

The University of Bristol is interested in exploring mechanisms to make transfer of IP from the university into industry easier. One such mechanism is Easy Access IP, under which we offer some University IP to entrepreneurs, SMEs and other companies without requiring either upfront or downstream payments in anticipation that this increases the take-up of very early stage IP. We expect that it will significantly increase our ability to develop relationships with and to raise our profile amongst potential partner companies and will help in creating beneficial new partnerships. It should also lead to more collaborative projects with the company in support of the development of the IP.

We will still protect and commercialise other IP in anticipation of financial returns alongside such relationships.

The four conditions applied to companies licensing 'Easy Access IP' under this approach will be:

1. There will be no limitations on our use of the IP for research.
2. They can tell us how they will use the IP to benefit the economy.
3. They agree that if they have not exploited the IP within 3 years it will be transferred back to the University.
4. They continue to feedback to the university on how the IP is being used as input to future Impact case studies

We expect that this Easy Access IP initiative will significantly increase our ability to develop relationships with and to raise our profile amongst potential partner companies and will help in creating beneficial new partnerships. It will also be a demonstrable contribution to Impact and lead to opportunities for consultancy and other funded work with companies.