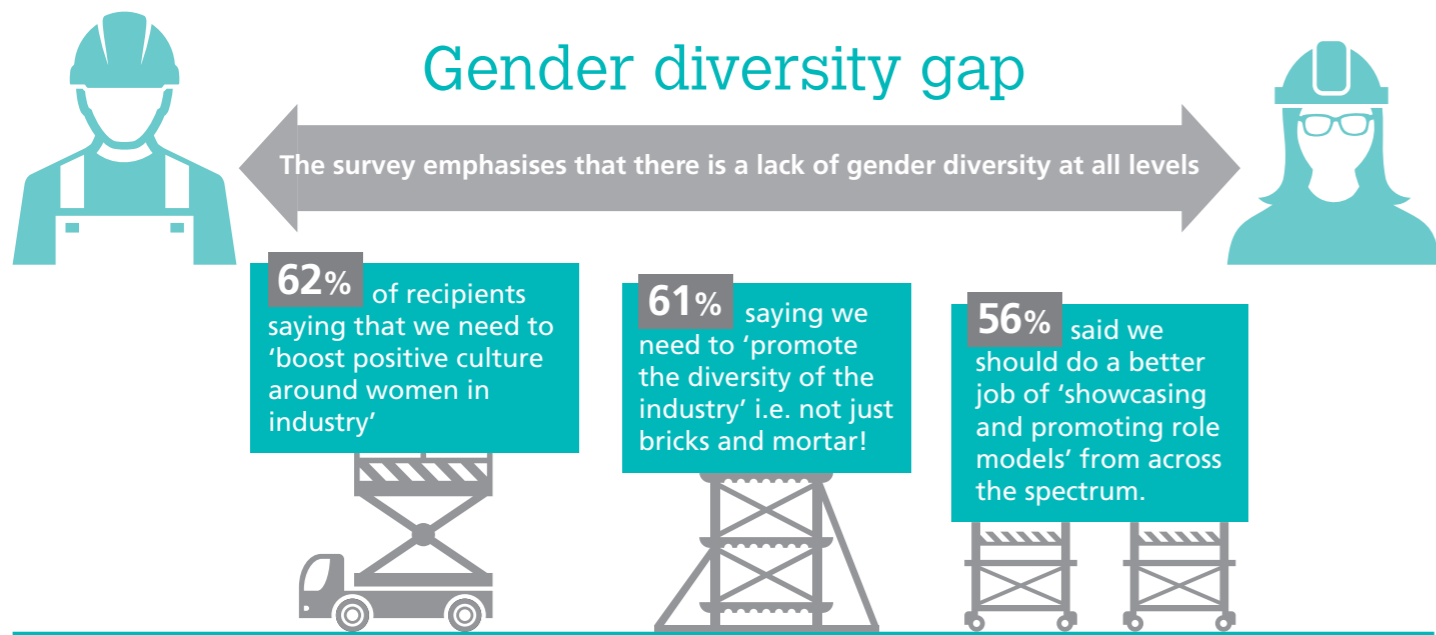
Projects transformed by digital design, advanced materials and new technologies



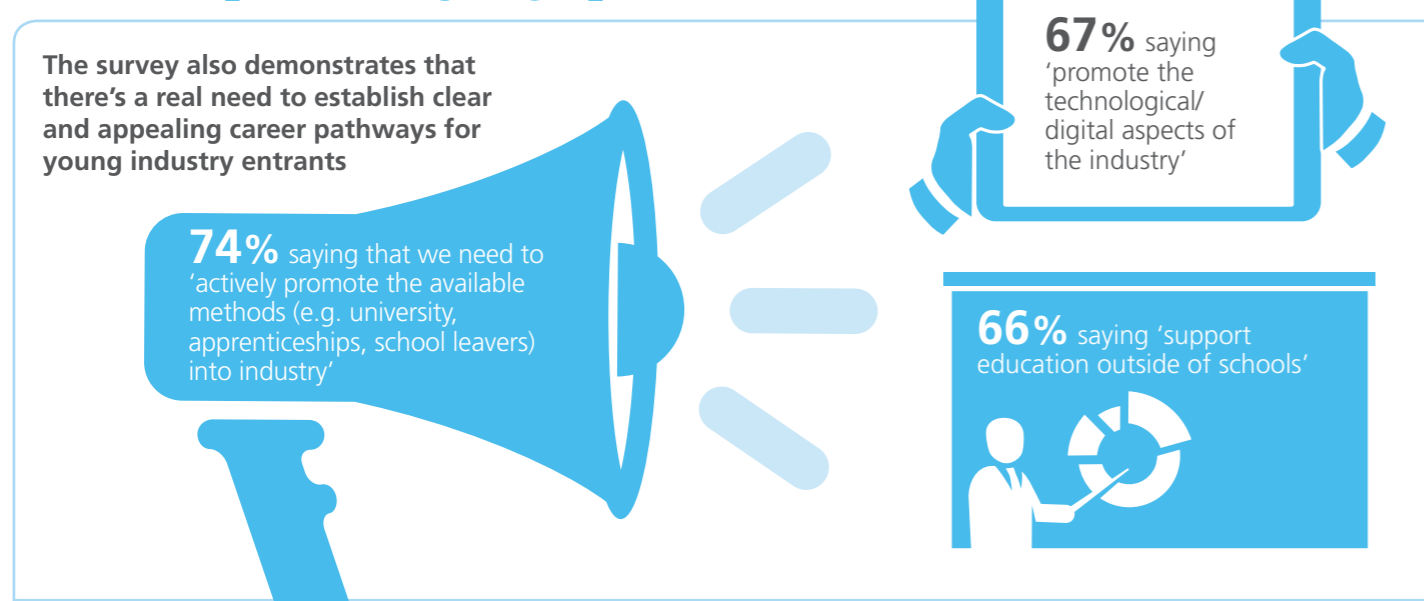
Buildings that perform as they were designed to

## Industry prestige gap





## Career pathways gap



## How schools can help

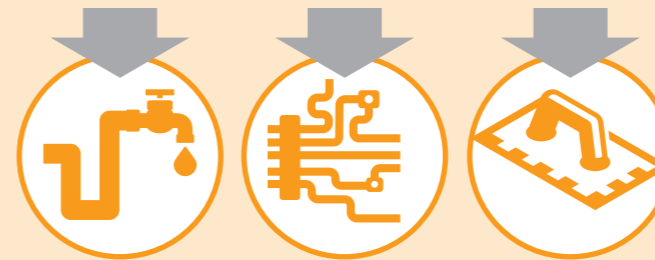
It was felt that schools can do more to help for example promoting the value of apprentice schemes and non-academic qualifications to secondary age students, as well as promoting the industry to academically-minded students. It was also felt that high profile projects e.g. The Shard and Cross Rail would help elevate the construction industry in the minds of students.

## How professional bodies can help

It was widely felt that professional bodies should take the lead in terms of promoting the high level of skills required in industry, in particular promoting technical training and promoting the range of opportunities in the industry and the skills required. It was also requested that professional bodies offer a wider range of memberships with reduced fees to accommodate a wider cross-section of the construction industry.

## Skills in short supply today

**Sustainability and Environmental skills and Trade skills** (e.g. plastering, electrical, plumbing) were seen to be in short supply however many respondents saw this as primarily an industry issue rather than an organisational one.



While **BIM and Management skills** were seen as lacking, at both an industry and organizational-wide level which merits attention.



## Skills most important to the industry in the future



**BIM, Sustainability, and Smart Technology** were seen as the key areas of future growth and where skills were most important to the construction industry, in the next 3 and 10 years.

## How government can help



300+ respondents

## Skills gap survey respondents

Over 300 respondents from a cross-section of the UK construction sector work force between 1 November 2015 and 31 January 2016.

# Skills Gap Survey Partners



Chartered Institute of  
Architectural Technologists



Institute of Environmental  
Management & Assessment



“We welcome the opportunity to work with BRE and input into their skills survey, which supports our research findings. This important research contributes to the evidence we need to work together, with industry, to close the skills gap.”

**Alex Birks, Head of Strategic Training Provision & Development, CITB**

“Ecobuild is focused on meeting the needs of individuals from across the built environment and as such, ensuring it is in sync with industry trends. I’m delighted to be building on the success of this year’s CPD Learning Zones and launching an even bigger, dedicated training and skills zone at Ecobuild in 2017, supported by many leading industry players including BRE. The recent BRE survey results are a strong indication that digital construction skills are very much in demand and yet are currently lacking, thus validating the need for a strong focus on training and skills at Ecobuild 2017.”

**Martin Hurn, Event Director, Ecobuild**

## BRE Academy

As the specialist training and development division of BRE, famous for its science-based research, standards and tools, the BRE Academy delivers leading edge blended learning training courses to improve the performance and competence levels of individuals, teams and organisations to address the knowledge and skills gap, to enable new talent, support next generation of skilled operatives and professionals with accessible and practical CPD, and lifelong learning programmes. Training courses and education programmes are developed and written by world-renowned specialists who have shaped industry standards, ensuring delegates gain access to meaningful, relevant and interesting training programmes. For more information please visit [www.breacademy.com](http://www.breacademy.com)



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