I would once again like to thank you for participating in Give a Dog a Genome (GDG).

Since the last update was sent out in December we have continued to work very hard. Although it may not seem like it at times, we have made significant progress.

In summary:

- A total of 87 dogs from 77* breeds will be sequenced as part of GDG.

We asked each breed to complete a small health survey, indicating three health disorders that are currently of concern among the breed community.

- Health forms have been returned by 76 breeds.
- 95 disorders in total have been listed.
- We have assessed 63/76 health forms so far. This process has taken longer than we anticipated and we are grateful for the continued patience of all breeds, particularly the breeds for which we have yet to assess the health forms or request samples.

To keep up the momentum, in addition to assessing the health forms we have also been communicating and liaising with collaborators (10 collaborators so far in Europe and the USA, Figure 1), recruiting and processing swab samples, sending suitable DNA for whole genome sequencing, and processing sequencing data.

- We have sent off a total of 40 samples from 39 breeds for sequencing.
- These samples encompass a variety of conditions and a number of healthy controls.
- Sequencing has been completed and the data downloaded for 28 samples.
- Analysis has begun on some of the data, but it is enormously time consuming.

It is extremely difficult to grasp and appreciate just how enormous this project is and why it all takes so much time. Please rest assured that we are working as fast as we possibly can. If you are one of the breeds that has not heard anything from us, it is not because we have forgotten about you or your breed is less important to us.

Thank you for your incredible support of and participation in Give a Dog a Genome.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me on gdg@aht.org.uk.

Yours faithfully,

Louise and the rest of the Give a Dog a Genome Team

* A further two genomes, from two additional breeds, will be sequenced alongside the 75 target breeds as they have contributed the full £2000 to sequence a genome.