Appendix 1

Terms of Reference for the Review Panel

1. The task of the Review Panel is to conduct an independent assessment of the effectiveness and impact of BBSRC's Follow-on Fund (FoF) over the past decade, including standard FoF, SuperFoF and Pathfinder awards.

2. Specifically, the objectives are to:

    a. assess the effectiveness of the FoF in demonstrating the potential of ideas arising from BBSRC-funded research to realise wider benefits through their application

    b. assess the extent to which the original technical and business plan development objectives of FoF awards were met

    c. assess the outcomes and achievements arising from the FoF, including any economic and societal impacts

    d. comment on the balance and coverage of the FoF awards (e.g. science areas, alignment to BBSRC strategic priorities, remit)

    e. comment on the FoF's application and administration processes

    f. advise BBSRC on ways to build on successes and ways to address identified gaps and issues

Appendix 2

Review Panel membership

Professor Rob Beynon (Chair)
University of Liverpool

Dr Nessa Carey
Pfizer

Professor Stuart Dunbar
Syngenta

Mr Sean Fielding
University of Exeter

Dr Sue Foden
Rainbow Seed Fund

Professor Jeremy Lakey
Newcastle University

Dr Rupert Osborn
IP Pragmatics

Professor Helen Sang
University of Edinburgh

Dr Andrew Spencer
Rothamsted Research

Professor Jason Swedlow
University of Dundee

Appendix 3

Questionnaires

- Survey of former award holders
- Survey of current award holders
- Survey of applicants who were not funded

Survey of former award holders

A. YOUR DETAILS

Please enter your details below

Name	
Institution	

PROJECT PARTNER DETAILS (where relevant)

Name	
Organisation	

B. YOUR FOLLOW-ON FUND PROJECT

Follow-on Fund projects have two major types of complementary objectives:

- **technical objectives**: e.g. scientific and technical development of the idea, undertaking further research etc.

- **business plan development objectives**: e.g. improving an IP position, gaining further information about the market, identifying potential licensees etc.

TECHNICAL OBJECTIVES

1. How successful was your Follow-on Fund project in meeting its original technical objectives?

1 not at all successful	2 somewhat successful	3 successful	4 very successful

Comments
For example, if the project was less successful in meeting its technical objectives than you anticipated, please comment on the reasons for this.
Please note: the project's progress after the award ended is covered in later questions

2. Which statement best describes the status of your project's research idea or technology:
- **at the time of your Follow-on Fund application**
- **at the end of the Follow-on Fund award**
- **at present?**

For information, the associated Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) are provided alongside the descriptions below. TRLs are often used to assess the maturity of evolving technologies.

Status of the project	At the time of the application	At the end of the award	At present
I had an idea from a previous project, but had not conducted any research to develop it further			
I was conducting basic research to develop the idea / technology [TRL1-2]			
I was conducting research to prove the feasibility of the idea / technology (e.g. applied research) [TRL2-3]			
I had proven feasibility and was developing the idea / technology [TRL3-5]			
I had demonstrated the usefulness of the idea / technology within the laboratory (e.g. prototype) [TRL5-6]			
I had demonstrated the usefulness of the idea / technology within a real world test [TRL6-7]			
I had demonstrated the usefulness of the idea/ technology and was developing further refinements [TRL7-8]			
The idea / technology was ready for market or available to end-users [TRL9]			

Comments

BUSINESS PLAN DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

BBSRC expects all Follow-on Fund projects to develop a robust and clearly defined business plan, irrespective of the approach chosen to translate the research into practical application.

3. How successful was your Follow-on Fund project in meeting its business plan development objectives?

1	2	3	4
not at all successful	somewhat successful	successful	very successful

Comments
For example, if the project was less successful in meeting its business plan development objectives than you anticipated, please comment on the reasons for this
Please note: the project's progress after the award ended is covered in later questions

LINKS BETWEEN TECHNICAL AND BUSINESS PLAN DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

4. Please rate your experience with managing the links between your project's technical and business plan development objectives

1 very difficult	2 difficult	3 neither easy or difficult	4 easy	5 very easy

5. Please indicate whether the delivery of either objective type (technical or business plan development) was affected by issues with the other?

Please select all that apply

	✓
The delivery of the technical objectives was affected by issues with the business plan development objectives	
The delivery of the business plan development objectives was affected by issues with the technical objectives	

Comments

PROGRESS AFTER THE AWARD ENDED

6. At the end of the Follow-on Fund award, was the potential of the research to be translated into practical application clear?

Yes	
No	

7. Which of the following best describes the status of the research idea at the end of the Follow-on Fund award?

Please note: there is no expectation that all Follow-on Fund projects will result in outcomes that are suitable for further development or translation.

Option	✔
The idea was suitable for further development / translation	
The idea was not suitable for further development / translation	
Additional research was required to determine whether the idea was suitable for further development / translation	
Other – please specify below	

Comments

8. Please provide brief details on the project's progress since the end of the Follow-on Fund award, considering:
- **scientific and technical activities**
- **business plan development activities**

Specific details on individual outputs, outcomes and impacts arising from the Follow-on Fund award are covered in subsequent questions (e.g. intellectual property, licensing, spin-out companies, further funding, collaborations and partnerships, publications, impacts)

If you did not develop your idea further, please comment on the reasons for this.

Scientific and technical activities

Business plan development activities

9. Are you currently actively seeking to translate your research idea into practical application?

Option	✓
Yes	
No	
No - but I am likely to do so in the future	
No - the idea is already fully translated into practical application	

Comments

C. OUTPUTS, OUTCOMES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The section requests details on the specific outputs, outcomes and achievements of the Follow-on Fund award. These outcomes may be associated with the technical and business plan development objectives of your project, or with the project's progress after the award ended. There are specific questions on the following output types:

- intellectual property and other intellectual assets
- licensing
- spin-out companies
- further funding
- collaborations and partnerships
- publications
- other outcomes and impacts

The questions are designed to update the information in your final report. You do not need to reproduce information which was reported previously within your final report or the cross-Council Research Outcomes System (ROS).

Please only provide details on outputs and outcomes which are attributable to the Follow-on Fund award. It is recognised that progress since the award ended may also be attributable to other sources of funding.

You may wish to contact your Technology Transfer Office (or equivalent) to assist with particular questions in this section. This could be appropriate if there are aspects of the project where you are not aware of the current status (e.g. progress with licensing intellectual property, subsequent investment in a spin-out company etc).

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND OTHER INTELLECTUAL ASSETS

BBSRC recognises that there are many different types of intellectual asset which may arise from bioscience research. These include formally protected intellectual property (e.g. patents, trademarks, copyright, plant breeders' rights) as well as other intellectual assets (e.g. knowledge, know-how).

10. Did the Follow-on Fund award contribute to the development of new intellectual property (IP) or enable you to improve an existing IP position?

Type of IP or other intellectual asset	Yes, new IP	Yes, improved existing IP position	No	No, but it is likely to in the future
Patent				
Trademark				
Copyright				
Plant breeders' rights				
Other – please specify below				

Additional details (e.g. brief description, patent no. etc)

11. If the Follow-on Fund award contributed to a new or improved patent application:
- **was the patent subsequently awarded**
- **is the patent protection still maintained?**

	Yes	No	Too early to say	Don't know
The patent was subsequently awarded				
Patent protection is still maintained				

Additional details

LICENSING

12. Please provide details on any licensing of the intellectual property associated with the Follow-on Fund project:
- **has the intellectual property been licensed to others?**
- **has the licence yielded any income?**
- **has the licensee used the intellectual property?**

	Yes	**No**	**No, but likely to in the future**	**Don't know**
The IP has been licensed to others				
The licence has yielded income				
The licensee has used the IP				

Please provide brief details

Where you are not able to provide the name of the licensee, please provide a generic description (e.g. a major pharmaceutical company).

Licensee	**Income (£)**	**Start Year**	**Details**

Additional details

SPIN-OUT COMPANIES

13. Did the Follow-on Fund award contribute to the establishment or further development of a spin-out company

Option	✓
Yes: the award contributed to the establishment of a spin-out company	
Yes: the award contributed to the further development of an existing spin-out company	
No	
No, but it is likely to in the future	

Additional details (e.g. company name, area of activity, no. staff employed, trading / dormant / ceased trading etc.)

COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

14. Please provide details on any new collaborations or partnerships which developed as a result of the Follow-on Fund award

Partner / Organisation	Type (e.g. academic, industry, other)	Country	Start Year

Additional details
In particular, please indicate whether the collaboration with another organisation is the primary route for translating your research into practical application

FURTHER FUNDING

15. Please provide details on any further funding you received to develop the work supported by the Follow-on Fund award

For example: research grants, studentships, contract research, translational research, investment in a spin-out company (loans, venture capital, business angel) etc.

Please do not include any funding to support the protection of intellectual property or licence income

Funder	Funding type	Value (£)	Start Year

Additional details

PUBLICATIONS

16. Please list any further publications arising from the Follow-on Fund award since the final report was produced, including those that are in press or accepted for publication

Please distinguish between original research articles and other articles.

Please only include publications which are directly associated with the Follow-on Fund award. Do not include publications arising from prior BBSRC funding unless the research activities supported by the Follow-on Fund award contributed data to the publications.

Original research articles

Other articles (e.g. in trade journals)
For this evaluation, we are not requesting information on review articles, book chapters or conference presentations.

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OTHER OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS

17. Please provide brief details of any other notable outcomes or impacts arising from your Follow-on Fund award

Examples could include: staff training and development; prizes and awards; knowledge exchange; public engagement; other economic or societal impacts; or wider benefits to the public good.

Please distinguish between realised impacts and potential impacts

Please also use this section to describe any other approach you may have used to translate your research into practical application (if not already covered)

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D. GENERAL

YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH IDEAS

18. At the time of your Follow-on Fund application, had you previously sought to translate other research ideas into practical application?

Please only consider research which is not directly associated with the Follow-on Fund project

Option	✓
Yes: I had successfully translated other research	
Yes: I had tried to translate other research, but was not successful	
Yes: I was in the process of translating other research, but the outcome was not yet known	
No	

Comments

19. How useful was the Follow-on Fund award in enabling you to develop skills and experience which support the translation of research ideas?

For example, developing skills which enable you to identify research outputs with potential for practical application, or to identify the most appropriate route to translate your research outputs

1 not at all useful	2 somewhat useful	3 useful	4 very useful

Comments

20. To what extent did your experience with the Follow-on Fund project make you more or less likely to try to translate other research ideas into practical application?

1 much less likely	2 less likely	3 no influence	4 more likely	5 much more likely

Comments

21. Since the end of the Follow-on Fund award, have you sought to translate any of your other research ideas into practical application?

Please only consider translation activities which began after the end of the Follow-on Fund award.

Option	✓
Yes: I have successfully translated other research	
Yes: I have tried to translate other research, but was not successful	
Yes: I am in the process of translating other research, but the outcome is not yet known	
No	

Comments

APPLICATION AND ADMINISTRATION PROCESSES

22. How effective are the application and assessment processes for the Follow-on Fund programme?

1 not at all effective	2 somewhat effective	3 effective	4 very effective	Don't know

Comments

23. How would you rate the support you received while you were preparing your Follow-on Fund application from:
- **BBSRC**
- **your Technology Transfer Office (or equivalent)?**

	1 poor	2 fair	3 good	4 very good	Did not seek support
Support from BBSRC					
Support from your TTO					

Comments

| |
| |

24. Would you consider applying for Follow-on Fund support again in the future?

Yes	
No	

Comments

| |
| |

PATHFINDER AWARDS

25. Did you receive a Pathfinder award prior to submitting your Follow-on Fund application?

Pathfinder awards help researchers undertake the preliminary work required to put them in a position to apply for a Follow-On Fund award. This work typically focuses on evaluating the market potential for their research and the comparative strength of their intellectual assets and, if the technical feasibility of the project depends on it, the achievement of technical milestone 1.

Yes	
No	

If yes, how useful was the Pathfinder award for supporting your Follow-on Fund application?

1 not at all useful	2 somewhat useful	3 useful	4 very useful

Comments

| |
| |

BBSRC SUPPORT FOR TRANSLATIONAL ACTIVITIES

26. If you had not received the Follow-on Fund award, how would this have affected the success of the project?

27. Overall, how useful is the Follow-on Fund for enabling researchers to translate their BBSRC-funded research into practical application?

1 not at all useful	2 somewhat useful	3 useful	4 very useful	Don't know

Comments

28. How effective is the Follow-on Fund in bridging the gap between BBSRC-funded research and the point at which other (non-BBSRC) funding support is available?

1 not at all effective	2 somewhat effective	3 effective	4 very effective	Don't know

Comments

29. Please provide any comments, if any, on how BBSRC might improve its support for translational research

30. Please provide any further comments relevant to this evaluation

Thank you, your contribution is much appreciated.

Survey of current award holders

A. YOUR DETAILS

Please enter your details below

Name	
Institution	

PROJECT PARTNER DETAILS (where relevant)

Name	
Organisation	

B. YOUR FOLLOW-ON FUND PROJECT

Follow-on Fund projects have two major types of complementary objectives:

- **technical objectives**: e.g. scientific and technical development of the idea, undertaking further research etc.

- **business plan development objectives**: e.g. improving an IP position, gaining further information about the market, identifying potential licensees etc.

TECHNICAL OBJECTIVES

1. To date, how successful has your Follow-on Fund project been in meeting its technical objectives?

1 not at all successful	2 somewhat successful	3 successful	4 very successful	Too early to say

Comments
For example, if the project has been less successful in meeting its technical objectives than you anticipated, please comment on the reasons for this.

BUSINESS PLAN DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

BBSRC expects all Follow-on Fund projects to develop a robust and clearly defined business plan, irrespective of the approach chosen to translate the research into practical application.

2. To date, how successful has your Follow-on Fund project been in meeting its business plan development objectives?

1 not at all successful	2 somewhat successful	3 successful	4 very successful	Too early to say

Comments
For example, if the project has been less successful in meeting its business plan development objectives than you anticipated, please comment on the reasons for this.

LINKS BETWEEN TECHNICAL AND BUSINESS PLAN DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

3. Please rate your experience with managing the links between your project's technical and business plan development objectives

1 very difficult	2 difficult	3 neither easy or difficult	4 easy	5 very easy	Too early to say

Comments

C. GENERAL

YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH IDEAS

4. At the time of your Follow-on Fund application, had you previously sought to translate other research ideas into practical application?

Please only consider research which is not directly associated with the Follow-on Fund project

Option	✓
Yes: I had successfully translated other research	
Yes: I had tried to translate other research, but was not successful	
Yes: I was in the process of translating other research, but the outcome was not yet known	
No	

Comments

APPLICATION AND ADMINISTRATION PROCESSES

5. How effective are the application and assessment processes for the Follow-on Fund programme?

1 not at all effective	2 somewhat effective	3 effective	4 very effective	Don't know

Comments

6. How would you rate the support you received while you were preparing your Follow-on Fund application from:
  - **BBSRC**
  - **your Technology Transfer Office (or equivalent)?**

	1 poor	2 fair	3 good	4 very good	Did not seek support
Support from BBSRC					
Support from your TTO					

Comments

7. Would you consider applying for Follow-on Fund support again in the future?

Yes	
No	

Comments

PATHFINDER AWARDS

8. Did you receive a Pathfinder award prior to submitting your Follow-on Fund application?

Pathfinder awards help researchers undertake the preliminary work required to put them in a position to apply for a Follow-On Fund award. This work typically focuses on evaluating the market potential for their research and the comparative strength of their intellectual assets and, if the technical feasibility of the project depends on it, the achievement of technical milestone 1.

Yes	
No	

If yes, how useful was the Pathfinder award for supporting your Follow-on Fund application?

1 not at all useful	2 somewhat useful	3 useful	4 very useful

Comments

BBSRC SUPPORT FOR TRANSLATIONAL ACTIVITIES

9. Overall, how useful is the Follow-on Fund for enabling researchers to translate their BBSRC-funded research into practical application?

1 not at all useful	2 somewhat useful	3 useful	4 very useful	Don't know

Comments

10. How effective is the Follow-on Fund in bridging the gap between BBSRC-funded research and the point at which other (non-BBSRC) funding support is available?

1 not at all effective	2 somewhat effective	3 effective	4 very effective	Don't know

Comments

11. Please provide any comments, if any, on how BBSRC might improve its support for translational research

12. Please provide any further comments relevant to this evaluation

Thank you, your contribution is much appreciated.

Survey of applicants who were not funded

A. YOUR DETAILS

Please provide your details below

Name	
Institution	

B: YOUR FOLLOW-ON FUND APPLICATION

1. Did you still seek to translate your research idea into practical application, even though the Follow-on Fund application was not funded?

	✓
Yes	
No	
No, but I intend to in the future	

If yes, please provide brief details on any progress to date

2. Did you apply for, or obtain, an alternative source of funding for your project?

Status of the technology	Yes	No	Too early to say
I applied for an alternative source of funding			
I obtained an alternative source of funding			

Additional details
For example:
- *If yes, please provide brief details on the funding source(s)*
- *If no, please comment on any reasons for this*

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C. YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH IDEAS

3. At the time of your Follow-on Fund application, had you previously sought to translate other research ideas into practical application?

Please only consider research which is not directly associated with the Follow-on Fund application

	✔
Yes: I had successfully translated other research	
Yes: I had tried to translate other research, but was not successful	
Yes: I was in the process of translating other research, but the outcome was not yet known	
No	

Comments

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C. GENERAL

APPLICATION AND ADMINISTRATION PROCESSES

4. How effective are the application and assessment processes for the Follow-on Fund programme?

1 not at all effective	2 somewhat effective	3 effective	4 very effective	Don't know

Comments

5. How would you rate the support you received while you were preparing your Follow-on Fund application from:
- **BBSRC**
- **your Technology Transfer Office (or equivalent)?**

	1 poor	2 fair	3 good	4 very good	Did not seek support
Support from BBSRC					
Support from your TTO					

Comments

6. Would you consider applying for Follow-on Fund support again in the future?

Yes	
No	

Comments

PATHFINDER AWARDS

7. Did you receive a Pathfinder award prior to submitting your Follow-on Fund application?

Pathfinder awards help researchers undertake the preliminary work required to put them in a position to apply for a Follow-On Fund award. This work typically focuses on evaluating the market potential for their research and the comparative strength of their intellectual assets and, if the technical feasibility of the project depends on it, the achievement of technical milestone 1.

Yes	
No	

If yes, how useful was the Pathfinder award for supporting your Follow-on Fund application?

1 not at all useful	2 somewhat useful	3 useful	4 very useful

Comments

BBSRC SUPPORT FOR TRANSLATIONAL ACTIVITIES

8. Overall, how useful is the Follow-on Fund for enabling researchers to translate their BBSRC-funded research into practical application?

1 not at all useful	2 somewhat useful	3 useful	4 very useful	Don't know

Comments

9. How effective is the Follow-on Fund in bridging the gap between BBSRC-funded research and the point at which other (non-BBSRC) funding support is available?

1 not at all effective	2 somewhat effective	3 effective	4 very effective	Don't know

Comments

10. Please provide any comments, if any, on how BBSRC might improve its support for translational research

11. Please provide any further comments relevant to this evaluation

Thank you, your contribution is much appreciated.