

Safer Working Town

Hambleton District
Council – Jane Lithgo

Before SWT

- Audit 2003
 - We weren't doing enough proactive work
 - Knock on effect with the businesses – very low baseline and too much time spent with relatively few businesses
 - Businesses were willing to improve and responded well to advice given
 - No consultation
 - We needed something to raise the bar and reach as many businesses as possible

And then there was David Cole



Invitation from David Snowball....

- Suggestion to work in partnership on an industrial estate
 - Probably an even split of LA/HSE enforced premises
 - No one could escape attention
 - Concentrate on priority areas
 - Businesses could be encouraged to ask for help and cooperate with each other on H&S matters
 - We could show that we were willing to work together
 - We could influence behaviour beyond a single industrial estate

The Irish Factor

- The Kilkenny example – on a larger scale involving a whole town

Why Northallerton?

- County & market town – NYCC, NY Police, Fire Brigade, PCT
- Population – 17,000
- Estimated working population – 11,500
- About 550 SMEs
- Wide variety of occupations – retail, wholesale, manufacturing, agriculture, health leisure, construction, administration

What would be involved?

- Aims and objectives?
- Risks?
- Who? A team effort with stakeholders and how could they be involved?
- What? Priority topics and occupational health issues?
- When?
- Who would make the decisions?

Preliminary work

- Update the Service plan, and the enforcement policy introducing partnership working and get them approved by Members
- Arrange to 'sign up' to the Statement of Intent'
- Start gathering information on possible 'partners' and 'stakeholders'
- Consult the businesses about what they want

Local Stakeholder meeting

- Presentation of the aims and objective
- Invitation to join a Local Campaign Team
- Safer Working Town Initiative

The Local Campaign Team

- NY Police
- NY Fire and Rescue Service
- Yorkshire Water
- UCATT
- Business Link
- PCT
- Hambleton District Council
- NY County Council

The Practical Side

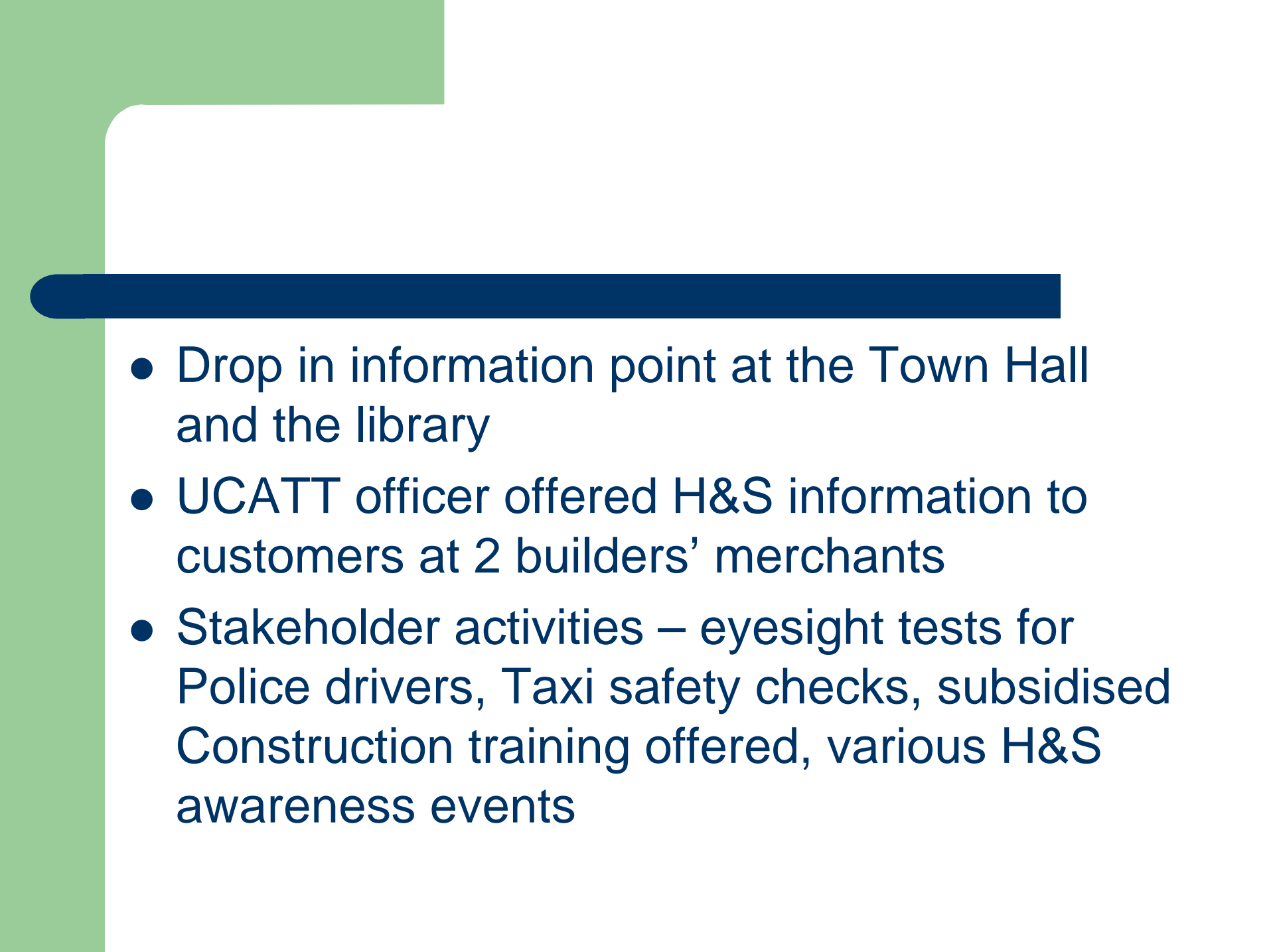
- The decisions needs to be made very quickly in order book venues, arrange personnel and publicity
- What resources are available are available to run the events?
- Communications?
- Administration?

The Countdown

- Publicity
 - Posters, leaflets, website, leaflets, phone calls, media
- Getting bookings
- Generating interest

Safer Working Town Week

- 31st October 05 to 4th November 05
- Talks in the Town Hall and Civic Centre on priority topics and occupational health issues by HSE, LA, NY Police, NY Fire & Rescue, NY Ambulance, and a local osteopath
- The Community Safety van visited prearranged locations around the town and dropped off information— industrial estates, the market

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- Drop in information point at the Town Hall and the library
 - UCATT officer offered H&S information to customers at 2 builders' merchants
 - Stakeholder activities – eyesight tests for Police drivers, Taxi safety checks, subsidised Construction training offered, various H&S awareness events

You can lead a horse to water...

- Attendees at talks – 123 from 56 businesses
- Received information from UCATT – 25
- Received information from the Community Safety van – 101
- Requests for service - 12
- Press coverage
- Radio coverage

The follow up

- During the 3rd week of January 06 visits were made in and around Northallerton and all business contacts were asked about SWT
- We haven't looked at all of the information from this as yet – so watch this space