

Draft

Whole-body vibration (WBV) - Short impact assessment template

<p>Description of the intervention:</p>	<p>Guidance on minimising exposure to whole-body vibration in Quarries and Agriculture which are two key sectors where exposures are high</p>
<p>Objectives:</p>	<p>Provide advice on good practice and generic information which is task and/or machine based to help duty holders comply with Control of Vibration at Work Regulations. It was agreed that these would be produced following scrutiny of the options for implementation of the Vibration Directive by the Ministerial Panel on Regulatory accountability.</p>
<p>Calculation of costs:</p>	<p>There are an estimated 10,000 agricultural businesses and 500 quarry businesses in the scope of the intervention where exposures to WBV are high.</p> <p>Each business would have to read and familiarise themselves with the guidance in the information sheet on exposure levels for tasks and the action needed to control them and conduct their risk assessment on the basis of this information. Reading and familiarisation takes ¼ hour and conducting a risk assessment takes 1 hour. This will be carried out by an agricultural or quarry manager at an economic cost of £19 p/h (ASHE).</p> <p>After informal discussions with industry, it is expected that 10% of businesses (1,000 agricultural and 50 quarries) will take action as a result of the new risk assessment.</p> <p>Actions will take the form of repairs or replacement to vehicle seats, at an estimated average cost of £500. This is a one off cost.</p> <p>Cost to Agricultural Businesses</p> $10,000 * 1.25\text{hrs} * £19$ $+ 1,000 * £500$ $= £737,500$ <p>Cost to Quarry Businesses</p> $500 * 1.25\text{hrs} * £19$ $+ 50 * £500$ $= £36,875$ <p>Total Costs</p> $£737,500 + £36,875$ $= £774,375$

Impact on industry (including any effect on the Admin Burdens Baseline):	<p>The costs above would fall on the agriculture and quarries industries. There is not expected to be any impact on the administrative burden and there is not expected to be any impact on competition.</p>
Benefits (quantified where possible):	<p>The intervention is designed to help the estimated 6,300 agricultural and quarry workers (6,000 agricultural, 300 quarry) that suffer back pain caused or made worse by whole body vibration.</p> <p>Research indicates that 50% of WBV related back pain sufferers (3,150) are forced to take time off work as a result of their condition. The average absence is 22 days. In total, 69,300 days are lost per year.</p> <p>The average hourly wage for an agricultural or quarry worker is £8.40, implying an economic cost of £10.90 (Wage cost * 1.3). The daily cost is £87.20, assuming an 8 hour day.</p> <p>The average cost of a 22 day absence is therefore £1918.40.</p> <p><u>Total baseline of WBV related back pain cost</u></p> <p>3,150 * £1,918.40 = £6,042,960</p> <p><u>Impact of Intervention</u></p> <p>The 10% of businesses that take action as result of the guidance are expected to experience a fall in WBV related absences of 30-50%. Implying a fall in the total number of WBV related absences of 3-5%.</p> <p>However, the businesses that take action are likely to be those that experience an above average amount of absences. It is therefore expected that the intervention will cause the total number of WBV related absences to fall by 6- 10%.</p> <p>If absences fall by 6%, the per annum benefit will be</p> <p>3,150 * 6% * £1,918.40 = £362,578</p> <p>If absences fall by 10%, the per annum benefit will be</p> <p>3,150 * 10% * £1,918.40 = £604,296</p> <p><u>Total Benefit</u></p> <p>The total benefit is expected to be between £360k and £600k per year.</p>
Consultation:	<p>This approach has been discussed with HSE's Chief Economist and the Better Regulation Team.</p>
Chief Economist's comments:	
Recommendation:	<p>That based on proportionality, a full impact assessment is</p>

	not produced.
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Signed:.....
HSE's Chief Economist

Date:

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TRIM: 2007/250964