	Summary	Approval to move to next stage	Patent Protection Steps
Stage 0 – Research	The research process which produces novel and useful Intellectual Property (IP)	N/A	
Stage 1 – Disclosure	Complete and submit Invention Disclosure Form (IDF)	Principal Investigator (and collaborator/s if appropriate)	
Stage 2 – IDF Review	Review and complete initial due diligence	Commercialisation Team	
Stage 3 – Initial Evaluation	Initial commercial evaluation to assess novelty, market need / pull, technical development requirements and academic team goals	Commercialisation & IP Approval Panel	
Stage 4 – IP Protection	Applying for appropriate IP protection, for example patent application drafting and submission	N/A	Initial Priority Application Filing
Stage 5 - Detailed Evaluation	Further work to develop and quantify the opportunity, e.g. Proof of Market and/or Proof if Principal project/s	Commercialisation & IP Approval Panel	PCT Application Filing (12 months after initial filing)
Stage 6 – Technical and Commercial Development and Validation	Technology and commercial development to increase technology readiness level enabling licencing or investment (spin-out)	Commercialisation & IP Approval Panel	National Phase Application/s Filing (18/19 months after PCT filing)
Stage 7 – Licence or Spin-out	Agree licence or spin-out terms and execute agreements	Director of Research and Enterprise	
Stage 8 Deal Monitoring	Monitor active licences and active spin-out companies	N/A	