

# Mindset XR Programme: 2022 – 2027

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# Tackling a Key Societal Issue

- **1 in 4** people will experience mental health issues each year in the UK, but only **1 in 8** adults are receiving treatment. Mind, 2017
- Around a **1/3** of adults and young people say their mental health has got much worse since March 2020/COVID. Mind, July 2021
- **5 million** patients accessed NHS treatment in 2022/23, an increase of more than 25% in five years. NHS England, 2024
- Increasing demand + not enough clinicians = digital opportunity

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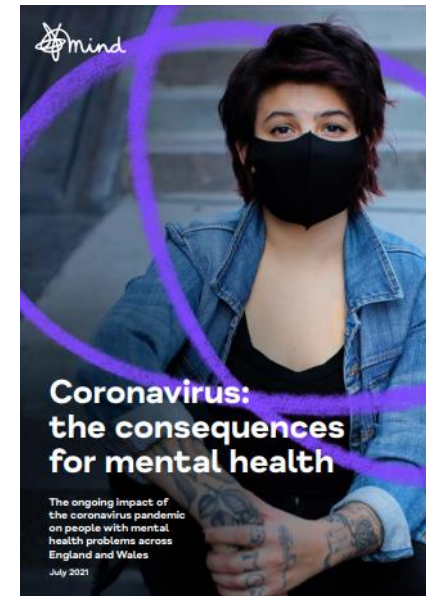
## Mental health facts and statistics

Key facts and statistics on mental health problems and issues.

If you require this information in Word document format for compatibility with screen readers, please email: [publications@mind.org.uk](mailto:publications@mind.org.uk)

### Contents

Introduction to statistics .....	2
How common are mental health problems? .....	3
Key facts and trends .....	5



05/02/2024, 16:09

NHS England • Monthly operational statistics – January 2024



Date published: 12 January, 2024  
Date last updated: 24 January, 2024

## Monthly operational statistics – January 2024

[Publication / \(re\)publication](#)

### Content

- [Executive summary](#)
- [Urgent and emergency care](#)
- [Elective recovery](#)
- [Cancer](#)

### Executive summary

The total waiting list and unique patient number have fallen for the second month in a row, with the total waiting list falling to 7.6 million in November 2023, despite disruption from ongoing industrial action and sustained demand.

A record 1.63 million patients began treatment in November 2023 and more than 2.3 million diagnostic tests were undertaken in the same month.

Continuing industrial action in the NHS has had a significant impact on patients. Since strikes began, more than 1.3 million appointments have been rescheduled.

Pressure has continued in emergency departments across the country, with more than 2.1 million A&E attendances and over 547,000 emergency admissions in December 2023.

Ambulance services also faced increasingly high demand in December, with more than 689,000 calls to 999 answered by staff throughout the month, an average of 28,690 every day.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/monthly-operational-statistics-january-2024/>

19

## Programme Ambition:

- Invest in Extended Reality (XR) - delivered as digital mental health therapeutics to treat:
  - More people
  - More efficiently
  - More effectively
- Aim is to create a supportive ecosystem to help bring innovations to market and make them stick





## Why Invest in XR (Extended Reality)?

- XR covers multiple immersive technologies:
  - Augmented Reality (AR)
  - Mixed Reality (MR)
  - Virtual Reality (VR)
  - Haptics, interfaces, platforms and software (providing multiple applications)
- Delivering therapies remotely via XR can:
  - Be 2-3 times cheaper than traditional treatment
  - Cut wait times and be delivered in real-time
  - Improve reach and engagement
- We want to make the most of the world class XR sector we have emerging in the UK healthcare market



# Our Approach

**3 Workstreams, 2022 – 2027:  
Overall Programme Value £20m**

## Delivering:

1. Grant funding for research and development (R&D) projects
2. Investment Partnerships to boost government funding and catalyse future investment
3. Partnering with Health Innovation Network, South London to deliver the new Mindset XR - Innovation Support Programme (MISP), to encourage:
  - Knowledge sharing
  - Adoption and scaling
  - Marketplace longevity



# Competition Landscape

## R&D Competition 1, Launched 2022:

### Scope/Overview:

- Grant funding opportunities for business-led (R&D) projects that apply immersive technology in digital mental health therapies (for all ages)
- Closed Oct 22, with £3.1m committed to 29 projects:
  - 18 x Feasibility: All completed by Dec 23
  - 11 x Industrial Research: All due to complete by Mar 25
- Example of the XR mental health therapeutic applications include (but not limited to):
  - Anxiety
  - Eating disorders
  - Phobias





## R&D Competition 2, Launched 2023








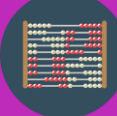
### Scope/Overview:

- Similar scope as the first competition
- Competition closed in Dec 23, with approx. £4.5m due to be committed to a mix of Feasibility and Industrial Research Projects
- Successful projects are due to be announced in June 24 (tbc)

Plan is to now expand our portfolio via our investor partnership scheme and a further R&D competition



# R&D Competition 3: Industrial Research

							
<b>Launch</b>  28 Oct 24	<b>Fund</b>  £3.7M	<b>Project duration</b>  12 – 18 months	<b>Project Start</b>  1 Jun 25	<b>Total project eligible costs</b>  Up to £300K	<b>Research stage - industrial research</b>  Planned R&D to gain new knowledge and skills for innovation development leading to an improvement in existing services/ solutions	<b>Design and Scope</b>  Solutions that address moderate to severe mental health conditions, particularly where it impacts education, employment and daily life for individuals, families and communities.	<b>Grant funding for eligible project costs</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 70%: small orgs</li> <li>• Up to 60%: medium-sized orgs</li> <li>• Up to 50%: large orgs</li> </ul>

**IMPORTANT: Subject to change, as still developing the brief and consulting with relevant stakeholders**  
 Check online at [innovation-funding-service.gov.uk](https://innovation-funding-service.gov.uk) for final scope + Mindset – XR ISP newsletter





UK Research  
and Innovation

# Thank You

Contact [jane.guest@iuk.ukri.org](mailto:jane.guest@iuk.ukri.org)

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