

DRAFT COPD PRIORITISATION MATRIX

ANNEX 2

PRIORITY LEVEL	INDUSTRY	TOTAL NUMBER OF WORKERS <i>(This information will be refined to reflect the numbers of workers significantly exposed)</i>	EVIDENCE BASE <i>(This is a starting point only based on HSE's initial assessment of the literature. The need for specific reviews of high risk sectors will be considered as part of the next phase of the process)</i>
1	Construction <i>Work is already planned to tackle skin disease and longer latency respiratory diseases (eg silicosis)</i>	2 000 000	HSE Review (2006)
	Agriculture <i>Work is already being planned in this sector to tackle respiratory diseases such as asthma and COPD</i>	400 000	Numerous reports including the IEH Review (2005), which identified a doubling of risk for COPD in this sector particularly in respect to animal confinement and grain dust.
	Flour and grain workers in the food industry <i>(Work is underway to tackle occupational asthma and skin disease)</i>	100 000	Number of studies including those described in the IEH Review (2005)
1/2	Textile <i>(work needs to be done to understand number of exposed in specific high risk tasks)</i>	200 000	A number of studies have shown an increased risk of COPD in this industry. Cotton dust highlighted in IEH Review (2005) as causing reduction in lung function.
2	Welding <i>(Work is already underway in this sector to tackle respiratory diseases such as asthma and COPD)</i>	79 000	16% of all COPD cases reported to SWORD/OPRA (1989-2003) were identified as welders. 31% of all COPD cases reported to SWORD/OPRA (1989-2003) attributed to welding fume. Numerous studies show increased risk for COPD but still debated.
	Pottery/ ceramics <i>(Work is already underway in this sector to tackle silicosis)</i>	29 000	5% of all COPD cases reported to SWORD/OPRA (1989-2003) attributed to dusts, 3% to silica. Silica potential cause of COPD (GORDS). IIAC Review due 2006.
	Quarrying <i>(Work is already underway in this sector to tackle silicosis)</i>	17 000	Silica/General dust (see pottery/ceramics)
	Foundries	14 000	IEH Review (2005) identified an increased risk of COPD in iron and steel and smelter workers.

	Brick making <i>(Work is already underway in this sector to tackle silicosis)</i>	11 000	Silica (see pottery/ceramics)
	Coal mining	4000 (opencast)	COPD is an IIAC prescribed disease for underground coalminers. 22% of all COPD cases reported to SWORD/OPRA (1989-2003) were identified as coalminers. 31% of all COPD cases reported to SWORD/OPRA (1989-2003) attributed to coal.
	Stonemasonry <i>(Work is already underway to tackle silicosis)</i>	2000	Silica/General dust (see pottery/ceramics)
	Cadmium workers	<i>To be established</i>	COPD is an IIAC prescribed disease for cadmium workers. IEH Review (2005) identified a few studies in which there was an increased risk of COPD but on balance did not judge the risk to be doubled.
2/3	<i>Petroleum [evidence needed on substances/exposures that could cause disease]</i>	93 000	2% of all COPD cases reported to SWORD/OPRA (1989-2003).
2/3	<i>Docks [more evidence needed on current exposures compared to those that may have been historic risks]</i>	To be established ~ 80 000	17% of all COPD cases reported to SWORD /OPRA (1989-2003) were identified as dock workers. Grain dust thought to be a cause of COPD (see agriculture and food). Welding also potential cause in dock workers.
3	Vehicle manufacture/repair <i>(Work is underway to tackle occupational asthma and skin disease)</i>	27,000 vehicle paint sprayers	IEH Review (2005) identified a few studies in which there was an increased risk of COPD from isocyanate exposure but on balance did not judge the risk to be doubled.
	Plastic <i>Work is being planned to tackle occupational cancer)</i>	200 000	A few studies show increased risk of COPD in this industry <i>(more evidence is needed to understand the risks in this industry)</i>
	Printing/paper workers <i>(Work is underway to tackle skin disease in printers)</i>	150 000 (printing)	A couple of studies have identified either printing or paper workers to be at increased risk of chronic bronchitis.
	Electronics <i>(Work is underway to tackle occupational asthma)</i>	50-80 000	A couple of studies have identified solderers to be at increased risk of respiratory disease.
	Waste disposal/recycling <i>(work is underway to assess exposures)</i>	Unknown (but estimated to increase over 10 years)	No specific evidence of disease but this may be an area where there is potential for COPD to develop in the future.
	Rubber <i>(Work is being planned to tackle occupational cancer)</i>	35 000	A number of studies have shown an increased risk of COPD in this industry <i>(more evidence is needed to understand the risks in this industry)</i>
	China clay	3000	A case study report from 1956 identified emphysema in china clay workers.
	Transport		A couple of studies have identified transport workers to be at increased risk of chronic respiratory disease.