

CRDG 2026 Plan

BOARD DRAFT FOR APPROVAL

Chair: Professor Trevor Jones CBE FMedSci | Planning Period: January – December 2026

Six Practical Objectives for 2026

In 2026, CRDG will focus on advancing cannabinoid research and development in the UK through a structured programme of government engagement, academic collaboration, and stakeholder communications. All activity is owned and delivered by the Chair/Strategic Counsel team, with a light structure and clear, realistic milestones.

01

Five Asks & Government Engagement

Secure measurable progress through PR and parliamentary engagement

02

APPG & Parliamentary Forum

Establish effective parliamentary structure for cannabinoid R&D advocacy

03

Academic Engagement

Build visible UK academic cannabinoid research network

04

Public Funding Seminar

Connect key funders and researchers to explore funding routes

05

Membership & Revenue Growth

Stabilise and grow membership to sustain core work

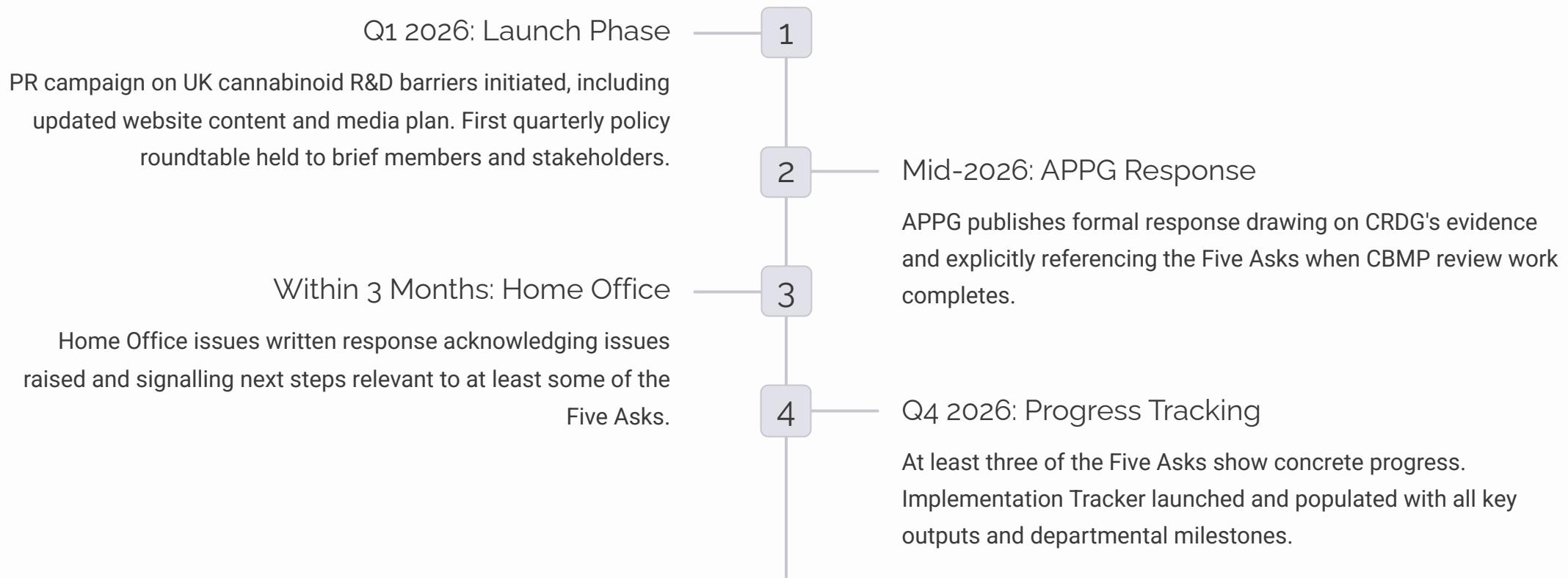
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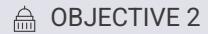
Member Communications & PR

Maintain clear communications and targeted PR presence

Five Asks & Government Engagement

Secure measurable government progress on CRDG's Five Asks through a phased programme of PR, quarterly roundtables and parliamentary/government engagement, centred on the APPG's response to the CBMP review and the subsequent Home Office response.





OBJECTIVE 2

APPG & Parliamentary Forum

Establish and run an effective parliamentary forum (via an APPG or equivalent structure) that focuses on cannabinoid R&D, responds to the CBMP review, and helps advance the Five Asks.

The forum will hold at least two formal meetings in the year, including an AGM, in line with Parliamentary rules. It will issue written positions to government drawing on CRDG's analysis and explicitly referencing elements of the Five Asks.



Q2 2026

Parliamentary forum established with clear terms of reference covering cannabinoid R&D and regulatory reform



Q2 2026

First parliamentary session held to discuss CBMP review, CRDG evidence and the Five Asks



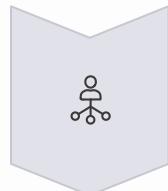
Post-Review

Follow-up session held once Home Office response is published, assessing progress on the Five Asks

 OBJECTIVE 3

Academic Engagement

Build and coordinate a visible UK academic cannabinoid research network that connects key universities and researchers to CRDG's policy and funding agenda. This network will help identify research priorities, address barriers, and create pathways to NIHR/MRC/Innovate UK funding.



Network Formation

Initial academic network group convened with core universities and researchers identified and invited by Q2 2026



Engagement Meetings

At least two academic workshops or roundtables held to discuss CBMP research priorities and funding routes



Shared Priorities

Short CRDG note agreed summarising shared research priorities and barriers, with ongoing governance in place

 OBJECTIVE 4

Public Funding Seminar

The Objective

Deliver a focused public funding seminar that brings together key funders and researchers to explore routes for UK cannabinoid R&D funding and generates concrete follow-up activity.

The seminar will include participation from at least one major public funder such as NIHR, MRC, Innovate UK or UKRI, and will result in actionable next steps for the sector.

Key Deliverables

- Seminar plan agreed in Q1 with objectives, format, target audience and draft agenda
- Public funding seminar delivered in Q2 2026
- Post-event note produced within 1 month summarising key messages and implications
- At least one concrete follow-up action initiated by end 2026

↗ OBJECTIVE 5

Membership & Revenue Growth

Stabilise and grow CRDG's membership and income so that the group can sustain its core work on the Five Asks, academic engagement and public funding activity. The goal is to maintain around 10 organisations engaged and contributing, whilst developing additional income streams beyond membership.

10

Target Members

Organisations engaged and contributing by Q2
2026

100%

Core Costs Covered

Baseline organisational costs secured through
membership income

1+

Additional Streams

New income sources beyond membership
confirmed by year end

Additional income streams may include sponsorship, grants or event income. This diversified approach will ensure CRDG can deliver on its ambitious 2026 programme whilst building long-term sustainability.

Member Communications & PR

Maintain clear, regular communications with members and a targeted PR presence so that CRDG's work on licensing, CBMP review and the Five Asks is visible to stakeholders and the wider sector.

This includes establishing a member update rhythm, securing public-facing media coverage, and keeping the CRDG website current with major milestones and developments.

1

Regular Member Updates

Short email or note after each major milestone such as CBMP review developments, APPG activity, and Home Office response

2

Media Presence

At least two public-facing media pieces during the year that clearly reference CRDG's analysis or recommendations

3

Website Updates

CRDG website kept current with Updates/News section reflecting major milestones on CBMP review, Five Asks and seminars

Governance & Delivery Model

Operational Delivery

All six objectives led by Chair/Strategic Counsel team during 2026

Light Structure

Clear, realistic milestones with focused accountability

Regular Reviews

Mid-year and year-end check-ins on progress

End Q2 2026

Mid-year check-in on progress against key results for Objectives 1–4 (Five Asks, APPG, academic engagement, seminar)

Q4 2026

Year-end review on Objectives 5–6 (membership/revenue and communications/PR), including written update against each key result

Board Actions Requested

The Board is asked to approve the 2026 plan and confirm the operational delivery model. This structured approach will enable CRDG to advance cannabinoid research and development in the UK through focused government engagement, academic collaboration, and stakeholder communications.

Approve the 2026 Plan

Six objectives: Five Asks & Government Engagement, APPG & Parliamentary Forum, Academic Engagement, Public Funding Seminar, Membership & Revenue Growth, Member Communications & PR

Confirm Delivery Model

Operational delivery for all six objectives will be led by the Chair/Strategic Counsel team during 2026

Agree Review Schedule

Mid-year check-in (end Q2) on Objectives 1–4 and year-end review (Q4) on Objectives 5–6, including short written update against each key result