



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Request for Proposal (RFP): Citizen mental health science report

#	Supplier Question	Wellcome response
1	Can you clarify who in your view the 'key opinion leaders' are that would be impacted by citizen mental health science? Please provide examples if possible.	These would include prominent organisations and individuals in the field of mental health science: for example, ECNP; prominent non-mental health scientists and science organisations; and policymakers and others determining investment in mental health science.
2	Are you looking for partners who are practitioners in the MH space?	Assuming partners means suppliers: practitioners in the Mental Health space are eligible to apply for the RFP, but we are also open to non-specialists who can demonstrate a clear plan to access the necessary expertise in mental health.
3	Do you have any specific geographies in mind, or should this be globally applicable in outcomes?	No specific geographies, but ideally the specific challenges and opportunities in high-, middle-, and low-income settings would be discussed.
4	Proposal structure - must we follow the given structure and match the content to the specific buckets and word count, or can we apply our own structure whilst sticking to the word count?	Yes, please follow the given structure and word count assigned for each section.
5	Is the timeline strict, or can it be flexible if the methods require it?	Yes, please adhere to the provided commission timeline.



6	Re. promotion planning, can you please elaborate on the disciplines that you consider relevant to promotion activity?	This will depend on your specific plan of action. The important factor is to demonstrate you have access to the relevant technical expertise, including in the areas of mental health, citizen science, and ethics. See also question 12.
7	Do you have disseminating plans for sharing the report beyond Wellcome stakeholders? If so, do you have preference for how you want to share the ultimate output with external stakeholders, or are you open to suggestions in modality?	This report would be primarily aimed at Wellcome, however we will be happy to consider plans for further dissemination. The RFP does not detail any dissemination plans beyond Wellcome internally. This is to allow flexibility for how both Wellcome and the supplier would like to disseminate the findings of this commission after all deliverables have been successfully met. We would stipulate that any publicly-available form of the report is open access.
8	When it comes to key opinion leaders - do you mean MH or Citizen Science specialists or people with a general platform?	See question 1.
9	Whose opinion are you mainly trying to change around narratives in citizen mental health science? MH professionals, the public, or other?	The wider mental health community, including mental health professionals, the public, mental health adjacent professionals as well as researchers that utilise citizen science outside of mental health.
10	For the scientific literature, grey literature and case examples we will gather and analyse, will Wellcome help identify key pieces of work it would like included in the	Wellcome would be looking for the supplier to identify and determine these decisions on their own in the first instance. We would expect to see that demonstrated through Deliverable 1:



	analysis, or does Wellcome expect the bidder will entirely identify and determine which pieces of work are used?	<p><i>Two weeks: A full work plan of no more than four pages, summarising the supplier's plan for scoping and completing the report. To be supplied as a Word document.</i></p> <p>We would be happy to support and provide guidance after reviewing a full scoping plan for the final report.</p>
11	In Section 1 of the RFP, it details a report on citizen science in mental health “with a specific focus on issues pertinent to early interventions in anxiety, depression, and psychosis (understanding, stratifying, and developing new pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments)”. Can you please clarify if the RFP is looking to focus on early identification and intervention for first onset illnesses, for intervention into episode onset for those with an existing diagnosis, or both?	We would like the final report to focus on both.
12	In Section 3 of the RFP questions, it asks “how you plan to advertise this programme effectively across a diverse range of disciplines and geographies”. Can you please clarify the extent to which this RFP is asking bidders to produce <i>and promote</i> this report, versus just produce?	We apologise for the unclear wording. This item refers to recruiting the necessary diverse range of expertise (see question 6). With regards to dissemination, see question 7.
13	In Section 3 of the RFP questions, it asks about the “plan for structuring incentives to support the participation of a broad range of participants”. Here, are “participants” referring to authors of the literature / case studies the contracted team would review in completing the scope of work? Can you please clarify?	Apologies for the unclear wording. This refers to the diversity of the supplier team, including individuals with lived experience.



14	Will you be commissioning a report from multiple suppliers?	No, only one supplier will be appointed for this commission
15	Is middle/low income setting referring to countries (low/middle income country) or settings within a country (Low/medium IMD decile)?	This refers to Low and Middle income countries: https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/guidance/low-and-middle-income-countries
16	Will more than one proposal be funded?	No, only one proposal will be funded.
17	Will the report be published publicly? If not, will there be an opportunity to write and publish a paper based on this work?	See 7.
18	What do you expect the balance of focus to be between high income countries and LMICs?	Ideally, we would expect equal efforts in balancing this commission across both HICs and LMICs. However, we understand that there may be more literature in some geographical areas than others. See also question 3.
19	"Possible use cases" and "a range of sources including...case examples" are discussed in the tender document. Are these different things i.e. for the former do you expect possible (but not currently in existence) use case studies to be produced as part of this report? And for the later do you expect existing cases will be drawn on to describe the current landscape of citizen mental health science?	Yes, these are different things. Potential use cases are of interest to us. And we would expect currently existing cases to be drawn on to inform the report.
20	Is there a ceiling budget for this work?	We are not setting a specific budget externally at this point, but value for money is a consideration in our evaluation of proposals.



21	Geographical scope: does the description of 'low/middle income settings' refer to global geography or is it UK specific?	This refers to global geography.
22	Are you interested in the intersection of citizen science for mental health and the other challenges Wellcome is exploring, such as climate health, or is the focus of this work solely on mental health?	This report should focus on mental health.
23	Flexibility/openness about format of final output: How flexible are you about the final output being a report? If it will be used to inform future strategy/programmes we could potentially suggest other formats of the work that could be relevant to Wellcome to achieve these intended goals and objectives.	We would still expect the proposal to outline your plans for an 8000 word final report but are happy to hear any additional suggestions you might have.
24	How collaboratively would you like to work with the supplier? Would the supplier be able to access networks and contacts via the Wellcome Mental Health team?	We could advise, but cannot commit to accessing networks. We will liaise closely with regular meetings, online or in person.
25	We'd like to understand the balance between your interest in existing best practice, versus evidence gaps and future opportunities that might arise?	We are equally interested in both.
26	Do you anticipate providing a dedicated budget line for financial compensation for both advisors and those with lived experience to be involved in the work?	Financial compensation should be factored into the budget you submit for your application. Value for money is a consideration in our evaluation of proposals
27	Are you able to provide an indicative budget for this project?	We are not setting a specific budget externally at this point, but value for money is a consideration in our evaluation of proposals.



28	What are your expectations in terms of the research methodology for the project? Is there a particular methodology that you would like the supplier to use (e.g., interviews, focus groups, surveys) or is that up to the supplier to define?	It is up to the supplier to define as appropriate.
29	What are your expectations in terms of the scale of the research (e.g., number or types of stakeholders engaged)?	This is up to the supplier to decide as appropriate.
30	What is of particular interest to Wellcome with regards to the use of citizen mental health science in low-income and middle-income settings? Are there any specific research questions that you would like answered through this work?	We are interested in hearing suppliers' ideas but are specifically interested in the opportunities with regard to overcoming structural and capacity constraints for research.
31	Are there any specific geographic areas that are of interest to Wellcome for this research?	See question 3.
32	What is of particular interest to Wellcome with regards to the engagement and involvement of people with lived experience of mental health problems in citizen science? Are there any specific research questions that you would like answered through this work?	Example questions include: Whether or not people with lived experience have been engaged in any citizen mental health science projects in the past or currently; what that engagement looked like; what the barriers are to lived experience engagement; where it has gone well in relation to this commission; how this engagement/involvement varies in regards to difference geographical areas.
33	The RFP document includes superscript numbers indicating references, yet these are not provided in the text. Are you able to share these?	<p>[1] https://www.oed.com/dictionary/citizen-science_n</p> <p>[2] https://science.nasa.gov/citizenscience; https://www.jstor.org/stable/43184948; https://conscicom.web.ox.ac.uk/the-material-culture-of-citizen-science</p> <p>[3] https://www.fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk/news-item/brainexplorer/</p>



		<p>[4] For example, the <i>Pulsar Hunters</i> project, supported by the BBC, crowdsourced the examination of over 60,000 pulsar candidates and recorded 2.6 million classifications in just over 48 hours. https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/332393/reporting</p> <p>[5] https://academic.oup.com/bioscience/article/72/7/651/6605713</p> <p>[6] https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/pan3.10332</p>
34	Should we build optionality for a public-facing, Wellcome-branded report to showcase the findings?	See question 7.
35	Are you able to provide an indicative budget?	We are not setting a specific budget externally at this point, but value for money is a consideration in our evaluation of proposals.