



## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### Request for Proposal (RFP): BIAS IN COMPUTATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE

| # | Supplier Question  | Wellcome response  |
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| 1 | What if any primary datasets might be made available for analysis?   | Wellcome does not have appropriate datasets that it can provide for analysis. We are happy to facilitate discussions with our relevant partners whose datasets a supplier feels they may benefit from accessing – however appropriate governance and controls will need to be accounted for in the proposed project plan and timeline.   |
| 2 | Does the Wellcome team have a well-defined set of publications that they expect to be covered in the literature review?  | A literature search has not been carried out. We can participate in discussions on search terms and inclusion/ exclusion criteria to support development of a comprehensive list for review.   |
| 3 | Much existing research will not explicitly address bias or will measure it in inconsistent ways. To what degree should we expect to do re-analysis of data to assess bias and fairness?  | The approach that a supplier may propose to undertake is flexible – they may wish to undertake (alone or in combination) a review of literature, researcher engagement, or carry out modelling and/or re-analysis. If the proposed method is adequate to address the aim of this project, then we are open to suppliers suggesting the approach they feel best.  |
| 4 | Deliverables are defined as reports and presentations. To what degree is Wellcome open to publishing or contributing to open-source software to implement the methods identified? Could that be supported as part of this project? | We are open to suppliers suggesting the methodology they deem most appropriate. If developing open-source software is feasible in the timelines detailed, then this can be added as a further deliverable. Wellcome are certainly supportive of the open licensing and release of tools and methods developed or contributed to during this project (in line with our <a href="#">policy</a> for management of data and software, and <a href="#">policy</a> on open access). However, we will need to ensure we have written outputs detailing the findings from this |



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|   |  | project, so that these can advise Wellcome's future priorities and continued work in these areas.   |
| 5 | Will the Wellcome Trust be seeking a 3-month engagement, a 6-month engagement, a 1-year engagement or a two-year engagement? | This piece of work is intended to run over approximately 12 weeks, with completion in December 2023. This will allow us to incorporate the findings into Mental Health Awards anticipated to launch in early 2024. We understand that an in-depth analysis of all areas of interest will not be available in this timeframe, however we hope that this project will be able to elicit the foundations of practice and opportunities in this field. If a supplier believes there is justification to suggest a longer time frame, we are willing to discuss how this may work - however the decision will need to be guided by the needs of our wider portfolio. |
| 6 | What is the budget for this project?   | We would prefer the supplier to advise on the costs and total budget they think they will incur to deliver this project to a high standard within the preferred timeframe.  |
| 7 | Could Wellcome provide examples of other contract outputs, in recent years, that were based on analogous requirements?       | Information on wider contracts and costs are confidential to individual contracts   |