

Our ref: FOI/2223/509

Name: John Lubbock

By email to: request-1009732-3f3c9a6c@whatdotheyknow.com

21 August 2023

Freedom of Information Team

Legal & Governance
University of Liverpool
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765 Brownlow Hill
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<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/legal/>

Dear John,

Your request for information received on 29 July has now been considered. A response to your enquiry is provided below.

I am following up on my previous FoI

(https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/university_of_liverpool_and_bqi) in which I asked for details of any "contracts or business relationships with BGI Genomics or its UK subsidiary MGI Tech UK". You told me that "The University does not have any contracts or business relationships with BGI Genomics or its UK subsidiary MGI Tech UK." However, after searching the UKRI research funding website, I have found a contract (<https://gtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=BB%2FN013743%2F1>) for "Large scale dynamic integration of proteomics and genomics to support next-generation rice research" which says "This project is a collaboration between research teams based at the University of Liverpool, the Beijing Institute of Genomics and the BGI Education Centre." I would therefore like to modify my previous FOI to ask whether the University of Liverpool has had any other joint research projects with BGI Genomics, or any other company which is part of the BGI Group?

At the time of your previous FOI request, we did not have the partner name on our internal system – but it was on the externally held research application. We apologise for this omission. We can confirm that the University does not have any other joint research projects BGI Genomics, or any other company which is part of the BGI Group.

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request for information, you have a right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act to ask the University to review it; however, you must do so within 40 working days of the date of this response. Your request should include our reference number and explain the reason for requesting a review. Email foi@liverpool.ac.uk or write to the Freedom of Information Reviewer, Legal & Governance, University of Liverpool, Foundation Building, 765 Brownlow Hill, Liverpool L69 7ZX. We will respond to your request for an internal review within 20 working days of receipt.

Following an internal review, if you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Telephone: 0303 123 1113 www.ico.org.uk. There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

Kirsty Rothwell

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Freedom of Information Officer / Data Protection Co-ordinator
Legal & Governance