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Workplace Transport & Lifting Operations Safety



City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
www.bradford.gov.uk



Free seminar
Tuesday 8th
February 2011



This *free* seminar will look at the safety problems around vehicles and lifting equipment in the workplace. Speakers will cover workplace transport safety, from a company's perspective; Lifting equipment regulations and provision and use of work equipment, from the HSE perspective; and also a speaker giving a trades union insight. Fax/Tel 01535 691049 or email admin@baohsf.org.uk to book your place.

**To be held between 9.30—12 noon at the Kala Sangam Centre,
St. Peter's House, Forster Square, Bradford, BD1 4TY.**



Forum Funding Crisis 2011

Bradford Area Occupational Health and Safety Forum has lost its funding from NHS Bradford and Airedale for our voluntary and community sector PCT funded scheme from this April. The Forum is challenging this decision and is also looking at other options for funding.

You may see some changes in the work of the Forum over the coming year. We will not now be able to take all the local actions outlined in the new 2011-2014 'Health, Work and Well-being in the Bradford District – Local Occupational Health and Safety Strategy'.

The Forum will be closing its office at the end of February but Bradford Resource Centre have been very kind to offer part of a small office space while we weather out the storm. The free seminars that the Forum puts on are going to take priority. Jane, the Forum Development Worker is set to have her hours reduced, the quarterly Well@Work newsletter and flyers for the seminars are to be posted electronically, so it is important for you to let us know your current email address asap.

Subscription for membership of the Forum is something the Working Group is also going to be looking at in the future as well as sponsorship for individual seminars by individual organisations.

Andrew Mawson, BAOHSF Chair (photo above) said

“The withdrawal of funding came as a great shock to the Forum Working Group. The quality of the Bradford Area Occupational Health & Safety Forum’s work has been recognised many times by the HSE and Safety Groups UK.

The impact of the modest funding the Forum receives is multiplied many times by the unpaid work of the Forum Working Group that brings together Employers, Trade Unions, Enforcement Agencies (HSE & Local Authority), Health Services and the Voluntary Sector in a true district wide partnership concerned with Occupational Health & Safety.

I assure you The Forum Working Group will explore all possibilities to sustain our work but the removal of this funding is a harsh blow.”

Transport warning after worker's death

Hargreaves (UK) Services Ltd, a major energy support services company, has been fined £120,000 at Grimsby Crown Court after safety failings led to the death of a man at its coal processing plant in Immingham.

Alan Noddle was working as a maintenance fitter for Hargreaves' sister company, Norec Ltd, at the Hargreaves' Astra Site at Immingham Docks in July 2007. He died when he was struck by a large loading shovel being used to transfer coal from one area of the plant to another.

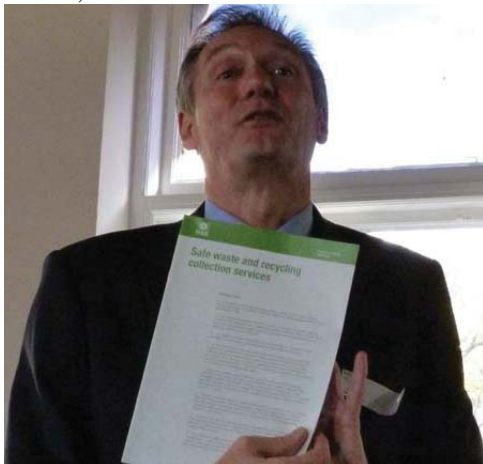
The driver of the vehicle could not see Mr Noddle as he walked across the stockyard because the large bucket on the loading shovel blocked his view.

HSE Inspector Geoffrey Clark said: "This is a tragic case where a man died as a result of dangerous practices at the site. The loading shovel severely obscured the driver's view, yet despite this it was common practice for employees to be allowed to walk in the area where these machines were being operated.

"Workplace transport is one of HSE's priorities, as transport injuries are a major cause of death and injury in the workplace.

Although this is an extreme case, I would urge all employers to be aware of the dangers of moving vehicles of all sizes and to put appropriate measures in place to segregate people from moving vehicles to prevent another tragedy from happening."

Hargreaves (UK) Services Ltd pleaded guilty to a breach of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974. The company was ordered to pay £35,000 in costs as well as the £120,000 fine.



Safe and Healthy Workplace Maintenance a European Health and Safety Week event) 28 October 2010

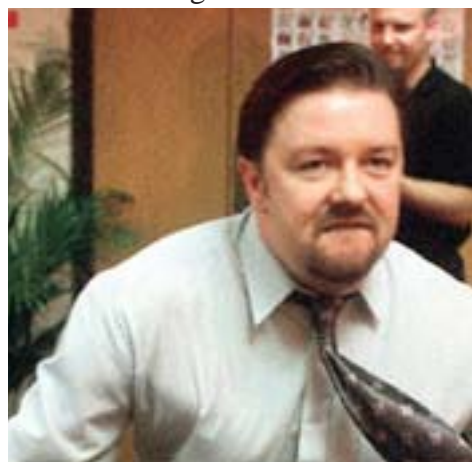
Enterprise Europe Yorkshire, in association with the Bradford Area Occupational Health and Safety Forum organised a free event in Bradford, to mark European Health and Safety Week.

The theme of the Week this year was "Safe and Healthy Workplace Maintenance". It forms part of a two year-long campaign by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (OSHA) to highlight the risks associated with maintenance activities in the workplace. Currently 10-15% of all fatal accidents at work in Europe are maintenance related. The aim of the campaign is to raise awareness amongst EU employers of the importance of maintenance for safe and healthy workplaces and the need to protect workers who perform it. The half-day event took place at the Kala Sangam Centre in St Peter's House, Bradford. As well as speakers on the theme, there was a choice of workshops and an exhibition.

HSE Head of Manufacturing Sector, Geoff Cox (photo above) opened

the seminar talking about Safe and Healthy Workplace Maintenance. He also ran a workshop on Waste Industry Safety and Health. Other workshop leaders include Jane Talbot, Health and Safety Manager from Christeys UK who covered safe systems of work, permits to work and preventative maintenance. Ralph Baqar, safety practitioner from Focus Safety talked about facilities management, safe procurement of contractors and risk assessment.

82 delegates attended the event and feedback was good.

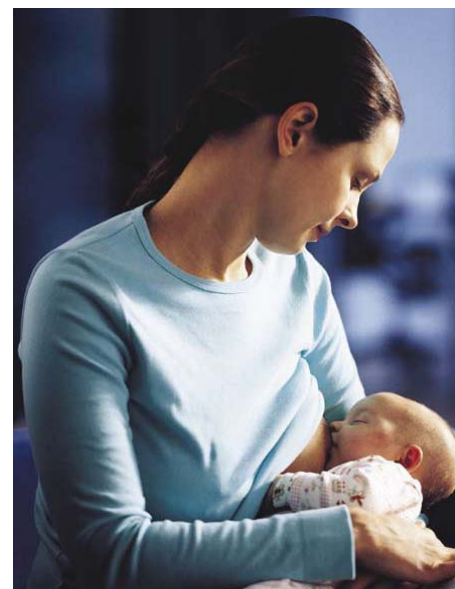


How does your office compare to David Brent's?

Acas has launched a new free online tool to help organisations identify and resolve problems at work.

The Acas Model Workplace, www.acas.org.uk/model workplace helps employers assess the effectiveness of people management in their workplace. It offers practical guidance on maintaining good employment relations and directs employers to other useful resources to address or prevent potential problems.

Are your people management skills better than David Brent's? Watch acas clips of The Office to see where he's going wrong and then check your own skills using the free, interactive tool, for the Acas Model Workplace.



Why should employers support breastfeeding?

There is a breast feeding initiative being undertaken in Bradford at the moment. Employers can play a role in this and be more considerate of breastfeeding women at work. Below is some information taken from the Department of Health leaflet on Breastfeeding at work.

As well as there being certain legal obligations to breastfeeding mothers, **supporting breastfeeding has business benefits.**

These include:

- reduced absence due to child sickness (breastfed babies are generally healthier);
- increased staff morale and loyalty, and a subsequent higher rate of return to work;
- lower recruitment and training costs; and
- an extra incentive to offer potential employees.

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How can employers help?

Employers can have a policy to support breastfeeding that includes:

- a break allowance so that mothers can express milk;
- provision of a clean, warm and private room (not the toilet) for expressing;
- a fridge to store expressed milk; and
- flexible working hours for breastfeeding mothers.

The Workplace Regulations and Approved Code of Practice require employers to provide suitable facilities for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers to rest.

The new Equalities Act 2010 says that whilst there is no legal right to breastfeed at work, the Act makes it clear that If a woman is breastfeeding, pregnant or has just had a baby, it's against the law for them to get less favourable treatment because they're breastfeeding.

To find out more information about breastfeeding at work for both employers and employees on the HSE website www.hse.gov.uk/mothers

Workers' Health Advice Team

WHAT (Workers' Health Advice Team) has been funded for a further two years, and the WHAT office has now been relocated to Bradford Resource Centre.

WHAT advice workers are available to give employees information and advice on a range of issues about health and safety in the workplace, including

hazards at work
risks to health
health and safety law
your rights at work
compensation
disability benefits

The service is independent and advice is given on a confidential basis, free of charge.

Just telephone 01274 393949 for advice or to make an appointment to come and talk to them.

BAOHSF

Tel: 01535 691049

E.mail jane@baohsf.org.uk

web: www.baohsf.org.uk

13 Scott Street

Keighley BD21 2JH

Tel: 01535 691049

Note office moving in March 2011

WHAT

Workers' Health Advice Team

Bradford Resource Centre, 17-21

Chapel Street, Little Germany,

Bradford, BD1 5DT

Tel: 01274 393949



To receive newsletters, seminar lists and keep in touch please complete this form

Name _____

Organisation _____

Address _____

Business Type _____

Post Code _____ E-mail _____

Tel. _____ Fax _____

Send to Bradford Area Occupational Health and Safety Forum, 13 Scott Street, Keighley, BD21 2JH