Cancer Research UK
Grand Challenge Advisory Panel

Terms of Reference

This document sets out the key responsibilities that the Scientific Executive Board (SEB) has delegated to the Grand Challenge Advisory Panel (the GCAP or Panel).

The Panel will work in conjunction with the Grand Challenge Steering Group, comprising members of CRUK’s Senior Leadership team (Executive Director and Director level). The Grand Challenge Steering Group will provide strategic input and cross-directorate sponsorship for all aspects of the programme, sign off of operational decisions required to develop and deliver the scheme and governance and oversight of the programme in accordance with the strategic agenda agreed by SEB.

1 Remit

1.1. To identify one or more specific barrier(s) that, if removed, would help solve an important problem in cancer research and have significant potential for the benefit of cancer patients (the Research Questions). The Research Questions should be identified in consultation with the research community, patients and the public, and form the basis of a funding scheme (Grand Challenge) for international research consortia to submit research proposals to address one or more of the Research Questions.

1.2. To review Grand Challenge research applications and recommend one or more winning consortia in accordance with these Terms of Reference.

2 Role and responsibilities

In fulfilling its remit, the Panel will:

2.1. Target the Research Questions to the fulfilment of Cancer Research UK’s mission.

2.2. Shortlist expressions of interest and select the winning consortia on the basis of scientific excellence, relevance to Cancer Research UK’s research strategy and other strategic criteria set by the Grand Challenge Steering Group.

2.3. Satisfy itself that any research proposal selected for funding will be conducted to the highest standards of ethics and governance, and in compliance with all relevant laws, regulations and guidelines.

2.4. Develop appropriate scientific performance measures for the award.

2.5. Recommend to the Grand Challenge Steering Group whether any Grand Challenge research applications should be pipelined into other funding schemes.

2.6. Identify and recommend improvements for future Grand Challenge funding calls including, if appropriate, updates to the Research Questions.

3 Budget and financial authority limits

3.1. The Panel will make funding decisions in accordance with the budget set by the Scientific Executive Board (SEB).

3.2. As a funding committee, the Panel is bound by CRUK’s financial delegation thresholds for grant decisions, as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Size of Grant</th>
<th>Funding Committee</th>
<th>SEB</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual funding</td>
<td>Up to £1 million</td>
<td>Up to £4 million</td>
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<td>Total funding</td>
<td>Up to £4 million</td>
<td>Up to £10 million</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Up to £500k for capital requests</td>
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3.3. All grants in excess of £4 million per annum or £10 million in total are to be ratified by the Research Strategy Committee of the CRUK Council of Trustees (RSC).

3.4. CRUK anticipates that many of the funding proposals before the Panel will be in excess of these thresholds; in those cases, the Panel will make a funding recommendation to CRUK’s SEB and RSC, as applicable.
4 Membership

4.1. Membership of the Panel will be approved in accordance with CRUK’s rules for appointing members of Funding Committees. The Chair will be approved by the SEB.

4.2. The Panel will be appropriately qualified to fulfil its remit. Members will include a broad range of scientific experts as well as individuals with other expertise (innovation, technology, business and entrepreneurship) as the Grand Challenge Steering Group deems appropriate and necessary.

4.3. The Chair and Cancer Research UK are responsible for ensuring there is adequate expertise at a meeting to evaluate each proposal and, if necessary, it is at their discretion to postpone a decision until appropriate expertise can be called upon. The Panel may propose to co-opt additional experts on an ad hoc, time-limited basis where appropriate.

4.4. Panel members will be appointed for an initial term of no more than three years. Membership may be renewed, but no member may serve for more than six years in total.

5 Conflicts of Interest

5.1. Panel members will familiarize themselves with the conflicts of interests rules in Cancer Research UK’s Code of Practice for Funding Committees and Panels and will declare any potential conflicts of interest.

5.2. Cancer Research UK will operate mechanisms for recording members’ interests and for dealing with potential conflicts of interest that arise in the conduct of the Panel’s business.

6 Meetings

6.1. The Panel will meet as frequently as it deems necessary and, in general, up to three times per year. For the avoidance of doubt, meetings may take place via telephone or video conference.

6.2. Executive Officers of Cancer Research UK may attend panel meetings in an ex-officio capacity.

7 Document information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approved by</td>
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<td>Schedule of amendments</td>
<td>Minor clarifications to terminology, application of financial authority thresholds and conflicts of interest rules.</td>
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