AN ERGONOMIC AND FUNCTIONAL APPRAISAL OF AVIATION FIREFIGHTERS

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The Culture...

“We minimise work-related fatalities, injuries, ill-health and adverse effects on the environment, and we reduce health and safety risks so that they are as low as reasonably practicable”

❖ Rt Hon Gavin Williamson (20Jun18)
The Need…

- Cardiovascular & Respiratory Demands
- Continuous Heavy Manual Activity
- Heat Stress
Aim: high fidelity assessment

- Observing FUNCTION in current practice
- Consent: “no surprises”
- Assessment after rehabilitation
Observations

Key metrics:
- Range of movement
- Functional strength
- Safe activity
- Perceived work intensity
Functional Reporting

EFFECTIVE:
- Grip Strength
- Core Stability
- Spinal Mobility
- Neck Strength & Movement
- Leg Strength
- (Aerobic fitness)
Fitness for Duty

- Terms of Reference
- Scope of *Employment*
- Scope for *Deployment*
- Evidence based Medical Boarding process
Future Recommendations

- Improved design of Fire Fighting equipment
- Functional Assessment tool for ARFFs
- Future policy needs Functional Assessment
Conclusions

➢ A culture of total safety in training

➢ Total Aviation Safety for the Duty Holder

➢ Equality and Diversity

➢ Quality management assists retention in Service