

Discovery Committee

Supplementary Terms of Reference

- 1 **Background:** the Discovery Committee (DC; formerly known as the Development Committee) was established in September 2003 as a joint funding initiative between Cancer Research UK and Cancer Research Technology (CRT), with the aim of directly developing research for patient benefit. The scope of the scheme covers the exploitation of novel molecular targets, from initial identification and validation through to the development of candidate molecules for the treatment of patients with cancer.
- 2 **Remit:** the Discovery Committee is a sub-committee of the Clinical and Translational Research Committee (CTRC) with a remit to review, select, prioritise and fund work programmes that are aimed at exploiting new scientific knowledge for the identification and/or validation of novel preventative and therapeutic entities for cancer patient benefit.
 - The remit has recently expanded to include: the development of platform technologies for use in drug discovery.
 - The DC is the sole scheme operating for the managed preclinical development of projects from the Cancer Research UK research portfolio and for Intellectual Property arising from outside of the CR-UK portfolio but managed through Cancer Research Technology (CRT).
- 3 **Additional Terms:**
 - 3.1 To receive regular updates/progress reports on projects being funded and to make decisions as appropriate e.g. termination if the project is not proceeding well, reassess the development plan, discuss the impact of timing and route to commercialisation.
 - 3.2 To take account of comments received from any external reviewers or advisory groups and provide clear recommendations on the discovery proposals, including opportunities for improving discovery plans.
 - 3.3 To review information on the entire portfolio of projects being managed and to make any recommendations as appropriate, e.g.:
 - Requests to CTCR/SEB for infrastructure investment.
 - Requests to CRT to delay commercialisation of specific projects if there appear to be compelling reasons to do so.
 - A report to be submitted to the Discovery Co-ordinating Committee on a yearly basis.
 - 3.4 To recommend to the CTCR the establishment and membership of any review panels or specialist advisory groups which would help with the planning of any particular types of projects.

4 Membership:

The committee expertise will include chemistry, oncology, biotechnology, molecular biology, pathology, pharmacology and immunology.

5 Meetings: the committee will meet annually.