

Great Britain

Helping the UK become a global leader in geospatial

Ordnance Survey (OS) continues to deliver on its ambitious strategy to remain at the forefront of the geospatial industry.

The strategy focusses on three areas – Best for Britain, Global Growth and Fit for the Future – which have been at the core of the last 12 months' activity.

In August 2017, OS announced a strategic partnership to help propel the UK towards becoming a global leader in the land and property market. The pilot partnership sees HM Land Registry (HMLR) join OS at its Geovation Hub and aims to encourage and support innovation and property technology businesses. Geovation is based at a dedicated location-data lab in London that supports and enables open innovation and collaboration across many sectors. The Geovation mission is to expand the use of location and land and property data in the UK's innovation community.

Participants in the pilot programme receive up to £20,000 in grant funding and a range of resources and services that will help them develop their businesses. Geovation provides the support that participants need, including access to experienced software developers, geospatial expertise from OS and property expertise from HMLR. Business mentors are also available to assist with business proposals and investor relationships.

By combining their geospatial and property expertise, HMLR and OS are supporting and encouraging disruptive forces in the PropTech and GeoTech markets. The benefits of this investment are expected to be seen across the legal, financial and property sectors, stimulating growth for the wider economy and bringing more opportunities to the UK.

OS data continues to support the UK Government in the delivery of key policies and public services at every level of government. From the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government – where OS provide essential location data that helps monitor the development of new housing – to emergency services – where data is used to coordinate planning and response to events, such as flooding.

The last year has seen OS support the Government's Industrial Strategy, which aims to build a Britain fit for the future. Building on previous years, OS continues to position location data at the heart of technology, innovation and infrastructure projects. Highlights include: The Internet of Things (CityVerve) demonstrator project in Manchester, embedding geospatial and digital twin concepts into the 5G initiative in Bournemouth, partnering with Microsoft on machine to machine learning in geospatial data capture, and helping shape national infrastructure capable of supporting autonomous vehicles through the E-CAVE project.

These tech and innovation projects are not just benefiting Great Britain. but they're also essential to OS's

international engagement. Today OS is working with countries all over the world, taking exemplar work and expertise to support projects in several nations. From Smart City projects in Singapore to automated change detection work in the UAE. OS is also supporting several developing nations to enable them to realise the benefits from accurate, maintained geospatial data. One example is the collaboration with World Bank to help build geospatial data expertise in Tanzania.

