



Q QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Request for Proposal (RFP): Lived experience impact, learning and improvement

#	Supplier Question	Wellcome response
1	Is Wellcome able to share internal standards/project standards for collaborating with people with lived experience? Have these standards changed over the years, and do Wellcome expect changes in standards to be reflected in projects funded that may form part of the evaluation?	Wellcome's current general guidance for lived experience collaboration is available on our website https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/guidance/embedding-lived-experience-expertise-mental-health-research They provide applicants to our mental health funding with an outline of what we expect from applicants (https://wellcome.org/what-we-do/mental-health). We would not expect changes in standards to be reflected in funded projects during the timeline we are interested in.
2	Does Wellcome have a working definition of ' <i>meaningfully</i> ' embedding/collaborating with people with lived experience expertise? We note the guidance on ' Embedding lived experience expertise in mental health research ', would this be the best source to work from?	Yes, this is our general guidance for applicants to our Mental Health research funding.
3	We note the 3-year maximum project delivery timeline, does Wellcome have a preference for project completion within this timeframe?	We want suppliers to have enough time to work with cohorts of funded projects given their proposed methodology (some of which are running already, but others will not begin until 2025) so please describe and justify your approach to this in your application.



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4	Have budget parameters been set for this contract and, if so, what is the value/ budget range of the contract for this RFP? Is there an upper limit for the budget for this RFP?	Suppliers should suggest a budget that would suit the aims of their approach. A budget template is attached.
5	We have not been able to locate the budget template which the RFP states was published alongside it. Please could you direct us to it?	The budget template is available here (see link alongside this document)
6	Will the supplier be able to choose from/suggest the projects from the portfolio of 80 or will Wellcome manage that aspect? As part of this, does Wellcome expect the supplier to work with all 80?	<p>It would likely be impractical to do detailed work with <i>all</i> projects on our portfolio. Some sampling would be expected, and this would be shared/agreed between Wellcome and the successful supplier.</p> <p>Some of our funded grantees can be found on our website https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/people-and-projects/grants-awarded?f%5B0%5D=programme_grants_awarded%3A10329,</p> <p>We also expect suppliers to work with grantees from more recently awarded calls (e.g., https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/mental-health-award-finding-right-treatment-right-people-right-time-anxiety</p> <p>and https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/mental-health-award-interventions-anxiety-depression-psychosis,</p>



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		<p>and upcoming awards (e.g., https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/mental-health-award-applying-neuroscience-understand-symptoms-anxiety)</p> <p>and https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/digital-mental-health-interventions)</p>
7	Further to the opening paragraph of section 2 of the RFP (RFP specification), is there any further information that can be shared at this stage re: the research areas and locations across the 80?	Please see the answer to Question #6 for examples of projects in our present and future portfolio.
8	Roughly what proportion of the 80 relevant research studies are being implemented in the UK vs. internationally?	A full breakdown of project locations will be shared with the successful supplier.
9	What is the current “average” level of lived experience across the portfolio? Is there lived experience in every single one – are there any without?	All projects include collaboration with people with lived experience.
10	On Page 5, under the heading “submitting a proposal”, the guidance refers to suppliers “who are invited to submit a full proposal”. As this is a one step process, is there a selection process through which some potential applicants are invited to apply?	This is a one-step process. All suppliers are invited to submit a full proposal.



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11	Regarding conflict of interest, would an organisation be eligible for funding under this call for proposals, if they are also being funded by the Wellcome Trust to implement mental health research that integrates lived experience (either as a lead or sub-applicant)?	<p>This is unlikely to be a conflict of interest, although suppliers are expected to assess their own conflict of interests based on their own criteria. Thank you for checking this with us.</p> <p>Please note, this project is a contract that will be awarded to a successful supplier (i.e., it isn't 'project funding').</p>
12	If a potential supplier already holds a PPI/Lived Experience lead/co-applicant role on a Wellcome grant, would this preclude them from applying?	This would not exclude a supplier from applying for this RFP.
13	Our understanding is that Wellcome wants the chosen supplier to develop and implement an approach to examine the impact of involving people with lived experience within Wellcome funded projects. Assessing the impact of how Wellcome collaborates with people with lived experience internally or works to integrate lived experience expertise within the broader field of mental health science is therefore out of scope. Is this correct?	We want suppliers to draw from our existing portfolio of funded projects.
14	Is Wellcome merely interested in a project to develop and test an approach to examining the impact of involving people with lived experience within Wellcome's funded projects, by trialing the approach in a selection of the 80 or so funded research project. Or is Wellcome also interested in a supplier that takes the project forward, by implementing learnings from	As stated in the RFP, <i>"The supplier should develop a rigorous approach to understand the impact of collaboration with lived experience experts within and across these research projects, then support Wellcome Mental Health to test this approach with other funded research teams from our Mental Health programme."</i>



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	the testing phase, and rolling out the methodology to assess this impact for the full 80 or so projects currently funded?	