Timeline of XR use by Police in England and Wales

First RespondXR is a SPRITE+-funded project which aims to map the social, ethical, technical, and legal vulnerabilities associated with the use of Extended Reality (XR) technology for police training.

2	016 The first generation Oculus Rift is commercially released by Oculus (now Meta) ¹
West Mercia Police develop a virtual reality (VR) mobile application for 17-25 year olds on road safety and peer pressure ²	017 Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service use Samsung Gear VR Google to deliver a 360-degree "simulated car crash experience" to educate drivers about road safety ³
Oculus Go is released: a consumer wireless VR headset that does not require a separate	018 Gwent Police use a 280 degree screen to
computer ⁴	create fully immersive training for police
West Midlands Police develop an interactive house simulation to educate the public on crime prevention ⁶	officers on how to deal with domestic abuse cases ⁵
2	019 Northumbria Police develop VR games using head-mounted displays to assist the public in identifying vulnerable people in different contexts ⁷
Content spend on VR surpasses 2 \$1 billion per year ⁸	020 West Midlands Police develop an interactive carpark using a 360 camera to educate the public on how to prevent vehicle crime ⁹
Warwickshire police launch a project using individual headsets to show a 360 degree film with young people to discuss around underage drinking and personal safety ¹⁰	Derbyshire Constabulary use a VR system to deliver taser training courses where

drinking and personal safety¹⁰

12.5 million consumer VR headsets sold this year – VR now a low cost consumer reality¹²

West Midlands Police commission the production of a VR film to educate young people on knife crime¹⁴

Metropolitan Police Service develop a VR training system to place officers in two immersive scenarios relating to domestic violence¹⁶

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officers were required to respond to a knife-wielding assailant¹¹

Essex Police trial a VR system for firearms training, including through a free-roam exercise¹³

Greater Manchester Police (GMP) introduce a VR training pilot to help officers understand and empathise with hate crime victims¹⁵

U.S. Army awards contract to Microsoft for HoloLens augmented reality headsets, worth up to \$21.9 billion over 10 years¹⁷

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