

**INDUSTRIAL INJURIES ADVISORY COUNCIL  
RESEARCH WORKING GROUP  
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Background**

The Industrial Injuries Advisory Council (IIAC) exists to provide advice to the Secretary of State on matters relating to Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) or its administration, and to consider any draft regulations the Secretary of State proposes to make in relation to that scheme.

The Research Working Group (RWG) is a sub-group of the Council, which provides additional capacity and expertise to ensure there is a sound evidence base for the Council to consider. The RWG reports to the IIAC.

**Role of the RWG**

The role of the RWG is to undertake detailed scientific investigations in areas agreed by the IIAC. This includes:

- interrogating the available evidence
- advising on the quality and comprehensiveness of the evidence
- considering the question of causality and other factors relevant to decision-making
- preparing papers and presentations for discussion with the IIAC, to inform a decision on prescription of diseases within the Industrial Injuries Scheme.

**Membership**

The RWG consists of 6 – 8 members drawn from the Council, selected to have expertise in scientific method relevant to the work of the IIAC. The chair of the RWG will be appointed by the IIAC chair.

Other members may be co-opted at the request of the Chairs depending on the expertise required for investigations.

The RWG Chair may also seek external input to draft papers before sending its evidence to the full Council.

Sub-groups of the RWG may be convened at the request of Chairs should they be required.

**Conduct and frequency of meetings**

RWG meets four times a year in between IIAC meetings. Further meetings will be arranged if required and as directed by the Chair.

The IIAC Secretariat, including its experienced scientific support, will assist the RWG in conducting its business.

These terms of reference will be reviewed, updated and agreed every 3 years.

July 2025