**Registration No. 333-**

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM S-8

# **REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

#### Under

The Securities Act of 1933

# **COMPASS PATHWAYS PLC**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**England and Wales** 

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

33 Broadwick Street London W1F 0DQ United Kingdom +1 (716) 676-6461

(Address, including zip code and telephone number, including area code, of Registrant's principal executive offices)

COMPASS Pathways plc Inducement Non-Qualified Share Option Agreement, dated August 1, 2022 (Full title of the plan)

> Matthew Owens COMPASS Pathways plc 180 Varick Street New York, New York 10014 (Name and address of agent for service)

Tel: +1 (716) 676-6461 (Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

Mitchell S. Bloom Benjamin K. Marsh Goodwin Procter LLP 100 Northern Avenue Boston, MA 02210 (617) 570-1000 Sophie C. McGrath Goodwin Procter (UK) LLP 100 Cheapside London EC2V 6DY United Kingdom +44 (0) 20 7447 420

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer	$\boxtimes$	Accelerated filer	
Non-accelerated filer		Smaller reporting company	$\boxtimes$
		Emerging growth company	

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.  $\Box$ 

Not applicable (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

# EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

COMPASS Pathways plc (the "Registrant") is filing this Registration Statement on Form S-8 with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") to register 600,000 ordinary shares, nominal value £0.008 per share (each, a "Share"), for issuance pursuant to an inducement non-qualified share option agreement entered into between the Registrant and Kabir Nath, as inducement to his commencing employment with the Registrant. The inducement grant was approved in reliance on the employment inducement exemption under Nasdaq Rule 5635(c).

#### Part I

# INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

The documents containing the information specified in this Part I on Form S-8 will be sent or given to participants as specified by Rule 428(b)(1) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). In accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission and the instructions to Form S-8, such documents are not being filed with the Commission either as part of this Registration Statement or as prospectuses or prospectus supplements pursuant to Rule 424 under the Securities Act.

#### Part II

# INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

#### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The Registrant hereby incorporates by reference into this Registration Statement the following documents filed with the Commission:

(a) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, filed on February 24, 2022;

(b) Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2022, filed on May 10, 2022 and for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2022, filed on August 4, 2022;

- (c) Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on February 4, 2022, March 25, 2022, April 21, 2022, June 17, 2022, June 24, 2022 and July 19, 2022;
- (e) Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on April 28, 2022; and

(f) The description of the Registrant's ordinary shares, nominal value  $\pounds 0.008$  per share, and American Depositary Shares contained in the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form 8-A (File No. <u>001-39522</u>), filed by the Registrant with the Commission under Section 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), on September 15, 2020, including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents that the Registrant subsequently files pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this registration statement which indicates that all of the ordinary shares offered have been sold or which deregisters all of such shares then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement and to be a part hereof from the date of the filing of such documents.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this registration statement.

Under no circumstances will any information filed under current items 2.02 or 7.01 of Form 8-K be deemed incorporated herein by reference unless such Form 8-K expressly provides to the contrary.

#### Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

# Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

### Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Subject to the U.K. Companies Act 2006, members of the Registrant's board of directors and its officers have the benefit of the following indemnification provisions in the Registrant's Articles of Association:

Current and former members of the Registrant's board of directors or officers shall be reimbursed for:

(i) all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities sustained or incurred in relation to his or her actual or purported execution of his or her duties in relation to the Registrant, including any liability incurred in defending any criminal or civil proceedings; and

(ii) expenses incurred or to be incurred in defending any criminal or civil proceedings, in an investigation by a regulatory authority or against a proposed action to be taken by a regulatory authority, or in connection with any application for relief under the statutes of the United Kingdom and any other statutes that concern and affect the Registrant as a company (collectively, the "Statutes") arising in relation to the Registrant or an associated company, by virtue of the actual or purposed execution of the duties of his or her office or the exercise of his or her powers.

In the case of current or former members of the Registrant's board of directors, there shall be no entitlement to reimbursement as referred to above for (i) any liability incurred to the Registrant or any associated company, (ii) the payment of a fine imposed in any criminal proceeding or a penalty imposed by a regulatory authority for non-compliance with any requirement of a regulatory nature, (iii) the defense of any criminal proceeding if the member of the Registrant's board of directors is convicted, (iv) the defense of any civil proceeding brought by the Registrant or an associated company in which judgment is given against the director, and (v) any application for relief under the statutes of the United Kingdom and any other statutes that concern and affect the Registrant as a company in which the court refuses to grant relief to the director.

In addition, members of the Registrant's board of directors and its officers who have received payment from the Registrant under these indemnification provisions must repay the amount they received in accordance with the Statutes or in any other circumstances that the Registrant may prescribe or where the Registrant has reserved the right to require repayment.

In addition, the Registrant has entered or intends to enter into a deed of indemnity with each of its directors and officers. In addition to such indemnification, the Registrant provides its directors and officers with directors' and officers' liability insurance.

### Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed

Not applicable.

# Item 8. Exhibits.

The exhibits to this Registration Statement are listed in the Exhibit Index attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein.

## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
4.1	Form of Articles of Association of COMPASS Pathways plc (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form F-1/A (File No. 333-248484)).
4.2	Form of Deposit Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit (a) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form F-6 (File No. 333-248514)).
4.3	Form of American Depositary Receipt (included in Exhibit 4.1) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit (a) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form F-6 (File No. 333-248514)).
4.4*	Inducement Non-Qualified Share Option Agreement, by and between the Registrant and Mr. Nath, dated August 1, 2022.
5.1*	Opinion of Goodwin Procter (UK) LLP.
23.1*	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm.
23.2*	Consent of Goodwin Procter (UK) LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).
24.1*	Power of Attorney (included on signature page).
107*	Fee Filing Table

\* Filed herewith.

#### Item 9. Undertakings.

The Registrant hereby undertakes:

- (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
  - (i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Filing Fee" table in Exhibit 107 to the effective registration statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement; provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(i) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of such annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by such registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of London, United Kingdom, on the 4th day of August, 2022.

#### COMPASS PATHWAYS PLC

By: /s/ Michael Falvey

Michael Falvey Chief Financial Officer

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY AND SIGNATURES

KNOW ALL BY THESE PRESENT, that each individual whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints each of Kabir Nath and Michael Falvey as such person's true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for such person in such person's name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement on Form S-8, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and all documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission granting unto each said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as such person might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that any said attorney-in-fact and agent, or any substitutes of any of them, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following person in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Name	Title	Date	
/s/ Kabir Nath Kabir Nath	Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	August 4, 2022	
/s/ Michael Falvey Michael Falvey	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer), Authorized Representative in the United States	August 4, 2022	
/s/ George Goldsmith George Goldsmith	Executive Chair and Chair of the Board of Director (Principal Executive Officer)	August 4, 2022	
/s/ Ekaterina Malievskaia Ekaterina Malievskaia, M.D.	- Chief Innovation Officer and Director	August 4, 2022	
/s/ David York Norton David York Norton	- Lead Director	August 4, 2022	
/s/ Annalisa Jenkins Annalisa Jenkins, MBBS	– Director	August 4, 2022	
/s/ Thomas Lönngren Thomas Lönngren	– Director	August 4, 2022	
/s/ Robert McQuade Robert McQuade	— Director	August 4, 2022	
/s/ Linda McGoldrick Linda McGoldrick	— Director	August 4, 2022	
/s/ Wayne Riley Wayne Riley, M.D., MPH, MBA	– Director	August 4, 2022	

### **Calculation of Filing Fee Table**

# Form S-8

#### (Form Type)

## **COMPASS Pathways plc** (Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Table 1: Newly Registered Securities

Security Type	Security Class Title (1)	Fee Calculation Rule	Amount Registered (2)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share	Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Fee Rate	Amount of Registration Fee
Equity	Ordinary Shares, nominal value £0.008 per share	Other (3)	600,000 (4)	\$14.94 (5)	\$8,964,000	\$0.0000927	\$831
Total Offering Amounts			\$8,964,000		\$831		
Total Fees Previously Paid						—	
Total Fee Offsets						—	
Net Fee Due						\$831	

(1) These shares may be represented by the American Depositary Shares ("ADSs") of COMPASS Pathways plc (the "Registrant"). Each ADS represents one Ordinary Share. ADSs issuable upon deposit of the Ordinary Shares registered hereby were registered pursuant to a separate Registration Statement on Form F-6 (File No. 333-248514).

(2) In accordance with Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), this registration statement shall be deemed to cover any additional securities that may from time to time be offered or issued to prevent dilution resulting from stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.

(3) Estimated in accordance with Rule 457(h) of the Securities Act solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee on the basis of the price at which the award under the Inducement Non-Qualified Share Option Agreement entered into between the Registrant and Kabir Nath, dated August 1, 2022 (the "Option Agreement") may be exercised.

(4) Represents Ordinary Shares issuable pursuant to the Option Agreement.

(5) The price per share and aggregate offering price are calculated on the basis of the exercise price of the Ordinary Shares underlying the award made pursuant to the Option Agreement, which is the closing price of the Registrant's ADSs on August 1, 2022.

# COMPASS PATHWAYS PLC INDUCEMENT NON-QUALIFIED SHARE OPTION AGREEMENT

Name of Optionee: Kabir Nath

No. of Option Shares: 600,000

Option Exercise Price per Share: \$14.94

Grant Date: August 1, 2022

Vesting Commencement Date: August 1, 2022

Expiration Date: July 31, 2032

COMPASS Pathways plc (the "Company") hereby grants to the Optionee named above an option (the "Share Option") to purchase on or prior to the Expiration Date specified above all or part of the number of Shares specified above at the Option Exercise Price per Share specified above subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein. This Share Option is not issued under the 2020 Share Option and Incentive Plan, as amended through the date hereof (the "Plan"), and does not reduce the share reserve under the Plan. However, for purposes of interpreting the applicable provisions of this Share Option, the terms and conditions of the Plan (other than those applicable to the share reserve) shall govern and apply to this Share Option as if this Share Option had actually been issued under the Plan. This Share Option has been granted as an inducement pursuant to Rule 5635(c)(4) of the Marketplace Rules of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC, and consequently is intended to be exempt from the NASDAQ rules regarding shareholder approval of equity compensation plans. This Agreement and the terms and conditions of this Share Option shall be interpreted in accordance with and consistent with such exemption. This Share Option is not intended to be an "incentive stock option" under Section 422 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

1. <u>Vesting and Exercisability Schedule</u>. No portion of this Share Option may be exercised until such portion shall have vested and become exercisable. Except as set forth below, and subject to the discretion of the Administrator (as defined in Section 2 of the Plan) to accelerate the exercisability schedule hereunder, this Share Option shall become vested and exercisable as follows, so long as Optionee remains an employee of the Company or any Subsidiary on such dates: 25% of this Share Option shall vest and become exercisable upon the first anniversary of the Vesting Commencement Date, and the remaining 75% of this Share Option shall vest and become exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments thereafter.

Once vested and exercisable, this Share Option shall continue to be exercisable at any time or times prior to the close of business on the Expiration Date, subject to the provisions hereof and of the Plan.

# 2. <u>Manner of Exercise</u>.

(a) The Optionee may exercise this Share Option only in the following manner: from time to time on or prior to the Expiration Date of this Share Option, the Optionee may give written notice to the Administrator of his or her election to purchase some or all of the Option Shares purchasable at the time of such notice. This notice shall specify the number of Option Shares to be purchased.

Payment of the purchase price for the Option Shares may be made by one or more of the following methods: (i) in cash, by certified or bank check or other instrument acceptable to the Administrator; (ii) through the delivery (or attestation to the ownership) of Shares that have been purchased by the Optionee on the open market or that are beneficially owned by the Optionee and are not then subject to any restrictions under any Company plan and that otherwise satisfy any holding periods as may be required by the Administrator; (iii) by the Optionee delivering to the Company a properly executed exercise notice together with irrevocable instructions to a broker to promptly deliver to the Company cash or a check payable and acceptable to the Company to pay the option purchase price, provided that in the event the Optionee chooses to pay the option purchase price as so provided, the Optionee and the broker shall comply with such procedures and enter into such agreements of indemnity and other agreements as the Administrator shall prescribe as a condition of such payment procedure; (iv) by a "net exercise" arrangement pursuant to which the Company will reduce the number of Shares issuable upon exercise by the largest whole number of shares with a Fair Market Value that does not exceed the aggregate exercise price; or (v) a combination of (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) above. Payment instruments will be received subject to collection.

The transfer to the Optionee on the records of the Company or of the transfer agent of the Option Shares will be contingent upon (i) the Company's receipt from the Optionee of the full purchase price for the Option Shares, as set forth above, (ii) the fulfillment of any other requirements contained herein or in the Plan or in any other agreement or provision of laws, and (iii) the receipt by the Company of any agreement, statement or other evidence that the Company may require to satisfy itself that the issuance of Shares to be purchased pursuant to the exercise of Share Options under the Plan and any subsequent resale of the Shares will be in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In the event the Optionee chooses to pay the purchase price by previously-owned Shares through the attestation method, the number of Shares transferred to the Optionee upon the exercise of the Share Option shall be net of the Shares attested to.

(b) The Shares purchased upon exercise of this Share Option shall be transferred to the Optionee on the records of the Company or of the transfer agent upon compliance to the satisfaction of the Administrator with all requirements under applicable laws or regulations in connection with such transfer and with the requirements hereof and of the Plan. The determination of the Administrator as to such compliance shall be final and binding on the Optionee. The Optionee shall not be deemed to be the holder of, or to have any of the rights of a holder with respect to, any Shares subject to this Share Option unless and until this Share Option shall have been exercised pursuant to the terms hereof, the Company or the transfer agent shall have transferred the shares to the Optionee, and the Optionee's name shall have been entered as the shareholder of record on the books of the Company. Thereupon, the Optionee shall have full voting, dividend and other ownership rights with respect to such Shares.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision hereof or of the Plan, no portion of this Share Option shall be exercisable after the Expiration Date hereof.

3. <u>Termination of Employment</u>. If the Optionee's employment by the Company or a Subsidiary (as defined in the Plan) is terminated, the period within which to exercise the Stock Option may be subject to earlier termination as set forth below.

(d) <u>Termination Due to Death</u>. If the Optionee's employment terminates by reason of the Optionee's death, any portion of this Stock Option outstanding on such date, to the extent exercisable on the date of death, may thereafter be exercised by the Optionee's legal representative or legatee for a period of 12 months from the date of death or until the Expiration Date, if earlier. Any portion of this Stock Option that is not exercisable on the date of death shall terminate immediately and be of no further force or effect.

(e) <u>Termination Due to Disability</u>. If the Optionee's employment terminates by reason of the Optionee's disability (as determined by the Administrator), any portion of this Stock Option outstanding on such date, to the extent exercisable on the date of such termination of employment, may thereafter be exercised by the Optionee for a period of 12 months from the date of disability or until the Expiration Date, if earlier. Any portion of this Stock Option that is not exercisable on the date of disability shall terminate immediately and be of no further force or effect.

(f) <u>Termination for Cause</u>. If the Optionee's employment terminates for Cause, any portion of this Stock Option outstanding on such date shall terminate immediately and be of no further force and effect. For purposes hereof, "Cause" shall mean, unless otherwise provided in an employment agreement between the Company or any Subsidiary and the Optionee, a determination by the Administrator that the Optionee shall be dismissed as a result of (i) any material breach by the Optionee of any agreement between the Optionee and the Company or any Subsidiary; (ii) the conviction of, indictment for or plea of nolo contendere by the Optionee to a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude; or (iii) any material misconduct or willful and deliberate non-performance (other than by reason of disability) by the Optionee of the Optionee's duties to the Company or any Subsidiary.

(g) <u>Other Termination</u>. If the Optionee's employment terminates for any reason other than the Optionee's death, the Optionee's disability or Cause, and unless otherwise determined by the Administrator, any portion of this Stock Option outstanding on such date may be exercised, to the extent exercisable on the date of termination, for a period of three months from the date of termination or until the Expiration Date, if earlier.

Any portion of this Share Option that is not vested and exercisable on the date of termination shall, unless otherwise determined by the Administrator, terminate immediately and be of no further force or effect. The Administrator's determination of the reason for termination of the Optionee's employment shall be conclusive and binding on the Optionee and his or her representatives or legatees.

4. <u>Incorporation of Plan</u>. As set forth above, this Share Option is not granted pursuant to the Plan. However, for purposes of interpreting the provisions of this Share Option, the terms and conditions of the Plan (other than those applicable to the share reserve, but including the powers of the Administrator set forth in Section 2(b) of the Plan and the treatment of this Share Option upon a Sale Event) shall govern and apply to this Share Option as if this Share Option had actually been issued under the Plan. Capitalized terms in this Agreement shall have the meaning specified in the Plan, unless a different meaning is specified herein.

5. <u>Transferability</u>. This Agreement is personal to the Optionee, is non-assignable and is not transferable in any manner, by operation of law or otherwise, other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution. This Share Option is exercisable, during the Optionee's lifetime, only by the Optionee, and thereafter, only by the Optionee's legal representative or legatee.

6. <u>Tax Withholding</u>. The Optionee shall, not later than the date as of which the exercise of this Share Option becomes a taxable event for Federal income tax purposes, pay to the Company or make arrangements satisfactory to the Administrator for payment of any Federal, state, and local taxes required by law to be withheld on account of such taxable event. The Company shall have the authority to cause the required tax withholding obligation to be satisfied, in whole or in part, by withholding from Shares to be issued to the Optionee a number of Shares with an aggregate Fair Market Value that would satisfy the withholding amount due (provided that such amount shall not exceed the maximum statutory tax rate).

7. <u>UK Taxes</u>. No Shares will be delivered to the Optionee pursuant to the exercise of the Share Option until the Optionee has made arrangements acceptable to the Company for the satisfaction of any applicable domestic or foreign income tax and employment tax of any kind (including, but not limited to, any United Kingdom income tax or National Insurance contributions) required by law to be paid or withheld by the Company or any Subsidiary, including, without limitation, such other tax obligations of the Optionee incidental to the receipt of Shares, together (to the extent legally permissible) with any employer's (secondary) National Insurance contributions which may arise with respect this Agreement. Upon exercise of the Share Option, the Company or the Optionee's employer may offset or withhold (from any amount owed by the Company or the Optionee's employer to the Optionee) or collect from the Optionee an amount sufficient to satisfy such tax or withhold a sum sufficient to pay all taxes due in connection with the Share Option, the Optionee agrees to pay to the Company or the relevant Subsidiary such amount in cash within five (5) days after receiving a written demand from the Company or the relevant Subsidiary to do so, whether or not the Optionee is an employee of the Company or such Subsidiary at that time.

8. <u>Transfer of Burden of Employer's National Insurance contributions</u>. If the Optionee is tax resident in the United Kingdom (a "UK Participant"), the Optionee agrees with and undertakes to the Company and, if different, to its employer that:

(i) The Optionee's employer may recover from the Optionee, as set out in Section 3 above, the whole or any part of any employer's (secondary) National Insurance contributions which may arise with respect to any taxable event arising as a result of this Agreement; and

(ii) The Optionee shall, if requested by the Company, join with its employer in making an election (in a form approved by HMRC under paragraph 3B of Schedule 1 to the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992) for the transfer to the Optionee of the whole, or such part as the Company may determine, of any liability to employer's (secondary) National Insurance contributions which may arise with respect to any taxable event arising as a result of this Agreement.

9. <u>No Obligation to Continue Employment</u>. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary is obligated by or as a result of the Plan or this Agreement to continue the Optionee's Service Relationship and neither the Plan nor this Agreement shall interfere in any way with the right of the Company or any Subsidiary to terminate the Service Relationship of the Optionee at any time.

10. <u>Integration</u>. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to this Share Option and supersedes all prior agreements and discussions between the parties concerning such subject matter.

11. <u>Data Privacy Consent</u>. In order to administer the Plan and this Agreement and to implement or structure future equity grants, the Company, its subsidiaries and affiliates and certain agents thereof (together, the "Relevant Companies") may process any and all personal or professional data, including but not limited to Social Security or other identification number, home address and telephone number, date of birth and other information that is necessary or desirable for the administration of the Plan and/or this Agreement (the "Relevant Information"). By entering into this Agreement, the Optionee (i) authorizes the Company to collect, process, register and transfer to the Relevant Companies all Relevant Information; (ii) waives any privacy rights the Optionee may have with respect to the Relevant Information; (iii) authorizes the Relevant Companies to store and transmit such information in electronic form; and (iv) authorizes the transfer of the Relevant Information to any jurisdiction in which the Relevant

Companies consider appropriate. The Optionee shall have access to, and the right to change, the Relevant Information. Relevant Information will only be used in accordance with applicable law.

12. <u>Notices</u>. Notices hereunder shall be mailed or delivered to the Company at its principal place of business and shall be mailed or delivered to the Optionee at the address on file with the Company or, in either case, at such other address as one party may subsequently furnish to the other party in writing.

# **COMPASS PATHWAYS PLC**

By: /s/ George Goldsmith\_\_\_\_ Title: Excecutive Chairman

The foregoing Agreement is hereby accepted and the terms and conditions thereof hereby agreed to by the undersigned. Electronic acceptance of this Agreement pursuant to the Company's instructions to the Optionee (including through an online acceptance process) is acceptable.

Dated: August 3, 2022\_\_\_/s/ Kabir Nath\_\_\_

Optionee's Signature

Optionee's name and address:

Kabir Nath

115 North Union Street, Lambertville NJ 08530 - USA

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Goodwin Procter (UK) LLP 100 Cheapside London EC2V 6DY goodwinlaw.com +44 (0) 20 7447 4200

August 4, 2022

COMPASS Pathways plc 3rd Floor 1 Ashley Road Altrincham Cheshire United Kingdom WA14 2DT Ladies and Gentlemen:

### COMPASS Pathways plc – Registration Statement on Form S-8 - Exhibit 5.1

### 1. **INTRODUCTION**

### 1.1 Purpose

We have acted as English legal advisers to COMPASS Pathways plc, a public limited company incorporated in England and Wales with registered number 12696098 (the "**Company**"), in connection with the preparation and filing of the registration statement on Form S-8 to which this letter is attached as an exhibit (such registration statement, including the documents incorporated by reference therein, the "**Registration Statement**") filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "**Securities Act**").

As set out in the Registration Statement, it is proposed that an aggregate of up to 600,000 ordinary shares of £0.008 each in the capital of the Company (the "**Shares**") may be allotted and issued upon the exercise or settlement of an equity award granted pursuant to an inducement non-qualified share option agreement entered into between the Company and Kabir Nath as inducement to his commencing employment with the Company (the "**Inducement Award**"), the form of which has been approved and adopted by the compensation and leadership development committee of the board of directors of the Company (the "**Board**" or the "**Directors**") on 27 July 2022 (the "**Inducement Agreement**").

In connection with the preparation and filing of the Registration Statement, we have been asked to provide opinions on certain matters, as set out below. We have taken instruction in this regard solely from the Company.

### 1.2 **Defined terms and headings**

In this letter:

- (a) capitalised terms used without definition in this letter or the schedules hereto have the meanings assigned to them in the Registration Statement unless a contrary indication appears; and
- (b) headings are for ease of reference only and shall not affect interpretation.

#### 1.3 Legal review

For the purpose of issuing this letter, we have examined such questions of law as we have considered appropriate to give the opinions set forth in this letter. We have reviewed such documents and conducted such enquiries and searches as we have considered appropriate to give the opinions set forth in this letter, including the following documents and the following enquiries and searches:

(c) an online search at Companies House in respect of information available for inspection on the Company's file conducted on 3 August 2022 at 9:08 a.m. (London time);

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- (d) an enquiry of the Central Index of Winding Up Petitions, London with respect to the Company on 3 August 2022 at 10:05 a.m. (London time) ((a) and (b) together, the **"Searches"**);
- (e) an executed copy of the print of the resolutions passed by the shareholders of the Company at a general meeting held on 11 September 2020 approving, *inter alia* the allotment of shares by the Company's directors, or the granting of rights to subscribe for, or to convert any security into, shares on a non-preemptive basis up to an aggregate nominal amount of £536,000 (the "Shareholder Resolutions");
- (f) an executed copy of: (i) the written resolutions of the Board approving, *inter alia*, the form and filing of the Registration Statement (the "Board Resolutions"); and (ii) the written resolutions of the compensation and leadership development committee of the Board (the "CLD Committee") approving, *inter alia*, the terms of the Inducement Award and form of the Inducement Agreement (the "CLDC Resolutions" and, together with the Board Resolutions and Shareholder Resolutions, the "Corporate Approvals");
- (g) a copy of the current articles of association of the Company adopted on 22 September 2020 pursuant to a special resolution of the members of the Company passed on 11 September 2020 (the "Current Articles"), a copy of the certificate of incorporation on change of name and re-registration of a private company as a public company dated 21 August 2020 and a copy of the certificate of incorporation of a private limited company dated 24 June 2020; and
- (h) a copy of the draft Registration Statement.

#### 1.4 Applicable law

This letter, the opinions given in it, and any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with this letter and/or the opinions given in it, are governed by, and to be construed in accordance with, English law and relate only to English law as applied by the English courts, including the laws of the European Union to the extent having the force of law in England, as at today's date. In particular:

- (a) we have not investigated the laws of any country other than England and we express no opinion in this letter on the laws of any jurisdiction other than England and we assume that no foreign law affects any of the opinions given below. It is assumed that no foreign law which may apply to the matters contemplated by the Registration Statement, the Company, any document or any other matter contemplated by any document would or might affect this letter and/or the opinions given in it; and
- (b) we do not undertake or accept any obligation to update this letter and/or the opinions given in it to reflect subsequent changes in English law or factual matters.

#### 1.5 Assumptions and reservations

The opinions given in this letter are given on the basis of each of the assumptions set out in schedule 1 (*Assumptions*) and are subject to each of the reservations set out in schedule 2 (*Reservations*) to this letter. The opinions given in this letter are strictly limited to the matters stated in paragraph 2 (*Opinion*) below and do not extend, and should not be read as extending, by implication or otherwise, to any other matters.

## 2. OPINION

Subject to paragraph 1 (Introduction), the other matters set out in this letter and its schedules and the following:

(a) the Registration Statement becoming effective under the Securities Act;



- (b) that the Corporate Approvals were each duly and validly passed in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations (including as to quorum);
- (c) the Board or the CLD Committee having validly resolved to issue and allot the Shares, or grant rights to subscribe for the Shares, at a duly convened and quorate meeting of the Board or the CLD Committee or by way of duly passed written resolutions of the Board or the CLD Committee, in each case in compliance with the Inducement Agreement, all applicable laws and regulations;
- (d) the Shareholder Resolutions and the resolutions referred to in paragraph 2(c) being in full force and effect and not having been rescinded or amended in such a way as to make the issue and allotment of Shares invalid;
- (e) the receipt in full by the Company of payment for the Shares in an amount of "cash consideration" (as defined in section 583(3) of the Companies Act 2006) of not less than the aggregate nominal value for such Shares; and
- (f) valid entries having been made in relation to the allotment and issue of the Shares in the books and registers of the Company,

it is our opinion that, as at today's date, the Shares, if and when allotted and issued, registered in the name of the recipient in the register of members of the Company and delivered as described in the Registration Statement, will be duly and validly authorised, allotted and issued, fully paid or credited as fully paid (subject to the receipt of valid consideration by the Company for the allotment and issue thereof) and will not be subject to any call for payment of further capital.

### 3. EXTENT OF OPINIONS

We express no opinion as to any agreement, instrument or other document other than as specified in this letter or as to any liability to tax or duty which may arise or be suffered as a result of or in connection the transactions contemplated in this letter.

This letter only applies to those facts and circumstances which exist as at today's date and we assume no obligation or responsibility to update or supplement this letter to reflect any facts or circumstances which may subsequently come to our attention, any changes in laws which may occur after today, or to inform the addressee of any change in circumstances happening after the date of this letter which would alter our opinion.

# 4. DISCLOSURE AND RELIANCE

This letter is addressed to you in connection with the Registration Statement. We consent to the filing of this letter as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving such consent, we do not thereby admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations thereunder.

Other than for the purpose set out in the prior paragraph, this letter may not be relied upon, or assigned, for any purpose, without our prior written consent, which may be granted or withheld in our discretion.

Yours faithfully

/s/ Goodwin Procter (UK) LLP Goodwin Procter (UK) LLP



#### SCHEDULE 1

#### ASSUMPTIONS

The opinions in this letter have been given on the basis of the following assumptions:

- 1.1 the genuineness of all signatures, stamps and seals on all documents, the authenticity and completeness of all documents submitted to us as originals, and the conformity to original documents of all documents submitted to us as copies;
- 1.2 that, where a document has been examined by us in draft or specimen form, it will be or has been duly executed in the form of that draft or specimen, and that each of the signed documents examined by us has been duly executed and, where applicable, delivered on behalf of the Company;
- 1.3 that each of the individuals who signs as, or otherwise claims to be, a Director or officer of the Company is the individual whom they claim to be and holds the office they claim to hold;
- 1.4 the accuracy as to factual matters of each document we have reviewed;
- 1.5 that the Current Articles referred to in paragraph 1.3(e) of this letter remain in full force and effect and no alteration has been made or will be made to such articles of association, in each case prior to the date of allotment and issue of any of the Shares (the "Allotment Date");
- 1.6 on the Allotment Date the Company will comply with all applicable laws to allot and issue the Shares and the Company will receive such amounts as are necessary to fully pay the nominal value of the Shares and any applicable share premium;
- 1.7 valid entries having been made in relation to the allotment and issue of the Shares in the books and registers of the Company;
- 1.8 that all documents, forms and notices which should have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies in respect of the Company have been so delivered, that information revealed by the Searches was complete and accurate in all respects and has not, since the time of the Searches, been altered and that the results of the Searches will remain complete and accurate as at the Allotment Date;
- 1.9 that any allotment and issue of Shares which occurs after the date of this opinion is done in accordance with the terms and limits prescribed by the Corporate Approvals and any other restrictions imposed by either the Board or the members of the Company after the date of this letter;
- 1.10 that any minutes of the meetings of the Directors or the written resolutions of the Directors provided to us in connection with the giving of the opinions in this letter reflect a true record of the proceedings described in them in duly convened, constituted and quorate meetings in which all constitutional, statutory and other formalities (including as required by the Current Articles) were duly observed, and the resolutions set out in the minutes or written resolutions were validly passed and have not been and will not be revoked or varied in such a way as to make the issue and allotment of Shares invalid and remain in full force and effect and will remain so as at the Allotment Date;
- 1.11 that the resolutions set out in the Shareholder Resolutions were validly passed and have not been and will not be revoked or varied and remain in full force and effect and will remain so as at the Allotment Date and that, prior to the Allotment Date, the Company has not allotted shares or granted rights to subscribe for, or to convert any security into, shares pursuant to the Shareholder Resolutions which would, when aggregated with any other allotment of Shares by the Company (whether before or after the date of this letter), result in the Directors exceeding the limits set out in the Shareholder Resolutions;
- 1.12 that in relation to the allotment and issue of the Shares, the Directors have acted and will act in the manner required by sections 171 to 174 of the Act, and there has not been and will not



be any bad faith, breach of trust, fraud, coercion, duress or undue influence on the part of any of the directors of the Company;

- 1.13 that the Directors and appropriate officers of the Company have taken all necessary corporate action to approve the allotment and issue of the Shares and all ancillary matters relating thereto;
- 1.14 that the Shares will be sold or allotted and issued in accordance with a duly authorised, executed equity incentive agreement, share option agreement, stock option agreement, restricted share unit agreement or other agreement having similar effect, in each case in accordance with Nasdaq Rule 5635(c);
- 1.15 that no Shares or rights to subscribe for Shares have been or shall be offered to the public in the United Kingdom in breach of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended ("FSMA") or of any other United Kingdom laws or regulations concerning offers of securities to the public, and no communication has been or shall be made in relation to the Shares in breach of section 21 of FSMA or any other United Kingdom laws or regulations relating to offers or invitations to subscribe for, or to acquire rights to subscribe for or otherwise acquire, shares or other securities;
- 1.16 that there are no facts or circumstances (and no documents, agreements, instruments or correspondence) which are not apparent from the face of the documents listed in paragraph 1.3 (above) or which have not been disclosed to us that may affect the validity or enforceability of the documents listed in paragraph 1.3 (above) or any obligation therein or otherwise affect the opinions expressed in this letter;
- 1.17 that the Company has not taken any corporate or other action nor have any steps been taken or legal proceedings been started against the Company for the liquidation, winding up, dissolution, reorganisation or bankruptcy of, or for the appointment of a liquidator, receiver, trustee, administrator, administrative receiver or similar officer of, the Company or all or any of its assets (or any analogous proceedings in any jurisdiction) and the Company is not unable to pay its debts as they fall due within the meaning of section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986, as amended, and will not become unable to pay its debts within the meaning of that section as a result of any of the transactions contemplated herein, is not insolvent and has not been dissolved or declared bankrupt (although the Searches gave no indication that any winding-up, dissolution or administration order or appointment of a receiver, administrator, administrative receiver or similar officer has been made with respect to the Company); and
- 1.18 the Company is not, nor will be, engaging in criminal, misleading, deceptive or unconscionable conduct or seeking to conduct any relevant transaction or any associated activity in a manner or for a purpose which might render any transaction contemplated under any corporate approvals or any associated activity illegal, void or voidable.



#### **SCHEDULE 2**

#### RESERVATIONS

The opinions in this letter are subject to the following reservations:

- 1.19 the Searches are not capable of revealing conclusively whether or not a winding-up or administration petition or order has been presented or made, a receiver appointed, a company voluntary arrangement proposed or approved or any other insolvency proceeding commenced, and the available records may not be complete or up-to-date. In particular, the Central Registry of Winding-Up Petitions in England may not contain details of administration applications filed, or appointments recorded in or orders made by, district registries and county courts outside London. Searches at Companies House and at the Central Registry of Winding-Up Petitions in England are not capable of revealing whether or not a winding up petition or a petition for the making of an administration order has been presented and, further, notice of a winding up order or resolution, notice of an administration order and notice of the appointment of a receiver may not be filed at Companies House immediately and there may be a delay in the relevant notice appearing on the file of the company concerned. Further, not all security interests are registrable, such security interests have not in fact been registered or such security interests have been created by an individual or an entity which is not registered in England. We have not made enquiries of any District Registry or County Court in England;
- 1.20 the opinions set out in this letter are subject to: (i) any limitations arising from applicable laws relating to insolvency, bankruptcy, administration, reorganisation, liquidation, moratoria, schemes or analogous circumstances; and (ii) an English court exercising its discretion under section 426 of the Insolvency Act 1986 (*co-operation between courts exercising jurisdiction in relation to insolvency*) to assist the courts having the corresponding jurisdiction in any part of the United Kingdom or any relevant country or territory;
- 1.21 we express no opinion as to matters of fact;
- 1.22 we have made no enquiries of any individual connected with the Company;
- 1.23 a certificate, documentation, notification, opinion or the like might be held by the English courts not to be conclusive if it can be shown to have an unreasonable or arbitrary basis or in the event of a manifest error; and
- 1.24 it should be understood that we have not been responsible for investigating or verifying: (i) the accuracy of the facts, including statements of foreign law, or the reasonableness of any statements of opinion, contained in the Registration Statement; or (ii) that no material facts have been omitted from it.

# CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-8 of COMPASS Pathways plc of our report dated February 24, 2022 relating to the financial statements and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, which appears in COMPASS Pathways plc's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Reading, United Kingdom August 4, 2022