



# LIVERPOOL JOHN MOORES UNIVERSITY PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

## **Title of Project**

Predicting optimal forensic remote sensing and near-surface detection methods

## **Name of Researcher and School/Faculty**

Miss Megan Ivy Quick, Natural Sciences and Psychology

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it involves. Please take time to read the following information. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide if you want to take part or not.

### **1. What is the purpose of the study?**

This research is proposed to contribute to the detection of buried forensic targets, such as clandestine graves, weapon caches and explosives by ranking remote sensing and near-surface detection methods by considering the properties of the target and its environment. This will be done by producing an open source program using GIS to rank remote detection methods through the implementation of an algorithm based on best current practice and updated by observation and research. It is the aim to create standards to improve the chances of target detection success for detection methods that will be open to improvements by professional contributors.

### **2. Do I have to take part?**

The study is entirely voluntary so you do not have to take part and are free to withdraw at any time, without having to provide a reason. Withdrawing or deciding not to take part does not affect your eligibility to participate in future research studies or your legal rights.

To take part you must meet the following criteria:

- Be aged 18 years or over
- Have at least 5 years' experience in any of the following areas:
  - Crime scene investigation/ forensics/ policing
  - Civil engineering
  - Archaeology
  - Environmental or humanitarian investigations
- Be familiar with the use of and have used remote sensing and near-surface detection methods in the search of buried targets

### **3. What will happen to me if I take part?**

If you wish to take part, please email me at [M.I.Quick@2015.ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:M.I.Quick@2015.ljmu.ac.uk) at your earliest convenience. It should take no more than 1 hour to complete, and the interview will be held at a mutually convenient time and place.

### **4. Are there any risks / benefits involved?**

There are no risks for you taking part in this research. Your participation will benefit the scientific community by providing data towards the aims of this research project. The open source programme will promote further experimentation and will be improved by professional contributors.

### **5. Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?**

Without question, any information collected will be anonymised and will remain confidential. The information we collect will be kept on a secure password protected database on a university PC. If you have any concerns regarding your involvement in this research, please discuss these with the researcher, Megan Quick email: [M.I.Quick@2015.ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:M.I.Quick@2015.ljmu.ac.uk) in the first instance. Furthermore you could contact Miss Quick's supervisor Dr David Jordan on: [D.W.Jordan@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:D.W.Jordan@ljmu.ac.uk). If you wish to make a complaint, please contact [researchethics@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:researchethics@ljmu.ac.uk) and your communication will be redirected to an independent person as appropriate.

**This study has received ethical approval from LJMU's Research Ethics Committee Ref 17/NSP/002 on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017.**