Call for Innovation: Work Methods to Reduce Vibration Exposure

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| The Opportunity |
| We are seeking alternative products and equipment for road breaking and compaction activities that have the potential to increase employee safety by reducing their exposure to vibration. |

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| What is the Problem? |
| Wales & West Utilities needs to identify working methods for breaking ground or compaction which eliminate or reduce exposure to vibration for employees.Breaking ground:There are specifically 3 tools that we have identified that carry a high vibration magnitude for this type of activity and these are:1. A Road saw,
2. A Floor saw and
3. A Jack Hammer.

Compaction:Our compaction tool of choice is currently:* A manually handled compactor rammer (Wacker)

We want to choose work equipment of appropriate ergonomic design, which taking account of the work to be done, produces the least possible vibration or provides auxiliary equipment which reduces the risk of injuries caused by vibration. |

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| Preferred output |
| We are seeking market ready solutions that can be evaluated through test certification and demonstration trials and that eliminate / reduce vibration exposure. |

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| Product specification |
| The solution must:* Be market ready and commercially available to purchase
* Enable the breaking out of or compaction of bituminous materials, backfill layers down to the asset level
* Be of a low vibration exposure or offer low vibration options
* Reduce or eliminate exposure to vibration for operatives
* Include test results that quantifies the vibration exposure levels of use
* Consider how we will trial and monitor the exposure levels of the tool

Example tools currently in use are:* Road saw (Stihl TS410) 404 in business. Vibration magnitude of 5.85 m/s
* Jack hammer (Atlas Copco TEX 230PE) 446 in business. Vibration magnitude of 6.3 m/s
* Floor saw (WackerNeuson BFS1345) 33 in business. Vibration magnitude of 7.5 m/s
* Road saw (Stihl TS700) 85 in business. Vibration magnitude of 9.9 m/s
* Compactor rammer (Wacker) - BS50-2 (vibration magnitude 14.7) and BS60-2 (vibration magnitude 9.1)
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| Project funding  |
| There is no available funding to develop products. We are seeking solutions that can be progressed straight to trial and be demonstrated on the network |

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| Process steps & entry criteria |
| Process stepsThis call is launched by Wales & West Utilities. All submissions will be assessed by a representative group from WWU. Applicants should complete the accompanying [data sheet](https://wwutilities.co.uk/media/4255/data-pack-low-vibration-call.xlsx) and provide any media files to Innovation@wwutilities.co.ukThis process will shortlist submissions that best answer the call brief with the aim of trialling equipment at representative sites following a process of evaluation.  |

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| **Deadlines** |  |  |
| **Launch date** | **Final submission** | **Feedback from WWU by** |
|  18th October 21 |  15th November 21  |  13th December 21  |

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| Disclaimer |
| DISCLAIMER:This is not a tendering exercise and as such does not guarantee the commencement of a project, provision of funding or product sale/purchase. This is a market research exercise on behalf of the Wales & West Utilities seeking potential solutions/alternative products that may see benefit over existing methods. Unless and until stated otherwise, each party shall pay its own costs incurred in connection with this exercise, including but not limited to the costs associated with the attendance at any presentation day that may be required. Any potential product sale/purchase is at all times subject to the execution of a formal written contract between the parties and our standard terms and conditions (a copy of which is available on request). Unless you state otherwise, by submitting a response to this exercise you expressly provide your consent for your details (including any personal data) and the content of any submission/proposal to be processed by Wales & West Utilities. |