

# **Relationships between Waste Collection Systems and MSD's**

Presentation to IOSH Branch Meeting Glasgow Dr David Thomas 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016



# Industry Problem

- Entranched views
- Historic Problem Wheeled bins v Boxes
- Chere Research
- Better quality of recycling when hand sorted than MRFs
- Modern MRFs can produce high quality material
- HSL Studies and Academic Research



















# Industry Headlines

- RoSPA Work related Accidents & III health cost £20- £30b
- Work Foundation Over 40 million workers in Europe are affected by MSDs attributable with work
- PWC absenteeism costs UK business £32bn pa
- HSL- Considering W&R sector as a whole, levels of sickness absence are approx. 30% higher than those of other comparable sectors



### Aim

 "Investigate common domestic waste kerbside collection and recycling practices in the UK to establish their relationship with operative's health around musculoskeletal (MSD) injuries as a contribution to the risk assessment decision making process".



## Consider Ergonomic Intervention



# The work of McGill (1)





# The work of McGill (2)





# The work of McGill (3)





The work of McGill (4)





# Other Parts of the Body

Not just the back - Consider:

- Shoulder
- Knee
- Lower Leg
- Wrist



# Literature Review

- Extended search carried out
- HSE /HSL Research Reports
- Peer Reviewed information from university data bases
- Grey literature from local authorities...

 Global – providing in the English Language



# Why we are doing this



Pain levels become above individual thresholds employees stay home

if untreated can lead to termination of employment





# System Risk Assessment



Health and Safet

Research Report

#### Collecting, transfer, treatment and processing household waste and recyclables

Assessment of the occupational health and safety risks of systems to provide HSE, local authorities, waste/recycling companies and others with data that will assist in the selection of the most appropriate system whilst meeting environmental targets

Prepared by the Health and Safety Laboratory for the Health and Safety Executive 2008

> Shane Turner, Jane Hopkinson, Laraine Oxley, Sandra Gadd, Nicola Healey & Peter Marlow Health and Safety Laboratory Harpur Hill Buxton SK17 9JN





# Methods Followed



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# Key Contacts

- 65 LA's contacted
- 20 provided information
- 15 sets was useable
- 5 authorities followed up work
- AVDC in effect a case study

• Direct contact, FOI of limited use





Collection systems used by authorities

# Body Mapping – What is it?











Adapted from Thomas (2012)

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# What is APC (APC=P/E)

- APC = Average Pain Count
- APC= No. of Pain Markers (P)/number of employees (E)
- Epidemiological
  - Simple process utilising amount of pain experienced within a work group
  - Is a very useful comparator of pain being experienced by different work groups



# Worked Examples

- Comparison of pain amongst refuse collectors carrying out waste collection using different methods
- 2. Identification of pain experienced by office based staff at AVDC



# Workstream 1 Example – Loader recycling Boxes











# Example – Drivers









## Example – All Service – Wheeled Bins

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# **HSE's Risk Comparator Tool**



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# Comparison of APC v RR



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# Sustainability – age comparisons

Authority	No of Participants indicating an age	Mean Age
AVDC 2013	48	38.25
AVDC 2010	62	39.42
AWCS	49	42.22
CDC	60	39.42
GBC	31	41.74
SNC	21	31.76
TOTAL	271	39.16







# Sustainability Rio Declaration

The 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

No 1 -

• People are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature.

#### Raising the retirement age- issues?





# Recommendations

- Further Study 6
- Waste Industry 7
- Use of Body Mapping 5
- Others 2
- Sustainability Commentary





#### Intervention

Time





# From WYG Consultants

6



43 month accied and inc.

# Follow up work

- Third study at AVDC
- Obtained more information on age and length of service
- New service nearly 2 years old
- Effects of food waste collection?



# Comparison

Part of the body marked	APC	APC 2013	APC 2014
	2010		
Arm including elbow	0.54	0.24	0.17
Shoulder including neck	0.91	0.19	0.51
Forearm including wrist	0.14	0.26	0.12
Back (mainly lower)	0.86	0.33	0.64
Hand and Fingers	0.20	0.13	0.06
Upper Leg	0.17	0.11	0.25
Кпее	0.61	0.43	0.56
Lower Leg and Ankle	0.49	0.22	0.45
Total	4.46	2.31	3.00
Total less foot, toes and head	4.02	2.07	2.35
Percentage Response Rate	96	71	95
Average Age (years) by those declaring	38.42	38.25	38.63
Average length of Service by those declaring	6.20	5.88	8.03
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# 2014 APC

Activity	APC (Total less foot, lower	
	leg toes and head)	
Loader All Activity, including	1.96	
Wheeled Bins/Food waste -		
Trade Waste		
Loaders- Those identifying as	2.73	
predominantly Food waste		
collectors		
Loaders - Wheeled Bins Only	2.33	
Mixed Activity –Loaders &	2.33	
Drivers		
Driving all activity	2.67	
Total	2.35	





# Comparison of APC with Age



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# Comparison of APC with Length of Service



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#### On-going Challenge Campaigner threatens councils over commingled collections

19 June 2014 | By Chiara Francavilla







# Way Forward? For Scotland?







# Summary

Co incidence???

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- Literature review suggests relationship
- Absence ill health data suggests a relationship but limited statistically significant data
- Body mapping shows a relationship
- RR 609 developed from literature
- Weakness in traditional H&S advice

# A world of work which is safe, healthy and sustainable