**Participant Information Sheet**

**Public Space CCTV: The Use, Impact and Future of CCTV Technologies in Scotland’s Urban and Rural Public Space**

Principal Investigator:  Dr Janos Mark Szakolczai (University of Glasgow)

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

*Thank you for reading this.*

**What is this study about?**

We are a team of researchers from the University of Glasgow and the University of Edinburgh. We are conducting research on the use of CCTV (closed circuit television) monitoring technologies in public spaces in Scotland, and particularly, its effectiveness and impact. We are interested in mapping the scale, costs, and impacts of CCTV provision across Scotland in order to understand where and how it can be effective, as well exploring the impact of public space CCTV provision can have on local communities to prevent crime and make communities feel safer.

**Why have we asked you to take part?**

We are interested in your knowledge on the scale, range, costs, uses, effectiveness, and trends in on CCTV provision in your Local Authority. In order to gain your perspective, we will ask you to complete our online survey questionnaire.

**What does taking part involve?**

If you agree to take part, a member of the research team will send you a link by email to our online survey. Given the specificity of the questions, we suggest gathering relevant materials beforehand to help complete the survey. We estimate the survey will take approximately 35-45 minutes to complete and can be done at a time and/or place that is convenient for you. Please note that you can withdraw your participation at any point during the survey and end your involvement. Once the survey is returned, withdrawal of consent can be obtained by contacting the research team. However, anonymisation of survey responses will make withdrawal of consent more difficult should you contact us about this. You do not have to answer any questions you don’t want to answer. Your return and submission of the online survey will be evidence of consent for your participation in the online survey questionnaire and the use of data obtained from the survey.

**What will happen to your answers?**

With your consent, the survey results will be stored in a secure password protected site on the University of Glasgow system. Only members of the research team will have access to the information you provide. Please note that confidentiality may not be guaranteed, due to the limited size of the participant sample.

At the end of the research, the research team will write a report. We may also write academic papers and give conference talks. What you tell the researcher may be referred to in these reports, papers, or talks, but all survey responses will be anonymised so the identity of the respondents cannot be easily identified.

We expect that the research will be completed by April 2023. Given that this study may inform policy and practice in the future use of CCTV in public spaces across Scotland, the anonymised data will be stored for 10 years and made available for future research in the University of Glasgow’s data repository.

**Limited guarantee of anonymity**

In return for your participation, we would offer you a limited guarantee of anonymity. We cannot provide you with a full guarantee of anonymity because other people (e.g. colleagues) reading the report may be able to identify you from the experiences and opinions you may share, the language that you use (i.e. particular phrases) or if you discuss your participation in the research with other people. Therefore, in order to try to ensure that you remain anonymous we will not use respondent’s names in the final report. Respondents will only be referred to by their Local Authority area.

**Who has reviewed the study?**

The study has been approved by the College of Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee at the University of Glasgow.

This study is funded by the Scottish Government.

**Further questions or concerns**

If you have questions about the research you can contact the Principal Investigator:

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To pursue any complaint about the conduct of the research: contact the College of Social Sciences Lead for Ethical Review, Dr Susan Batchelor: email [socsci-ethics-lead@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:socsci-ethics-lead@glasgow.ac.uk).