



RFP N100032

Community, Convening & Collaboration for Accelerator Awardees

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Wellcome improves health for everyone by funding research, leading policy and advocacy campaigns, and building global partnerships. Collaborative research that involves a diverse range of people from different fields of interest is key to progress in health science – and to achieving our aim of fostering a healthier, happier, world. We're taking on the biggest health challenges facing humanity – climate and health, infectious disease, and mental health – to find urgent solutions and accelerate preventions. Find out more about Wellcome and our work at: wellcome.org.

If you are interested in working with Wellcome on this activity, please review the information below this explains the activity in which Wellcome is seeking proposals for, timetable, what questions Suppliers need to complete and how to engage with us further, to ensure you are successful please read the whole document and answer the questions within the section(s). Responses should be made via the Oracle portal. Responses will not be accepted outside of the system.

All suppliers are required to register on Oracle if they have not already done so. Please allow at least three working days before the final submission date to ensure you complete registration and receive approval in time to meet the deadline.

Wellcome Contact Details

The single point of contact within this RFP exercise for all communications is as indicated below:

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Table of Contents

1 Synopsis	4
1.1 Background and Objectives	4
1.2 Specification	5
1.3 Timetable	15
1.4 Guidance on Submission and Process	15
1.5 Contract Terms and Conditions	16
2 Responses Required	17
2.1 Section 1. Expression of Interest	17
2.2 Section 2. Full proposal Submission	18
2.3 Section 3. Methodology	19
2.4 Section 4. Delivery Approach and Programme Management	19
2.5 Section 5. Collaboration Fund and Opportunity Development	20
2.6 Section 6. Experience	20
2.7 Section 7. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning	22
2.8 Section 8. Budget	23
2.9 Section 9. Equity, Inclusion and Awardee Experience	24
3 Evaluation Criteria	25
4 General Information	27
4.1 Data Protection	27
4.2 Equity Diversity and Inclusion	27
4.3 Disability Confident	27
4.4 Accessibility	27
4.5 Independent Proposal	28
4.6 Funding	28
4.7 Costs Incurred by Prospective Suppliers	28
4.8 Environmental Sustainability	28

1 Synopsis

1.1 Background and Objectives

Wellcome's [Accelerator Awards](#) support researchers from Black, Bangladeshi or Pakistani-heritage, including those of mixed heritage, to advance their research careers and leadership. The scheme was launched in 2024 to support researchers to undertake research and research-adjacent activities that strengthen progression towards the next stage of their careers.

To date, the scheme has supported researchers across a range of career stages, from early-career researchers through to more established academics. As the programme grows, the Accelerator Awards community will comprise participants with diverse experiences, priorities, support needs, and relationships to the scheme.

The Awards form part of Wellcome's broader commitment to creating more equitable research ecosystems and addressing persistent disparities in who participates, progresses, and succeeds within research. The scheme is offered annually and is expected to run until at least 2028.

While funding is a critical enabler of career progression, Wellcome recognises that financial support alone is insufficient to address the structural conditions that shape participation, recognition, and advancement within research systems. Evidence from the development and implementation of the Accelerator Awards, alongside consultation with awardees, highlights that many researchers continue to navigate systems characterised by racism, exclusion, unequal access to opportunity, and other structural barriers – exacerbating the already difficult and precarious experience of being an academic.

Wellcome recognises that a community and engagement programme cannot, on its own, resolve these structural inequities. However, evidence from awardees suggests that opportunities for connection, collaboration, peer support, shared learning, visibility, and collective action can play an important role in helping researchers navigate inequitable systems and build thriving careers. This programme is therefore intended as a complementary intervention that sits alongside funding and Wellcome's broader efforts to contribute to a more equitable research ecosystem.

Building from this, Wellcome is seeking to commission an experienced partner to **design, deliver, and steward a community network for Accelerator Awardees.**

This work will be stewarded by the Equitable Research Ecosystems UK team, based within Wellcome's Equity Department.

Objectives

Community and Belonging

- Build and sustain a thriving, inclusive, and awardee-led community.
- Foster meaningful connection, peer learning, and collaboration across cohorts, disciplines, geographies, and career stages.

Opportunity, Development, and Progression

- Expand access to opportunities, networks, and resources within Wellcome and the wider research ecosystem.
- Support long-term career development, leadership and progression.

Learning and Systems Change

- Generate evidence on the role of community, collaboration, convening, and networking alongside funding.
- Use that learning to inform future development of the Accelerator Awards scheme and Wellcome's wider approaches to supporting people beyond funding alone.

Sustainability

- Establish the foundations for a sustainable and engaged alumni network.
- Create community structures that continue generating value beyond individual awards and beyond the life of the contract.

1.2 Specification

Purpose

Wellcome is seeking to commission an experienced partner to design, deliver, and steward a multi-year

community, collaboration, and engagement programme for Accelerator Awardees.

This work goes beyond delivering events or managing an online platform. Community stewardship and network development are the primary objectives of this contract. Convenings, funding mechanisms and opportunity brokerage are enabling activities that support this goal. The successful supplier will be responsible for developing the enabling conditions for a sustained, inclusive, and generative community that supports:

- Peer-to-peer connection and learning.
- Collaboration across disciplines, institutions, geographies, and career stages.
- Access to opportunities within and beyond Wellcome.
- Collective reflection on shared challenges and systemic barriers, while identifying opportunities for future progress and impact
- Career development and progression beyond the life of the award.

The supplier will work closely with Wellcome while maintaining the independence, trust, and facilitation capability required to support open, participant-led, and psychologically safe spaces.

Alongside delivering a high-quality community experience for awardees, the supplier will be expected to generate insights and learning about what forms of support beyond funding are most valuable to researchers. This learning should help inform future iterations of the Accelerator Awards scheme and contribute to wider organisational thinking about how funders can best support researchers and research communities.

The supplier should consider not only the needs of current awardees but also how the community can evolve into a sustainable cross-cohort and future alumni network that continues to generate value over time.

Intended Outcomes

Wellcome is seeking a supplier who can help create the conditions for a community that delivers meaningful benefits for Accelerator Awardees and generates learning that informs future approaches to researcher support.

Through this contract, Wellcome seeks to achieve a number of outcomes, including:

A self-sustaining community

- Strong relationships across cohorts, institutions, disciplines, and career stages.
- Awardees actively shaping, leading, and contributing to the community.
- An engaged alumni network that continues beyond the lifetime of individual awards.
- Community structures and relationships that can be sustained beyond Wellcome's direct investment.

Greater collaboration and collective action

- New collaborations emerging between awardees and alumni.
- Joint initiatives, projects, funding applications, partnerships, and shared activities.
- Increased opportunities for peer support, knowledge exchange and collective problem-solving.

Increased access, visibility and influence

- Greater awareness of and access to opportunities, networks, and resources.
- Improved visibility of awardee expertise and leadership.
- Stronger connections between awardees, Wellcome, and the wider research ecosystem.

Enhanced researcher experience and progression

- Increased feelings of belonging, support, and connection.
- Greater access to relationships and opportunities that support long-term progression.
- Improved ability to navigate and respond to structural barriers within research environments.

Learning and evidence generation

- A stronger evidence base on the role of community, collaboration, and convening alongside funding.
- Actionable insights that inform future iterations of the Accelerator Awards.
- Learning that contributes to Wellcome's wider thinking about supporting people beyond funding alone.

Design Principles

The programme should be designed and delivered according to the following principles:

- Awardee-led and co-designed: awardees should play a meaningful role in shaping priorities, activities, governance and decision-making.
- Strengths-based: the programme should build on the expertise, assets and leadership that awardees already possess.
- Equity-informed: delivery should acknowledge the structural factors that shape research careers.
- Inclusive and accessible: opportunities should support participation across career stages, institutions, disciplines, and lived experiences.
- Relational over transactional: priority should be given to long-term relationship building rather than one-off activities.
- Sustainable: community leadership and alumni engagement should be developed from the outset.

Scope of Work

The programme is expected to comprise the following interconnected workstreams.

Workstream 1: Community Infrastructure and Network Development

The supplier will establish and steward the community infrastructure that underpins the Accelerator Awards ecosystem. This includes developing an approach to community-building that fosters connection, trust, belonging, peer support, and knowledge exchange across cohorts and career stages. The supplier should create the conditions for both structured and organic engagement, recognising that community development requires active stewardship while enabling participants to shape and influence the network over time.

The supplier should also consider how community infrastructure can support future cohorts and evolve into a sustainable alumni network beyond the lifespan of individual awards, ensuring that community value can accumulate over time rather than being recreated annually. The community infrastructure should not be treated as a transactional output but rather a form of relational infrastructure that requires intentional design, careful facilitation, and shared ownership.

Indicative activities may include:

- Community strategy and engagement model.
- Participant onboarding and engagement approaches.
- Community governance mechanisms.
- Alumni network planning and development.
- Community communications and engagement planning.

Approaches should demonstrate how engagement will be fostered across cohorts with differing levels of experience, varying relationships to the scheme, and differing support needs, including both current awardees and alumni.

Workstream 2: Convening and Structured Engagement

The supplier will design and deliver a programme of engagement activities that support networking, collaboration, learning, and relationship-building across the community. This should include delivery of annual in-person convenings, alongside a programme of virtual, hybrid, and/or thematic engagement opportunities throughout the year. Under this work stream, the first major milestone for the contract will be supporting the delivery of the annual Accelerator Awards convening in March 2027. Engagement activities should be designed to encourage participation, peer learning, reflection, and collaboration while remaining responsive to the evolving needs of awardees throughout their career journeys.

Indicative activities may include:

- Annual whole-scheme convenings.
- Thematic workshops and discussion sessions.
- Peer-learning activities.
- Structured networking opportunities.
- Cohort and cross-cohort engagement activities.
- Participant-led sessions and community contributions.

Workstream 3: Collaboration and Opportunity Development

The supplier will create mechanisms to enable meaningful collaboration between awardees and support connections both within and beyond the Accelerator Awards community.

A key component of this workstream will be the design, administration, and management of a Collaboration Fund that supports awardee-led activities aligned with the objectives of the programme.

The supplier will administer the Collaboration Fund on Wellcome's behalf in accordance with criteria, governance arrangements, and decision-making processes approved by Wellcome. Wellcome may retain approval rights in respect of all or specified funding decisions.

The Collaboration Fund is intended to support awardee-led networking, knowledge exchange, peer learning, leadership development, community-building, partnership development, and collaborative activities that advance the objectives of the Accelerator Awards programme. The fund is intended to strengthen relationships, connections, learning, collective action, and opportunities emerging from participation in the community. Where suitable, the supplier should also help identify and facilitate opportunities for collaboration that may emerge through community participation and engagement.

The Collaboration Fund is not intended to support substantive research projects, salary costs, institutional overheads, or activities already funded through an Accelerator Award.

Suppliers should propose an approach to ensure governance that is transparent, proportionate, equitable, and accessible. We encourage suppliers to consider meaningful awardee involvement in fund governance, assessment processes, prioritisation exercises, and decision-making mechanisms where appropriate.

Indicative activities may include:

- Collaboration Fund design and administration.
- Development of eligibility criteria and governance arrangements.
- Application, assessment, approval and reporting processes.
- Awardee participation in governance and decision-making where appropriate.
- Matchmaking and collaboration brokerage.
- Capturing and sharing learning from funded activities.
- Monitoring outcomes and impact of funded collaborations.

Workstream 4: Opportunity Navigation and Ecosystem Connections

The supplier will help widen access to opportunities, networks, relationships and spaces that have historically been unevenly accessible within research ecosystems. This includes strengthening pathways to relevant opportunities within Wellcome and across the wider research sector, increasing the visibility of awardee expertise and leadership, and brokering connections that enable greater participation, collaboration, influence and progression. The intention is not only to strengthen connections within the Accelerator Awards community but also to support more equitable access to the broader systems that influence career progression.

Indicative activities may include:

- Mapping relevant Wellcome opportunities and engagement activities.
- Connecting awardees to relevant communities and networks.
- Maintaining an 'opportunities dashboard' or equivalent resource.
- Curated communications on funding, development, and leadership opportunities.
- Supporting visibility of awardee expertise and achievements where appropriate.

Workstream 5: Learning, Evaluation and Insight Generation

A core objective of this programme is to better understand the role that community, collaboration, networking, and engagement can play in supporting equitable career progression for researchers. The supplier will therefore be expected to embed monitoring, evaluation, and learning throughout the programme and generate actionable insights that can inform future Accelerator Awards delivery and Wellcome's wider approach to supporting researchers beyond funding. Suppliers may deliver this function directly or in partnership with organisations or individuals with relevant monitoring, evaluation, and learning expertise. The supplier should develop an approach that captures both participant experience and broader programme outcomes while ensuring learning is used to continuously improve delivery throughout the contract period.

Indicative activities may include:

- Development of a monitoring, evaluation, and learning framework and/or theory of change.
- Participant feedback mechanisms.
- Annual learning and insight reports.
- Tracking collaboration and engagement outcomes.
- Recommendations for future scheme development.
- Final evaluation and sustainability recommendations.

Anticipated Phases, Key Milestones & Related Deliverables

Year 1: Mobilisation and Establishment (January 2027 - September 2027)

- Community strategy, engagement model, and delivery plan agreed with Wellcome.
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework developed and agreed.
- Online community platform and supporting infrastructure established.
- Mapping of relevant Wellcome engagement opportunities, funding schemes, and external opportunities completed.
- Opportunity-sharing mechanism/dashboard launched.

- Collaboration fund designed, including governance, eligibility criteria, decision-making processes, and reporting framework.
- First collaboration funding round launched.
- Annual Accelerator Awards Convening delivered (March 2027).
- Initial participant feedback and learning report produced.

Years 2 - 4: Delivery, Growth, and Learning

- Annual Accelerator Awards Convenings delivered.
- Ongoing programme of online and/or hybrid engagement activities delivered.
- Collaboration fund administered and reviewed annually.
- Opportunity mapping and dashboard maintained and regularly updated.
- Alumni engagement model developed and tested as cohorts complete their awards.
- Annual monitoring, evaluation, and learning reports produced.
- Annual programme review and refinement informed by awardee feedback.
- Mid-point strategic review and recommendations for programme adaptation.

A successful programme after 3 years might demonstrate:

- 20-30% of reachable alumni engaged annually
- 50%+ of participants returning for further activity
- Strong satisfaction/belonging scores
- A growing number of member-led initiatives
- Collaboration fund oversubscribed by 2-3x
- 30-50% of funded projects leading to sustained collaborations or follow-on opportunities
- Clear examples of impact aligned to Wellcome's strategic goals

Specific to Contract Close:

- Alumni and sustainability recommendations developed.
- Final evaluation completed.
- Recommendations for future Accelerator Awards community support and engagement developed.
- Recommendations for broader Wellcome approaches to supporting awardees beyond funding.
- Transition and sustainability plan produced for the community and alumni network.

Contract Expectations

Suppliers are invited to propose an approach and budget that they believe to be proportionate, realistic, and capable of delivering the objectives described in this RFP.

To support planning and proposal development, Wellcome has developed indicative budget assumptions for certain programme elements based on the anticipated growth of the Accelerator Awards community over the lifetime of the contract, expected participation levels, and the types of activities that the programme is expected to deliver. These assumptions have been informed by learning from the initial Accelerator Awards convening and current projections for future cohorts.

The anticipated contract period is from **January 2027 to June 2031**.

Wellcome has modelled the following programme components:

(Indicative budget assumptions)

Annual Convenings: £773,000 over the contract period

- 2026/27: £110,000*
- 2027/28: £147,000
- 2028/29: £151,000
- 2029/30: £155,000
- 2030/31: £210,000

Collaboration Fund: £180,000 over the contract period

- 2026/27: £24,000
- 2027/28: £30,000
- 2028/29: £36,000
- 2029/30: £42,000
- 2030/31: £48,000

These assumptions reflect the expected growth of the Accelerator Awards community, with cost projections increasing over time to accommodate larger cohort sizes and higher participation levels. The collaboration fund is intended to support awardee-led partnerships, joint activities, and collaborative initiatives emerging from the community.

**The March 2027 convening costs will be covered by Wellcome's events team due to the short lead in period from the contract start date. Suppliers will need to cover their cost for attendance and participation in preparatory design sessions where relevant.*

Suppliers should clearly distinguish between:

- Costs associated with designing, delivering, facilitating, and evaluating the programme.
- Costs associated with community infrastructure and engagement platforms.
- Funds intended for onward distribution through the collaboration funding mechanism.
- Convening and event delivery costs.

1.3 Timetable

#	Activity	Responsibility	Date
1	RFP issue to Suppliers	Wellcome	21-Aug-2026
2	Submission of Expression of Interest and Supplier Q&A	Supplier	11-Sep-2026
3	Return of Supplier Q&A to Suppliers	Wellcome	24-Sep-2026
4	Submission of RFP Response	Supplier	23-Oct-2026
5	RFP Evaluation Period	Wellcome	26-Oct-2026 to 06-Nov-2026
6	Supplier Presentations	Supplier	17-Nov-2026 to 19-Nov-2026
7	Notification of Contract Award	Wellcome	
8	Contract Negotiation	Wellcome & Supplier	Nov-2026
9	Contract Start Date	Wellcome & Supplier	11-Jan-2027

1.4 Guidance on Submission and Process

Submission:

- Suppliers submitting a full proposal should answer the following questions listed below
- All sections should be completed as fully as possible for Wellcome to review and score your responses once the submission period is closed. Please ensure you attach all information.
- Supplier's responses should be submitted via the Oracle portal. Once you have submitted your response you will be notified that it has been received
- Suppliers are allowed to revise their submitted response until the close date.
- Throughout this process Wellcome will ensure you are notified and contacted when you have been successful and unsuccessful

Supplier Presentations:

- Following a submission of the proposal successful proposals will be invited to an in-person or virtual

meeting the duration will be confirmed. This may comprise of a PowerPoint presentation, demo etc (depending on the activity) followed by question and answers session. We may also require a brief follow-up call after these presentations.

1.5 Contract Terms and Conditions

Wellcome will be looking to put a contract in place using Wellcome's Standard Terms and Conditions. Suppliers submitting proposals should review Wellcome's Standard terms and Conditions [document](#)

Individuals submitting proposals as a sole trader (not registered) should review this [document](#).

2 Responses Required

* Response is required

2.1 Section 1. Expression of Interest

*1.

Brief Concept Note

Suppliers are also requested to submit a brief concept note (**maximum 1,000 words**) outlining their initial response to the opportunity. This should be attached as a PDF document.

The concept note should include:

1. Proposed Approach

- Outline your initial approach to delivering the programme described within this RFP.
- Highlight any aspects of the brief that you consider particularly important and how you would address them.

2. Relevant Experience and Capability

- Explain why your organisation, partnership, or consortium is well placed to deliver this work.
- In particular, describe your experience of:
 - Community building and stewardship.
 - Co-design and participant-led approaches.
 - Facilitation and convening.
 - Equity-informed practice and work with underrepresented communities.
 - Monitoring, evaluation, and learning (where relevant).

3. Illustrative Example

- Provide one short case study demonstrating delivery of work similar in scale, complexity, or ambition to this RFP.
- Suppliers may include one link to a relevant output, report, website, or public resource.

(please confirm below that you have attached EOI response)

Weight: 100

- ☐ a. Yes(Attachments are required)

☐ b. No

*2. A non-binding cost estimate as a single figure in GBP.

*3. Any questions you have about the exercise and activity.

*4. Please confirm whether you are responding as an individual, organisation, partnership, or consortium.

2.2 Section 2. Full proposal Submission

1. After you have reviewed each of the questions below in Section 2;

- Methodology,
- Delivery Approach and Programme Management
- Collaboration Fund and Opportunity Development
- Experience
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
- Budget
- Equity, Inclusion and Awardee Experience

Please upload a single document detailing your proposed response, ensuring you keep within the word limit as specified for each question. Please note some questions may not have a word limit.

We have locked down your ability to answer directly in the sections below to ensure we avoid repetition of your responses, for Wellcome to receive a consolidated document.

2.3 Section 3. Methodology

1.

Understanding of the Programme and Overall Approach

Describe your understanding of the purpose, context and intended outcomes of the Accelerator Awards community programme. Explain your proposed approach to designing, delivering and stewarding a multi-year community, collaboration and engagement programme for Accelerator Awardees.

Please include:

- Your understanding of the intended outcomes of the programme.
- How your approach aligns with the Design Principles outlined in this RFP.
- Opportunities and challenges you foresee.

How your approach will support both current awardees and alumni.

Please answer Yes or No if you have included your answer into your full proposal as per section 2.2

2.4 Section 4. Delivery Approach and Programme Management

1. Describe your proposed approach to delivering and managing the programme across the contract period.

- Your proposed delivery model and programme structure.
- How the five workstreams will connect and reinforce one another.
- Key phases, milestones and activities across the contract period.
- Roles and responsibilities across the delivery team and any partners.
- Approaches to programme governance, risk management and quality assurance.
- How you will ensure the programme remains responsive to evolving awardee needs and emerging opportunities.
- Please include a high-level mobilisation and delivery timeline.

Please answer Yes or No if you have included your answer into your full proposal as per section 2.2

2.5 Section 5. Collaboration Fund and Opportunity Development

1.

Describe your proposed approach to administering and governing the Collaboration Fund and supporting opportunity development across the cohort.

Please include:

- Governance arrangements.
- Decision-making processes.
- Approaches to transparency and accessibility.
- Awardee involvement in governance and decision-making.
- Relevant experience administering funding programmes or similar funding mechanisms.
- Approaches to supporting collaboration, networking and collective action.

Suppliers should propose a governance model and assessment process. Wellcome will retain final approval authority for all Collaboration Fund awards

Please answer Yes or No if you have included your answer into your full proposal as per section 2.2

2.6 Section 6. Experience

1. We anticipate the successful supplier will have a primary strength in community building and facilitation within research, higher education or equity-focused ecosystems, with complementary capabilities in convening, grant administration and learning/evaluation either in-house or through partnerships.

Supplier

Requirements

- The delivery of this programme requires a combination of specialist expertise spanning community-building, facilitation, research ecosystem knowledge, event delivery, digital engagement, monitoring, evaluation and learning, and equity-informed practice.
- Given the programme's focus on experiences of inequity, discrimination and exclusion within research systems, suppliers should demonstrate a clear approach to participant wellbeing, psychological safety and duty of care.

This should include:

- Approaches to creating psychologically safe spaces.
- Processes for responding to distress or wellbeing concerns.
- Escalation procedures for disclosures relating to discrimination, harassment, bullying, or safeguarding concerns.
- Appropriate referral and support mechanisms where required.

Other requirements include:

- Demonstrated experience facilitating conversations relating to race, identity, power, discrimination, belonging and structural inequity.
- Demonstrated understanding that underrepresentation within research careers is shaped by structural and systemic barriers.
- Demonstrated use of strengths-based and non-deficit approaches when working with underrepresented communities.
- Strong understanding of UK higher education and research ecosystems, involving work with researchers and academics.
- Expertise in building and sustaining communities
- Expertise in inclusive facilitation
- Ability to engage diverse groups with differing needs and perspectives
- Demonstrated knowledge of comprehensive, multi-year evaluations
- Demonstrated systems and processes for the allocation, distribution, governance, and reporting of funds to individuals/organisations
- Desirable: meaningful professional, lived or practice-based understanding of the experiences of Black, Bangladeshi and Pakistani researchers within UK research and higher education contexts.

Given the range of supplier requirements, we welcome proposals from individual organisations, as well as partnerships, or consortia. Suppliers may propose collaborative delivery models where this strengthens the overall quality, breadth, and sustainability of the offer.

Where a consortium or partnership approach is proposed, suppliers should clearly outline:

- The role and responsibilities of each partner
- The governance and decision-making arrangements
- How delivery will be coordinated across organisations
- The relevant expertise and experience contributed by each partner
- The identified lead organisation and primary contractual relationship with Wellcome
- Where relevant, evidence of previous collaboration

We are keen to ensure that the supplier(s) bring together complementary expertise and demonstrate a coherent and integrated approach to delivery.

2.

Provide details of your proposed team and relevant experience.

Please include:

- Roles and responsibilities.
- Relevant expertise of key personnel.
- Up to three relevant case studies.
- Management and governance arrangements.
- How team members and partners will be equitably compensated.

Please answer Yes or No if you have included your answer into your full proposal as per section 2.2

2.7 Section 7. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

1.

Describe your proposed Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework.

Suppliers should demonstrate how their proposed approach and evaluation framework will contribute to the intended outcomes of this programme.

Please include:

- How success would be defined and measured.
- Proposed indicators and measures of progress.
- Approaches to capturing qualitative and quantitative learning.
- How learning will inform programme improvement.

How evidence generated through the programme will inform future development of the Accelerator Awards and Wellcome's wider approaches to supporting researchers and research communities.

Please answer Yes or No if you have included your answer into your full proposal as per section 2.2

2.8 Section 8. Budget

1. Provide a detailed budget including:

- Total proposed budget.
- Budget breakdown by workstream.
- Staffing costs.
- Collaboration Fund administration costs.
- Convening costs.
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning costs.
- Key assumptions and exclusions.

All our content should be WCAG 2.2. AAA compliant. Any documents being provided to Wellcome must pass accessibility requirements. If you are unable to produce accessible documents, budget must be set aside to employ a suitable agency to do this work.

Please provide your budget breakdown in a CSV format e.g. Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet within your proposal.

Please answer Yes or No if you have included your answer into your full proposal as per section 2.2

2.9 Section 9. Equity, Inclusion and Awardee Experience

1.

Describe how your approach reflects the experiences, strengths and aspirations of Black, Bangladeshi and Pakistani researchers within UK research environments.

Please include:

- Relevant experience working with underrepresented communities.
- Your approach to strengths-based and non-deficit practice.
- Facilitating conversations relating to race, identity, power, belonging and inequity.
- Creating inclusive and psychologically safe spaces.
- Approaches to wellbeing, safeguarding and duty of care.

Please answer Yes or No if you have included your answer into your full proposal as per section 2.2

3 Evaluation Criteria

During the RFP evaluation period the evaluation panel will independently evaluate your proposal against the criteria outlined below. All scores will be collated, discussed and a decision will be agreed on who progresses to the next stage of the procurement exercise.

Criteria	Details	Weight %
Expression of Interest		100%
Full Submission	proposal This section is for the Supplier's submission of the consolidated full proposal document which includes all the question requirements for section 2.	N/A
Methodology	How well does the supplier demonstrate an understanding of the programme's purpose, context and intended outcomes, and propose a credible approach to designing, delivering and stewarding a multi-year community, collaboration and engagement programme for Accelerator Awardees?	N/A
Delivery Approach and Programme Management	How well does the supplier demonstrate a credible, achievable and well-integrated approach to delivering and managing the programme, including governance, implementation planning, risk management and coordination across the workstreams?	N/A
Collaboration Fund and Opportunity Development	How well does the supplier's proposed approach provide transparent, accessible and proportionate governance of the Collaboration Fund, while enabling meaningful awardee involvement and supporting collaboration across the community?	N/A
Experience	How well does the supplier demonstrate relevant community-building, facilitation, equity-informed and research ecosystem experience, supported by an appropriately skilled team, governance arrangements and relevant case studies?	N/A
Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning	How well does the proposed Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework define success, measure outcomes, generate actionable learning and support continuous improvement throughout the programme?	N/A
Budget	Does the supplier provide a clear, realistic and appropriately detailed budget that demonstrates value for money and aligns with the proposed delivery model?	N/A

Equity, Inclusion and Awardee Experience	How well does the proposed approach reflect the experiences, strengths and aspirations of Black, Bangladeshi and Pakistani researchers, and demonstrate inclusive, strengths-based and psychologically safe approaches to engagement and delivery?	N/A
Accessibility	All our content should be WCAG 2.2. AAA compliant. Any documents being provided to Wellcome must pass accessibility requirements. If you are unable to produce accessible documents, budget must be set aside to employ a suitable agency to do this work.	N/A
Total:		100%

4 General Information

4.1 Data Protection

Wellcome is committed to upholding data protection principles and protecting your information. The [Wellcome privacy statement](#) explains how, and on what legal basis, we collect, store, and use personal information about you. This includes any information you provide in relation to this proposal.

Under UK Data Protection law, Wellcome must keep a record of all personal information it is processing (i.e., collecting, using, and sharing). This record will be made available to the Information Commissioner's Office upon request. This is Wellcome's record of data processing activities which meets UK [GDPR article 30](#) requirements.

Successful Suppliers will be asked to complete a TPRM and TPSRA assessment this is for Wellcome to assess how you handle data.

4.2 Equity Diversity and Inclusion

Embracing [diversity and inclusion](#) is fundamental to delivering our mission to improve health, and we are committed to cultivating a fair and healthy environment for the people who work here and those we work with. We want to cultivate an inclusive and diverse culture, and as we learn more about barriers that disadvantage certain groups from progressing in our workplace, we will remove them.

Wellcome takes diversity and inclusion seriously, and we want to partner with suppliers who share our commitment. We may ask you questions related to D&I as part of our RFP processes.

4.3 Disability Confident

The Wellcome Trust is proud to be a Disability Confident Employer (DC Level 2) and we encourage all our partners and suppliers to do the same. More information about this can be found on the government website [Disability Confident employer scheme and guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#). Disability Confident is creating a movement of change, encouraging employers to think differently about disability and take action to improve how they recruit, retain and develop disabled people.

4.4 Accessibility

Wellcome is committed to ensuring that our RFP exercises are accessible to everyone. If you have a disability or a chronic health condition, we can offer adjustments to the response format e.g., submitting your response in an alternate format. For support during the RFP exercise, contact the Wellcome Contact.

If, within the proposed outputs of this RFP exercise, specific adjustments are required by you or your team which incur additional cost then outline them clearly within your commercial response. Wellcome is committed to evaluating all proposals fairly and will ensure any proposed adjustment costs sit outside the commercial evaluation.

All our content should be WCAG 2.2. AAA compliant. Any documents being provided to Wellcome must pass accessibility requirements. If you are unable to produce accessible documents, budget must be set aside to

employ a suitable agency to do this work.

4.5 Independent Proposal

By submission of a proposal, prospective Suppliers warrant that the prices in the proposal have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication, agreement or understanding for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices, with any other potential supplier or with any competitor.

4.6 Funding

For the avoidance of doubt, the output of this RFP exercise will be funded as a **Contract** and not as a Grant.

4.7 Costs Incurred by Prospective Suppliers

It should be noted that this document relates to a Request for Proposal only and not a firm commitment from Wellcome to enter into a contractual agreement. In addition, Wellcome will not be held responsible for any costs associated with the production of a response to this Request for Proposal

4.8 Environmental Sustainability

Wellcome is playing its part tackling the climate crisis through its mission-driven Climate & Health strategic programme.

In addition, our [Sustainability programme](#) aims to address the environmental impacts and carbon emissions of our activities and operations.

Our suppliers have a key part to play delivering on our sustainability ambitions. We expect all our suppliers to take active steps to:

- Address their environmental impacts, for instance as part of a certified Environmental Management System.
- Reduce the carbon emissions of their products and services, for instance by adopting Science-Based targets and plans to deliver them.
- Embed environmental considerations in the sourcing and delivery of goods and services to Wellcome, across all stages of their life cycle.