

[Report 1961] / Medical Officer of Health, Hay U.D.C.

Contributors

Hay (Wales). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1961

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/c3scy7uv>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.
RECEIVED
31 JUL 1962
A.

Library


Hay Urban District Council
Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1961

Officials.

Medical Officer of Health.....T.C.R.George, M.R.C.S.,
Guildhall, Brecon. L.R.C.P.,
T.N.Brecon 26. D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector.....G.G.Evans, M.R.S.H.,
P.H.I.A.





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28847246>

Hay Urban District

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

1961.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the sanitary conditions and the state of the public health in the Hay Urban District during the year 1961.

In this report I have endeavoured to deal briefly with all matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine and I have included comments on all the subjects specifically requested in Circular 1/62 (Wales) by the Welsh Board of Health.

Section 1. General and Vital Statistics.

Area.....370 acres.

The district is a small urban area of 370 acres forming part of the County of Breconshire. It is situated in the northern part of the County of Breconshire, and adjoins the Counties of Radnorshire and Herefordshire.

<u>Population.</u>	Census 1931.....	1509.
	Census 1951.....	1452.
	Census 1961.....	1321.
	Estimated Midsummer 1961.....	1310.

The Registrar General's estimated population for each of the last ten years is shown below:

1952. 1953. 1954. 1955. 1956. 1957. 1958. 1959. 1960. 1961.

1439. 1448. 1450. 1450. 1440. 1420. 1430. 1420. 1410. 1310.

Inhabited houses. The number of inhabited houses was 492 giving an average number of 2.7 persons per house.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Crude Rate per 1000 Pop.</u>
Legitimate	9.	9.	18.	
Illegitimate	0.	1.	1.	
	9.	10.	19.	14.5

The corrected rate was 16.3

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 17.4

The district rate was therefore lower than the national average but slightly higher than the district death rate.

Illegitimacy. The number of registered illegitimate births was One.

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Crude Rate per 1000 Pop.</u>
	18.	17.	35.	26.7

The corrected rate was 16.0

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 12.0

The district rate was therefore higher than the national average but slightly lower than the district birth rate.

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 live & still births.</u>
	1.	0.	1.	50.

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 18.7

The district rate was therefore higher than the national average.

Total Live and Still Births.....20.

Infantile Mortality. There was one death registered during the year in a child of under one year of age. This child died before it reached the age of 4 weeks.

Total Mortality Rate.....52.6
Mortality Rate for whole of England and Wales.....21.4

Maternal Deaths. No deaths during the year could be attributed to childbirth, which was very satisfactory.

Maternal Mortality Rate.....0.

Deaths from Special Causes.

Infectious disease.....Nil.
Respiratory tuberculosis.....One.
Other forms tuberculosis.....Nil.
Cancer.....Two.

Analysis of Causes of Deaths. Males.....18. Females....17.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Respiratory tuberculosis.....	1.....	0.
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	1.....	0.
Other malignant neoplasms.....	0.....	1.
Vascular lesions nervous system.....	1.....	3.
Coronary disease.....	3.....	1.
Hypertension with heart disease.....	0.....	1.
Other heart disease.....	0.....	4.
Other circulatory disease.....	1.....	0.
Pneumonia.....	1.....	1.
Bronchitis.....	3.....	2.
Other diseases respiratory system.....	1.....	0.
Other defined causes.....	6.....	4.

The deaths are classified under the headings given in the new Abridged List of Causes of Deaths.

Mortuary and Post Mortem Facilities. During the year, with the kind co-operation of the County Welfare Committee, a room at Cockcroft House continued to be used. Post mortem examinations can also be carried out in the same building. Hay R.D.C. and Painscastle R.D.C. also use this building for the same purposes. During the year five post mortem examinations were made in these premises.

Section 2. General Provisions of Health Services.

Public Health Officers. The same arrangements existed during the year as in previous years. Mr. G. G. Evans acted as your Public Health Inspector, and was employed in a similar capacity by the Rural District of Hay and the Rural District of Painscastle.

Laboratory Facilities. During the year laboratory facilities were available at Hereford, Cardiff, Newport, Carmarthen, Swansea and Brecon. All water samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford, whilst any investigation required in the control of infectious disease was performed at the Public Health Laboratories at Cardiff and Hereford.

All the milk testing was done by the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford.

Nursing and other Facilities. The County Council is responsible for the provision of the ambulance and home nursing services. The County also administer the maternity and child welfare clinics, where treatment is available for minor ailments, dental, eye and orthopaedic defects. Immunisation against diphtheria is also carried out at these clinics.

Hospitals. The hospital needs of the residents of the district for all diseases apart from infectious disease are provided by Hereford Hospital and Brecon War Memorial Hospital. Merthyr Isolation Hospital received cases of infectious disease.

Disinfection. In the main the methods used for any required disinfection have been fumigation and spraying.

Section 3. Sanitary Circumstances.

Water Supply. The water for the town is taken from springs and streams and thence to storage reservoirs, the water being filtered and chlorinated. The water is supplied solely by gravitation. The two sand gravity filters at the Hay Common Works are used alternatively to allow periodical cleaning and relaying. 1961 being a drier year than usual, it was necessary to operate early restrictions on the consumption of water, and from the 15th. June the supply to the town was turned off at nighttime from 10.0pm. to 7.0am. The amount in storage continued to fall during the summer and it was found necessary further to restrict the supply; the water being turned off from 10.0 am. to 4.30 pm. and 7.30 pm. to 7.0 am. from the 24th. August to 12th. October; thus over this period only 6 hours of water were given to the town. Rain falling during the first fortnight in October increased the quantity in storage, and a full supply was then available. Generally the Hay Common Works supplied the southern half of the town, and the Llangwathan works supplied the northern half.

Number of inspections.....19.
 Number of samples.....4. (2 satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory)
 Number of houses in district.....492.
 Number supplied with Council water.....488.

Hay Area Water Supply Scheme. Negotiations have proceeded during the year between the District Valuers and the various landowners for the acquisition of land for the construction of reservoirs and pumping stations, and consultations have also taken place with the landowners adjoining Llanbwehllyn Lake regarding the supply of water to fields near the lake. The Council's Consulting Civil Engineers are now preparing further details for the scheme.

Drainage and Sewerage. The Herefordshire County Council have given approval to the proposed site of the sewage disposal works for the town of Hay, and approval for the site is now awaited from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in Whitehall. A Ministry Enquiry to be held at a later date will cover engineering, planning and compulsory purchase. Further revised plans and data have been prepared and consultations have also taken place with representatives of Dore & Bredwardine R.D.C. in whose area the Works are to be situated.

Public Cleansing. There was no change in the methods adopted for the twice weekly collection and disposal of house refuse. The work is done by the Council's employees under the supervision of your Public Health Inspector. The refuse is then disposed of by controlled tipping. Waste paper is collected and some 14 tons was sent to the mills in 1961.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The sanitary inspection of the area was undertaken by the Public Health Inspector. The following details give information relating to the work of the Public Health Inspector during the year.

Nuisances.

Number of complaints received.....26.
 Number of complaints investigated.....26.
 Number of premises inspected.....27.
 Number of premises revisited.....5.
 Number of preliminary notices served.....0.
 Number of statutory notices served.....0.

Houses let in Lodgings. It is not considered that any of the houses in the district are of such a nature as to require control under byelaws made under Section 6 of the Housing Act 1936.

Offensive Trades. There are no offensive trades in the district.

Common Lodging Houses. There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Licensed Premises.

Number of visits by Public Health Inspector.....38.

There are 8 licensed premises in the area.

In addition there are 2 licensed clubs and 2 off licence shops.

Shops.

Number of inspections made.....30.

Camping Sites. There is no licensed caravan site in the district.

Tents, Vans, Sheds.

Number of visits.....0.

Eradication of Bed Bugs and Steps taken to combat infestation.

Any premises found as a result of investigation or complaint to be infested with bed bugs or other vermin are treated with D.D.T. preparation.

Number of premises inspected.....0.

Rodent Control. One full time operator is engaged by the Council. This same operator is also engaged by the Hay Rural District Council. This operator worked under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

Number of premises inspected during the year.....275.

Number of premises found infested.....70.

Number of premises treated by operator.....44.

Number of premises treated by occupier.....26.

Number of dead rats picked up.....101.

Estimated number of rats killed during the year.....611.

A total of 11 road gullies were treated during the year and 9 showed evidence of infestation. 17 sewer manholes were also treated and of these 10 were infested.

Legal Proceedings. No legal proceedings were undertaken by the Council during the year.

Section 4. Housing. There are 24 applicants on the Council's "waiting list" at 31st. December, 1961, and of these, 7 were living in rooms, and 6 living in houses which should be considered for demolition. The applicants could be housed as follows:-

- 3 in one-bedroom flats or bungalows.
- 11 in two bedroom houses
- 9 in three bedroom houses
- 1 in a four-bedroom house

3 applications for Discretionary Grants were received and approved during the year; the total amount of grant involved was £705.

Number of housing inspections made.....57.

Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 (Article 31)

1. The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation.....93.

2. The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers.....3.

3. The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works, or (b) the making of demolition or closing orders.....0.

5/.

Hay Urban District

- 4. The number of notices served requiring the execution of works.....0.
- 5. The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice.....0.
- 6. The number of demolition or closing orders made.....2.
- 7. The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 16 of the Housing Act 1957..0.
- 8. Number of houses demolished.....1.

Section 5. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk. Since the 1st. October 1949 local authorities are left with the licensing and control of distributors or dealers.

Number of dealers registered selling T.T. Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk.....1.
 There is one dairy registered in your district.

Number of samples taken during the year.....0.
 Number of samples reported as satisfactory.....0.

There are two producer/retailers delivering milk in your district and these two hold licences to sell designated milk.
 One dealer and one dairy are licensed in the district.

Meat. Three slaughterhouses are registered in the district. All condemned meat is collected by a Hereford firm who deal in waste food products.

All other condemned foods are disposed of in the Council's refuse tip, after spraying with fluorescent stain.

No alterations were made by the owners of the above slaughterhouses to bring them up to the required standard. They have, however, until January 1st. 1962, to do this.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or part

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)					
Number inspected	215	-	974	131	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	16	-	44	8	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	7.44	-	4.52	6.10	-

Hay Urban District

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-

Cysticercosis

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Meat Condemned. Cattle.....25 lbs. Other animals.....26 lbs.

Other Foods Condemned. Tins.....120. Pounds Weight.....27.

Number of visits to slaughterhouse.....201.

Other Foods. There are 33 shops dealing in foods in your district and may be tabulated as follows:-

Grocers.....	12.
Greengrocers.....	1.
Greengrocer/Confectioners.....	3.
Grocer/Baker.....	1.
Fishmonger/Greengrocer.....	2.
Confectioner/Tobacconist.....	5.
Restaurants.....	4.
Fish and Chips shops.....	1.
Butchers.....	4.

Food Preparation Rooms.(including bakehouses)

There are 5 such premises in the district as follows:-

4 butchers preparing pressed, pickled or potted meats and sausages.
1 dealing in bread and cakes.

Number of inspections made.....10.

No special examination of shop's stock or consignment of food had been necessary, and since there was only one wholesale grocer in the district, the total quantity of food condemned means that such food is not distributed to the shops in the districts or to the contiguous areas.

Ice Cream Premises.

There are 13 retailers of ice cream in your district, 11 of these sell pre-packed ice cream, one is a producer/retailer, and one makes his product by using the cold mix.

No samples were submitted for analysis during the year.

Number of inspections made.....40.

Fried Fish Shops.

There is one such premises in the district.
 Number of inspections made.....40.

Section 6. Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

The following cases of notifiable infectious disease were reported to me during the year:-

Measles.....71 cases
 Food Poisoning.....6 cases
 Whooping cough.....1 case

The district experienced a severe epidemic of measles in the months of April, May and June. The cases of food poisoning were mild and the causal agent was never discovered. No cases were removed to hospital and no deaths occurred as a result of infectious disease.

Venereal Disease.

The County Council has an agreement with the General and Eye Hospital, Swansea, for the treatment of these cases. The tracing of contacts and the following up of defaulters is the responsibility of the County Council.

Tuberculosis. The following details show the position as regards tuberculosis in recent years.

Number of cases on register at commencement of year.....22.
 Number of fresh cases added during the year.....2.
 Number of cases removed due to death.....1.
 Number of cases removed as recovered.....3.
 Number of cases removed as left district.....7.
 Number of cases left on register at end of year.....13.

The number of notifications in recent years is shown below:-

1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.
0.	3.	5.	4.	6.	1.	1.	8.	3.	2.

Diphtheria. As a result of the new Health Act, the County Council were responsible for the immunisation of children against diphtheria and details for the district will be found in the annual report of the County Medical Officer of Health. Facilities for immunisation are now available at the ordinary Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and also at the schools during the school medical inspections.

It is pleasing to see that the incidence of diphtheria continues to fall. The object of the immunisation campaign, however, remains the same: to secure the immunisation of not less than 75% of babies before their first birthday. It must be remembered that diphtheria still kills and that elimination of the disease is conditional upon the maintenance of an adequate level of immunisation. If parents leave their children unprotected there may be a return of diphtheria outbreaks.

APPENDIXFactories Acts 1937 to 1959ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1961 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF HAY IN THE COUNTY OF BRECONSHIREPrescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937Part 1 of the Act

1.- INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec tions (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
i. Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	18	-	-
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority(excluding out- workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	18	18	-	-

2.- Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more
separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more
"cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness S.1	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding(S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation(S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors(S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act(not including offences relating to Out-work)	1	1	-	-	-
Total	3	2	-	1	-

There was no outwork done in the district during the year.

Yours faithfully,

T.C.R. George,

Medical Officer of Health