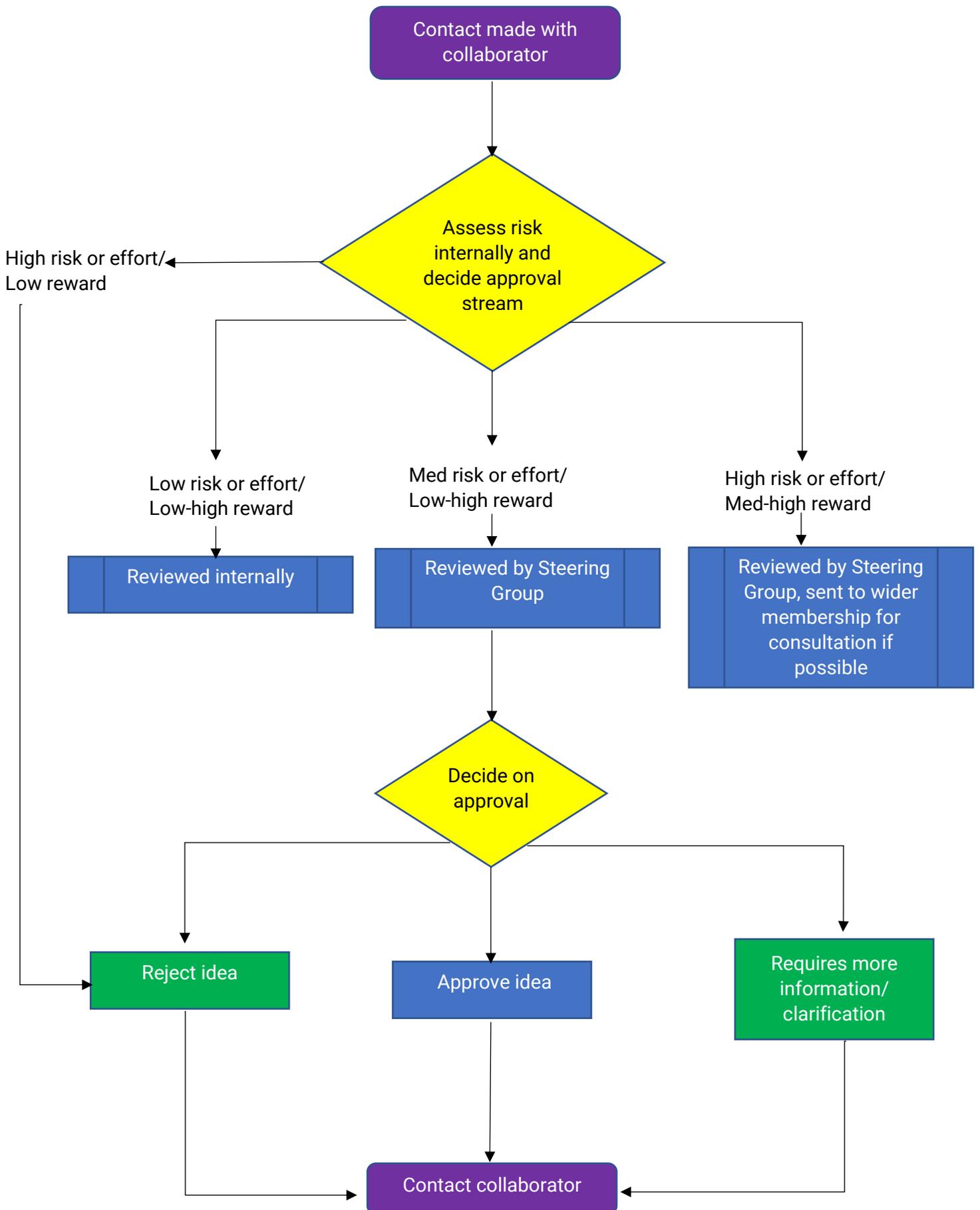


Process for managing partnerships



Scope

Embracing Complexity's vision is a world where everyone with neurodevelopmental conditions achieves their potential. We believe that we can achieve this more effectively by working together. This policy considers collaborations to further this vision with partners outside of our membership, including:

- Research partnerships
- Policy and public affairs
- Involvement of the community (people with neurodevelopmental conditions, their families and carers)
- Communications, dissemination and PR

This policy does not cover activities carried out by Embracing Complexity member organisations or their employees working in capacities unrelated to Embracing Complexity.

Purpose

To ensure that our approach to partnerships is consistent with Embracing Complexity's vision, mission and values as outlined in [our Strategy](#).

We aim to maximise the benefits for:

- People with neurodevelopmental conditions, their families and carers by improving the quality of neurodevelopmental research, policy and service provision.
- People with neurodevelopmental conditions, their families and carers by increasing focus on research, policy and service provision that crosses diagnostic boundaries and recognises the complexity of people's lives.
- People with neurodevelopmental conditions, their families and carers by increasing focus on community priorities for research, policy and service provision.
- Researchers, policymakers and other stakeholders by giving them access to resources and guidance on a wide range of neurodevelopmental conditions.
- Embracing Complexity member organisations by bringing together researchers, policymakers, member organisations, the people they serve and other organisations.
- Embracing Complexity by increasing our influence on partners and our ability to leverage future funding to further our vision, mission and values.

We aim to control the risks of:

- Harm to people with neurodevelopmental conditions, their families and carers from poorly directed activity from proposed partners.
- A lack of understanding or support from potential partners about meaningful involvement – planning, commitment, costs – and a culture that doesn't support meaningful partnership.

- Exploitation of people with neurodevelopmental conditions, their families and carers, Embracing Complexity, our member organisations and their assets.
- Activity which does not meet a need for people with neurodevelopmental conditions, their families and carers.
- Reputational or actual damage to Embracing Complexity or its member organisations.

Decision making

The following issues will affect Embracing Complexity's decision-making on partnerships:

- Is this an opportunity to undertake high quality and high impact research, policy, communications or any other activity related to Embracing Complexity's mission and vision?
- Is this partner addressing a community need that crosses diagnostic boundaries?
- Is their reputational or actual risk involved which will affect the capacity of Embracing Complexity or its member organisations to deliver on their vision?
- Does our involvement increase the impact of the activity?
- Is partnering on this activity more impactful than other opportunities we have available to us?
- Does our involvement lead to wider impact beyond the scope of the project?

For each type of support Embracing Complexity could provide, we will ask:

- What are the risks and benefits?
- Can the partner communicate sensitively, intelligently and positively about neurodevelopmental conditions?
- Are we needed? If we don't do it, will someone else?
- Is this partnership more suitable for one or more of our member organisations than for the coalition as a whole?
- Is there a financial case for supporting this project?