

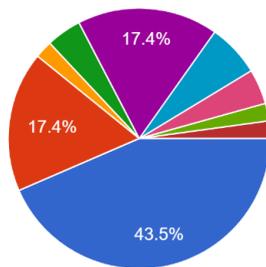
Research Priorities Survey 2020: The Results

In May-August 2020 we invited members of the Network to take part in two surveys. In the first survey we asked respondents to list what they thought were the most important research areas to focus on in relation to loneliness, social isolation and mental health. In the second survey, we asked respondents to rank those areas, in order to identify the top research priorities. Forty-five people provided complete responses to this second survey (as of 26.08.2020), and we present the headline results below.

The respondents

What is your primary role?

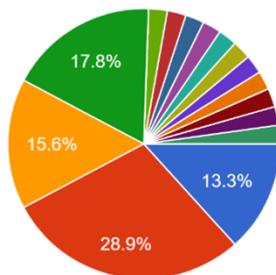
46 responses



- Academic researcher
- Expert by experience
- Policy
- Practitioner
- Third Sector
- Clinician
- Charity leader
- MSc. Health Psychology Student
- retiree

What population do you mainly work with or support?

45 responses



- Children & young people
- Older people
- People with severe mental illness
- People with anxiety or depression
- People with disabilities
- Carers
- Asylum seekers, refugees, migrants
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender/...
- Black, Asian, and minority ethnic
- Im a student
- Secure and forensic mental health patients
- All experiencing inequality
- Policy covering all groups at risk of loneliness
- Supporting mental health and wellbeing
- Adults with a range of MH problems
- All of the above. But mostly men around retirement
- None at the moment but interested in people with disabilities and how I can support their mental and physical health
- mothers experiencing loneliness

The research priorities

Here are some of the research priorities people attending our events in May thought were important in terms of vulnerable groups. Please in...you think is the MOST important research priority.

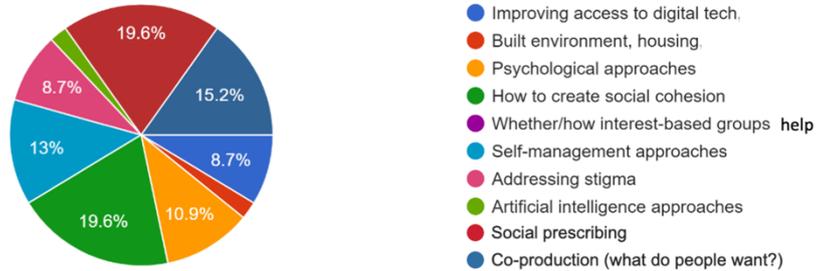
45 responses



Who have we missed? Please tell us if you think another group is a greater researcher priority than those already listed, and why.
Secure and forensic mental health patients
People who have experienced significant trauma
BAME people
Children and young people (and their parents) with mental health needs in the context of chronic illness.
Parents of young children
People with personality disorder who cannot access services
LGBT communities
People with chronic (and invisible) health conditions
People with low level depression / anxiety
People from different ethnic groups, and where English not a first language. People who have multiple barriers and various combinations of the above priority groups, e.g. a disability, non-British, and limited English.
Transient population e.g. new migrants.
People facing financial hardship/stress
Transgender people

Here are some of the research priorities people attending our events in May thought were important in terms of approaches. Which of these ...think is MOST important research priority overall?

46 responses



What have we missed? Please tell us if you think another approach is a greater research priority than those already listed, and why.

What motivates an organisation (e.g. a council or a business) to act on social connection and tackling loneliness? Why do some prioritise this and others don't?

Approaches to mitigating loneliness and isolation within the forensic mental health population

To what communities do people want to be connected? (communities of interest, geography, identity)

Integration of approaches is a key priority area.

Physical activity

Trauma and therapeutic approaches

Efficacy of different approaches to the use of leisure/skills development (e.g. an art lesson is not enough, it needs to be developed and framed specifically to respond to isolation)

Befriending as an intervention

Research around Occupational Therapy and the reduction in Loneliness and Social Isolation.