

Withers in pioneering machine-learning legal tech project backed by £1.5m grant

24 JULY 2019

James Shaw

PARTNER | UK

CATEGORY:
[FIRM NEWS](#)



Withers is working as part of a leading consortium, funded by a £1.5 million grant from InnovateUK, to develop platforms providing machine-learning insights into contract data.

The project will see Withers working alongside Genie AI, Barclays, The University of Oxford and Imperial College London to harness the combined capabilities of:

- Genie AI's machine learning clause recommendation engine
- Oxford University's research into neural networks to explain and control machine-learning decision making
- Imperial College's research into the de-identification of legal contracts to anonymise them while retaining critical information

The Withers team will use its legal expertise to ensure that the tool produces versatile and effective drafting processes across the whole range of legal services, led by innovation manager and lawyer Dr Phil Lindan. In addition, Withers, with support from lawyers at Barclays and the Barclays Eagle Lab, will work with Genie AI on commercialising the tool to create a market-leading document drafting product that uses the latest AI technology.

Phil Lindan comments: *"With our grant funding now in place, this exciting project can really get underway to develop a market-leading tool which will revolutionise how lawyers draft contracts. The legal industry is on the very edge of fundamental changes introduced by automation and AI, and we are proud to be at the forefront of developing these tools to bring better value and services to clients."*

James Shaw, head of Withers Tech, adds: *"We have been advising on cutting edge legal tech projects for years, and it's great to bring one in-house and to collaborate on the development of it. Genie AI is a valued client, and their track record promises a great outcome to this venture."*

Authors

James Shaw

PARTNER | LONDON, CAMBRIDGE

Corporate

 +44 20 7597 6315

 james.shaw@withersworldwide.com