



# Musculoskeletal Risk Profiling Research

## RIS2 Designated Funds proposal



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# Why musculoskeletal risk?



- Over half of all occupational ill-health.
- Over 2M lost working days per year.
- £650M cost to construction employers.
- 54% leavers over 50 say it's because work is 'too physically demanding'.
- Affects 37,000 construction workers.
- Significant manual handling risks in many highways' tasks.
- Loss of experience for industry with skills shortage and recruitment issues.
- Pain, incapacity, risk of poor mental health for the individual.

# Why now?



- RIS3 focus on making the most of existing infrastructure.
- This will mean more renewals and maintenance.
- Existing assets not designed with maintenance (or health) in mind.
- Increased manual handling activity and musculoskeletal risk.
- RIS3 will see more musculoskeletal innovation and interventions.
- Currently no sector risk profiling = no way to prioritise interventions.

# How will it work?



Collaborative approach over 9 months utilising specialist occupational hygiene and ergonomics resource.

1. Communication and engagement
2. Stakeholder analysis and scope
3. Literature review
4. Focus groups for long list of tasks
5. Surveys to rationalise long list
6. Task and hazard characterisation
7. Analysis and reporting
8. Results communication

# What are the benefits?



- Comprehensive understanding of the prevalence, scope and nature of risks.
- Evidence-based decisions on future innovation or intervention proposals.
- Highlighting examples of good practice for wider sharing.
- Insights into current barriers to sharing and implementing good practice.
- Sharing of all results with National Highways and supply chain leaders.
- Supports; Safety priority; Home Safe and Well; SCSLG Significant Risk 2040 vision