

Project Manager

Programme: Mental Health Catalyst

Location: Cambridge (hybrid, approximately 60 % in Cambridge)

FTE: 1.0 FTE

Salary: £48,902 - £59,769

Term: Fixed term. Initially 2 years, thereafter subject to funding

Closing date: 12 noon 10th December 2025

IfM Engage

About the Institute for Manufacturing and IfM Engage

The Institute for Manufacturing (IfM) is part of the University of Cambridge's Department of Engineering. It focuses on research, education, and practice to "Manufacture a Better World." Its activities involve helping organisations develop life-changing products and services, create meaningful jobs, and contribute to a better environment for the future. Additionally, the Institute aims to help governments foster innovation and enterprise to deliver social and economic benefits. Its undergraduate and postgraduate education programmes are designed to prepare the manufacturing leaders of the future.

IfM Engage Ltd is a limited company owned entirely by the University of Cambridge. The company generates revenue by partnering with organisations across industry, government, and academia to help them solve complex challenges, utilising approaches and knowledge developed at the Institute for Manufacturing (IfM). The operating surplus generated by IfM Engage is donated to the University of Cambridge to support future research. In 2024, IfM Engage was recognised for its strong and positive work culture and was awarded the Investors in People (IIP) accreditation.

Mental Health Catalyst programme

IfM Engage has been selected to lead the development and delivery of a Mental Health Catalyst. Contract development is underway, and the project is expected to begin on February 2nd, 2026.

The Catalyst is a major international collaboration, working with leading researchers, innovators, lived-experience experts and other stakeholders to accelerate the identification and development of new and better interventions for depressed mood. It builds on work done since 2019 by IfM Engage and collaborators to develop and pilot structured approaches to help accelerate the translation of mental health research into interventions for the prevention, early detection, diagnosis and personalised treatment of depression in young people. The Catalyst programme combines evidence synthesis,

and innovation and implementation methods, to translate research into impactful, scalable and equitable solutions that improve mental health outcomes for globally diverse populations across the life course.

Purpose of the role

The purpose of the Project Manager role is to lead and coordinate the on-time, on-budget and high-quality delivery of the Mental Health Catalyst programme, working closely with the Project Director, IfM Engage teams, external collaborators and stakeholders. The Project Manager will also lead the design, implementation, measurement and communication of the Catalyst's impact.

NB: The Mental Health Catalyst is a fast-paced, complex and multi-work package programme.

Main duties and responsibilities

1. Project management

- Develop and maintain the project schedule and budget, ensuring that IfM Engage and collaborator teams understand and support the schedule.

A key aspect of the role is to work with IfM Engage teams and five external collaborators to ensure that IfM Engage, collaborator, stakeholder and subcontractor resources are available for the timely delivery of:

- i. A substantial number of online facilitated workshops across 3 time zones
 - ii. Review and input from ~10 Expert Advisory Panels
 - iii. Development and maintenance of the Catalyst's website
 - iv. High quality communication outputs across a range of audiences, media and formats
 - v. Launch and dissemination activities to key stakeholders to enable uptake and use of the Catalyst's outputs.
- Maintain oversight of interdependent workstreams, proactively identifying risks and implementing mitigation plans. This includes ensuring appropriate resourcing, scheduling and prioritisation across multiple collaborators and time zones
 - Monitor and report progress against the schedule and budget in formats suitable for communication with key groups, including the project funder, Work Package Delivery teams, Steering Committee, collaborators, the Project Director and the IfM Engage Leadership team and Board

- Support the Project Director in identification and resolution of barriers to achievement of the delivery on-time, on-budget and high-quality delivery of the Catalyst's outputs and outcomes.

2. Stakeholder and collaborator engagement and coordination

- Work with IfM Engage teams, collaborators, Expert Advisory Panels, stakeholders and subcontractors to ensure that they understand, buy-into and can deliver the project plans
- Support sensitive and inclusive engagement with international collaborators, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and with lived experience experts
- Support the Project Director in reporting to and ensuring collaborative engagement with the project funder.

3. Impact measurement

- Design and manage the Catalyst's impact framework, linking activities to measurable outcomes. Define key indicators, establish data systems and embed impact tracking across all work packages.
- Work with delivery partners to collect and analyse data, support learning reviews, and report progress to the Steering Committee and the funder. The role ensures clear evidence of how the Catalyst accelerates development of better interventions for depressed mood.
- Communicate results and lessons through reports, dashboards and case studies, sharing insights across partners, shaping a lasting framework for future mental health innovation.

4. Communication

- Be an ambassador for the Mental Health Catalyst programme, communicating positively the Catalyst's aims, approach, progress, outputs and outcomes with key stakeholders and audiences to support achievement of the Catalyst's mission.

Skills and Experience

Criteria		Essential or Desirable
Qualifications and Experience	Educated to master's level in an appropriate subject, or equivalent experience	E
		E



	Project management training and qualifications such as PRINCE2 or PMP. Demonstrable experience of successfully delivering complex projects involving multiple stakeholders and delivery partners working collaboratively. Expertise in project management methods Experience of project management in a health innovation environment, e.g. public health, health and social care, and/or health technology solutions Ideally, experience of applying collaborative innovation and implementation methods (e.g. multi-stakeholder facilitation, structured ideation, systems mapping, roadmapping) would be beneficial. Experience of managing website development and/or other IT / technology development projects.	E E D D D
Skills	Strong interpersonal skills enabling the development and maintenance of effective and trusting relationships with collaborators over the programme life cycle Ability to build effective and productive relationships with people from a range of contexts involved in the Catalyst, e.g. i. Stakeholders from low-, medium- and high-income country contexts ii. Mental health lived experience experts iii. Researchers and innovators globally iv. Stakeholders across the mental health research, innovation and implementation ecosystem Strong evaluation and analytical skills, with experience designing and applying frameworks that link activities to measurable outcomes. Strong written and verbal communication skills enabling effective communication with: i. IfM Engage, collaborators and Expert Advisory Panels delivering the project	E E E E

	ii. The project funder iii. The Steering Committee	
	Cross-cultural and diplomatic interpersonal and presentation skills	E
	Strong expertise in IT tools for project management, stakeholder engagement and collaboration, as well as Microsoft Office	E
	Excellent organisation and communication skills to embed impact tracking across work packages, support consistent reporting, and translate evidence into clear, actionable insights.	E
	Demonstrable strategic understanding of research translation and (mental, ideally) health innovation, ensuring that impact assessment reflects scientific progress, system change, equity and long-term benefit.	E
	Demonstrated ability to assimilate, analyses and apply a broad range of multi-disciplinary information	E
	Ability to build collaborative communities, through a range of mechanisms (e.g. online and in-person events, social media and web-based platforms) to support the Catalyst's mission and role.	D

This is a unique opportunity to play a key role in a high-profile, international initiative shaping the future of mental health innovation.

Some UK and international travel may be required as part of the role.

The role is full-time; however, we are open to conversations around flexible working. The role is based in Cambridge. IfM Engage operates an 'office first' hybrid working policy (at 60% of working time in the office). The salary band for this role is £48,902 - £59,769 plus a

generous benefits package, including healthcare.

IfM Engage has a responsibility to ensure that all employees are eligible to live and work in the UK.

IfM Engage actively supports equality, diversity and inclusion and encourages applications from all sections of society.

We will be reviewing applications as they are received and may contact candidates during the advertising period. However, the role will remain open until the stated closing date, and all applications will be given full consideration.

At IfM Engage, we are committed to being transparent about how we collect and use your data and ensure that we meet our data protection obligations. For a more detailed view of the information, we collect and how we process it please check out our Privacy Notice for Job Applicants [here](#).

How to apply:

Please send a CV and covering letter to ifm-engage@eng.cam.ac.uk . If you would like to discuss the role, please contact Anna Rowntree, Project and Operations Manager (car68@cam.ac.uk).

The closing date for the role is 12 noon on 10 December 2025. We look forward to your application.