

UKRI Mental Health Platform (MHP) Collaboration & Innovation (C&I) PPIE Awards - Application Form

This application is only valid to apply to MHP C&I Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) Awards. Please consult the [MHP website](#), the [MHP website C&I PPIE Awards](#) and the [MHP Privacy Policy](#) before submitting your application.

Part 1- PPIE Applicant details

The applicant is encouraged to nominate additional co-leads rather than listing only themselves as the sole lead. However, this is not a mandatory requirement.

Lead PPIE Applicant:

Title	Mrs
First Name	Minerva
Last Name	Adams
Current role (if applicable)	PPIE member (DATAMIND)
Organisation name (if applicable)	University of Swansea
Email contact	Minerva.adams@email.com
Tel. contact	07XXXXXXXXXX
Full Address	Singleton Park, Sketty, Swansea SA2 8PP

Co-Lead Applicant *(Complete this section if applicable. You may copy the table as many times as needed to list multiple Co-Leads):*

Title	Dr
First Name	Ross
Last Name	Munroe
Current role (if applicable)	Research Fellow
Organisation name (if applicable)	Social Health Hub, Queen Mary University of London
Email contact	Ross.munroe@email.com
Tel. contact	Insert landline or mobile number
Full Address	327 Mile End Rd, Bethnal Green, London E1 4NS

Collaborators *(Complete this section if applicable. You may copy the table as many times as needed to list multiple Collaborators):*

Title	Mr
First Name	Brad
Last Name	Shaw
Current role	Research Programmes Lead

Organisation name	MQ Mental Health Research
Email contact	Brad.shaw@email.com
Tel. contact	Insert landline or mobile number
Full Address	6 Honduras St, London EC1Y 0TH

Part 2- Project information

Project Title	Amplifying Voices: Co-creating Inclusive Data Practices for People with SMI
Start Date*	01/06/2026
End Date and Length (months)	31/05/2027, 12 months
Total Cost to Funder proposed	£19,810
Hubs Involved (must involve at least 2 Hubs, choose more if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brain and Genomics <input type="checkbox"/> Complex Emotions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DATAMIND <input type="checkbox"/> ImmunoMIND <input type="checkbox"/> Metabolic Psychiatry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Health
Please list all institutions involved in the project (if applicable)	Queen Mary University of London, MQ Mental Health Research
Please indicate the funding theme applicable (must address at least one theme, choose more if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Improving PPIE best practice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluating PPIE impact <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancing understanding of people with Severe Mental Illness (SMI)

*Note: Project start date must be within six (6) months of the decision being made and within one month of the contract being signed as part of the awards process.

Please provide a [Plain English summary](#) containing:

The plain English summary should be written in simple terms that a member of the public can understand. It should allow the reader to understand the aims and outcomes of the project, why it is important, how the research will be conducted by involving at least two Hubs and addressing at least one of the funding themes. Applicant must include enough detail to allow lay reviewers to review and score the application.

If successful, this summary will appear on our website (max 300 words):

This project brings together people with severe mental illness (SMI), researchers, and mental health organisations to improve how digital mental health data is collected and used. Many people with SMI feel unsure, worried, or left out of studies that use digital data. This can be because information is hard to understand, privacy feels unclear, or taking part does not feel accessible or supportive.

To help change this, we will run a series of friendly, co-designed workshops where people with lived experience can share their views and talk about what makes digital data research feel safe, respectful, and meaningful. These discussions will help us understand the barriers people face and what good involvement should look like.

Working together, we will create simple, practical tools that researchers can use when planning digital data projects. These tools will be based directly on what people with SMI tell us they need in order to feel comfortable and informed when taking part.

DATAMIND and the Social Health Hub will support the project by helping us test and shape the tools so they can be used more widely across mental health research. This will ensure that learning from the workshops benefits many studies, not just one.

This project fits the “Evaluating PPIE impact” theme because we will measure how the co-created tools affect people’s experiences. We will look at whether the tools help increase trust, understanding, satisfaction, and willingness to take part in research.

Overall, this project aims to make digital data research more inclusive and accessible. By placing lived experience at the centre, we hope to help more people with SMI feel confident, respected, and empowered to get involved in research that affects them.

Please describe how your project benefits people with SMI, and outline any measurable outcomes that could advance mental health research, healthcare, or social support (max 300 words):

People with severe mental illness (SMI) are often underrepresented in digital data research, frequently because of concerns about privacy, unclear consent processes, or limited access to digital tools. These barriers can lead to experiences of exclusion and mistrust, which ultimately limit the relevance and inclusiveness of mental health research. By involving people with lived experience directly in the design of data practices, this project aims to create approaches that feel safer, clearer, and more respectful.

The project will deliver several key outcomes. First, we will co-produce a set of practical, easy-to-use tools, such as guidance sheets, checklists, and accessibility prompts, that help researchers design digital data collection in ways that better meet the needs of people with SMI. These tools will be shaped entirely by lived experience, making them grounded, relevant, and usable across a wide range of studies.

Second, we will gather feedback from workshop participants to understand whether these new tools improve trust, confidence, and satisfaction with the research process. This will help us measure how involvement directly influences the quality and inclusivity of digital data projects.

Third, by working closely with DATAMIND and community partners, we aim to support increased engagement of people with SMI in digital research. The tools developed will be adaptable for use across other studies, enabling wider uptake and more consistent inclusion across the mental health research landscape.

Finally, the learning generated through this project has the potential to shape national conversations about ethical data use. By highlighting what people with SMI say they need to participate safely and meaningfully, this work can contribute to future

guidance, strengthen public trust, and support more equitable health and social outcomes.

Overall, the project aims to remove barriers, amplify lived experience, and build more inclusive digital research practices.

Please describe the lead PPIE applicant and co-leads, collaborators' responsibilities and relevant lived experience to deliver the project (max 300 words):

Mrs Minerva Adams (Lead PPIE) brings over five years of experience working as a peer researcher and PPIE contributor on national digital health projects. Her lived experience of severe mental illness has directly informed guidance on accessible digital involvement, ethical communication, and inclusive data practices. In this project, she will lead the design and delivery of the co-designed workshops, facilitate discussions with lived experience participants, and ensure that all activities remain grounded in what people with SMI identify as important. She will also support the co-creation and testing of the practical tools developed through the project.

Dr Ross Munroe (Co-Lead) is an experienced mental health researcher with more than ten years of expertise in co-production, participatory methods, and digital mental health. They will oversee research ethics, data analysis, and data management processes to ensure that all work meets best-practice standards. Dr Munroe will also coordinate links with the DATAMIND and Social Health Hubs so that learning from this project feeds into wider hub activities, resources, and evaluation frameworks.

Mr Brad Shaw (Collaborator, MQ Mental Health Research) specialises in research coordination, data accessibility, and measuring the impact of involvement. He has substantial experience working with both researchers and lived experience groups to make data-focused projects more transparent and inclusive. In this project, he will support the design of impact measures, contribute to evaluating workshop outcomes, and help gather feedback to assess whether the co-created tools improve trust, understanding, and participation among people with SMI.

All team members have previously worked together in co-designed research settings and share a strong commitment to lived experience leadership. Their complementary skills—spanning PPIE, ethics, co-production, and digital mental health ensure that the project is both feasible and grounded in meaningful involvement at every stage.

Diversity statement: Please describe how you have considered Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) principles in your application (max 150 words). For further guidance:

[Embedding diversity in research design - MRC - UKRI](#)

We have embedded Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) throughout the project design to ensure that people with SMI from a wide range of backgrounds can take part meaningfully. Recruitment will actively reach underrepresented groups, including people from minority ethnic communities, LGBTQ+ participants, and individuals with experience of homelessness or digital exclusion.

Workshops will be held in accessible, step-free venues, with travel reimbursement, quiet spaces, and digital access support (e.g., devices or data vouchers) to remove

participation barriers. All project materials and co-created tools will be available in multiple formats, plain language, large print, audio, and translated versions to support different communication needs. We will also work with community organisations to ensure cultural relevance and accessibility.

Diverse voices will be included in the evaluation process so the tools reflect a broad range of lived experiences and needs, helping ensure they are inclusive, representative, and widely applicable.

What are the ethical issues (e.g., consent, privacy, risk) related to the proposed work? [e.g. Will you collect personal information? Will people take part as research participants? Could anyone be at risk due to participation?]. If you do not think that the proposed work raises any ethical issues, explain why (max 150 words)

Applicants must comply with all relevant regulatory, policy and ethical requirements. When applicable, we expect all applicants to obtain ethical approval for their projects, unless the work is already covered by an existent approval. For further guidance: [Ethics and approvals – UKRI](#)

The proposed work raises low ethical concerns. We will collect only anonymous feedback and no sensitive personal data. Participation is entirely voluntary, and all participants will receive clear information and give informed consent before taking part. Some individuals may also act as co-researchers; we will provide appropriate guidance to ensure they understand their role and responsibilities. Risks are minimal, but we will offer wellbeing support during workshops to address any discomfort that may arise. Although the ethical risks are low, we will still seek advice from the host institution R&D team to ensure the project follows best practice.

Part 3 – Co-Funding or Contributions from Other Organisations

If applicable, list any co-funding, in-kind contributions, or institutional support your project will receive (max 300 words).

MQ Mental Health Research is contributing staff time in-kind (equivalent £2,000), and Queen Mary University of London is providing free venue access for events (value £1500). No other external funding is requested.

Part 4 – Research Plan and Timeline (max 4 pages)

This section tells reviewers what you are planning to do, why it matters and how you will carry it out. It should show that your project is achievable, well thought-out, and clearly supports the aims of the MHP C&I PPIE Awards. Refer to the [MHP website](#) for more information.

Below is an example structure. It does not need academic language, clear, honest, lived-experience writing is strongly encouraged:

- Project summary (½ page)

- Background & rationale (½ page)
- Aims & research questions (¼ page)
- Methods & activities (1-1.25 pages)
- Data management (¼- ½ page)
- Risk management (¼- ½ page)
- Co-production & PPIE involvement (¼- ½ page)
- Outputs, impact & sharing learning (½ page)
- Justification of resources (¼ page); Full budget breakdown is detailed in part 5

Find example on MHP website linked [here](#).

Part 5 – Budget Plan (max 1 page)

This section should outline a clear, realistic, justified and compliant project budget. Your total project cost must remain within the funding limit and reflect only eligible costs. Refer to the [MHP website](#) for more information.

Please provide detailed cost breakdown and consult links below for references:

- [NIHR Payment Guidance for Public Contributors](#)
- [HRA – Payments & tax considerations](#)

Find example on MHP website linked [here](#).

Part 6 Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Questionnaire

Please complete the MHP EDI form using the link [here](#). This is optional, anonymous and confidential. Your information will not be used in the application review process or in any decision-making. Collecting this information helps us to monitor our progress in promoting inclusion in research, and in identifying and reducing barriers to participation and progression.

Additionally, if you would like to make us aware of any reasonable adjustments or accessibility needs, please use the link [here](#) to let us know.

Part 7– How did you find out about this opportunity?

We would like to understand how you heard about this opportunity to help improve our outreach efforts. Please select all that apply:

- University or academic department communication (e.g. email newsletter, website)
- UKRI website
- Social media (e.g., LinkedIn, Twitter/X, Instagram)

- Email newsletter or mailing list
- Another Organisation's website
- Colleague or word of mouth
- Conference, network or professional event
- Poster, flyer or physical advertisement
- Other (please specify): MHP PPIE Steering Group

Part 8 – Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

All reviewers are expected to declare any potential conflict of interests (COI) when they are invited to be part of the Review Committee. If a COI is identified during the review process, the reviewer must withdraw immediately from reviewing the application. However, we also ask applicants to identify during the application stage any potential COI with Collaborators, Hub leads, PPIE or other members of the platform.

Reviewers will be excluded from reviewing an application if they have:

- Direct involvement in the proposed project (e.g. co-lead, collaborator)
- Close professional relationship (e.g. supervisor, Mentor, collaborator or co-applicant with the main applicant in other projects)
- Employment at the same institution as the applicant
- Personal or financial interest in the outcomes of the application

Please declare any COI relevant to the review of this application.

Professor Jennifer Lau, Social Health Hub lead is the line manager for Dr Ross Munroe.

Part 9– Consent to Process Data

To process your application, we require your consent to be contacted and to use and store the data you have provided. Your data will be stored securely, according to the [MHP Privacy policy](#), and you have the right to access your data and to withdraw your consent, at any time by emailing the MHP Coordinating Team at mhp@ed.ac.uk.

I consent to be contacted by the MHP, and for them to process and store the data I've provided, according to the [MHP Privacy policy](#).

Part 10 – Submission

Once this document is completed and you confirm your consent to process your data in Part 9, please save your application form with the title Year MHP PPIE CandI PPIE Awards Full Name (e.g. 2026 MHP CandI PPIE Awards Jane Smith) and submit it to mhp@ed.ac.uk with the email subject line "MHP C&I PPIE Awards Application".

Other attachments

You will also need to submit the following as attachments to the email:

Tick box	Documents (A4, Arial, font size 11)	Max length
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Letters of Support From each of the Hub leads and Collaborators involved. Letters must include information on the level of commitment and type of contribution provided from the Hubs or Collaborators to the project. Letters of support from collaborators must include a statement that they have read and agreed to the MHP Privacy Policy and their data use.	1 page each

Please keep the total size of all documents under 25Mb.

The MHP Coordinating Team will process your application to confirm all information has been provided and will send you an email confirming receipt. For timelines and guidance, please visit the MHP website.

If your application is successful, you will receive an outcome email from the MHP Co-ordinating Team, with terms and conditions, if applicable. Successful applicants are expected to follow the [MHP values](#), [Code of Conduct](#) and [Data sharing](#) principles. The summaries of all funded projects will be uploaded to the MHP website.

All decisions are final and there is no right to appeal. Unsuccessful candidates will be allowed to re-apply one more time in one of the following rounds. Unsuccessful candidates must make substantial changes to their previous application and specify how they have addressed any comments from the review panel.