How many pilot projects should be included in the application?

The ultimate aim of the call is to build and strengthen a cross-disciplinary community in the research area of Adolescence, Mental Health and the Developing Mind. Engagement Awards can be used to achieve this aim in a variety of ways, including building new partnerships, strengthening existing collaborations, facilitating knowledge exchange and pursuing pilot projects. As such, the pilot projects are one approach to support the development of this cross-disciplinary network and explore innovative research ideas, however we expect applications to include a portfolio of approaches and activities.

There is no upper or lower limit to the number of pilot projects that can be included in the application – this will be dependent on the focus of the award and the type of research involved. However strong justification will need to be provided for proposals that only include a single pilot project, as to how this will enable novel avenues of research to be explored more broadly and how this is complemented by a wider portfolio of activities focused on community building.

Why are details being requested for governance arrangements for the pilot funding and a description of how these will be awarded where not defined in the application?

Given the fixed start date to the award it is likely that much of the pilot work may be determined at the point of application, however we welcome flexibility being incorporated into the application such that some pilot funding can be responsive to opportunities that might emerge as the engagement activities develop. In this case, applicants may wish to provide estimated costs for some pilot projects and the governance arrangements for how this will be managed should be included within the proposal.

What attachments are required?

In addition to the Je-S proposal form, the following attachments are required in line with MRC guidance for standard research grants (https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/2-the-application/#2.2):

- Case for Support (up to 8 pages)
- Justification of Resources (up to 2 pages)
- Pathways to Impact (up to 2 pages)
- Data Management Plan
- CVs (2-pages) and list of publications (1-page) for the applicants
- Project partner letters of support where applicable
- Letter of support (optional)