

[Report 1925] / Medical Officer of Health, Baslow & Bubnell U.D.C.

Contributors

Baslow and Bubnell (England). Urban District Council.

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Dagnall,
Bakewell,

March 1st, 1926.

TO:-

The Chairman and Members of the Baslow and Bunnell Urban
District Council.



Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report upon the sanitary circumstances of the Baslow and Bunnell Urban District during the year 1925.

This Report is a "Survey Report" as defined in the Circular 648 issued by the Ministry of Health, and Medical Officers of Health are asked to deal comprehensively with (a) the measure of progress made during the preceding five years (b) the extent and character of the changes made during that period in the public health services of the area, and (c) any further action of importance contemplated or considered advisable.

NATURAL and SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA.

Area in acres	5634
Population (Census 1921)	866
Population estimated to the middle of 1925	792
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1921)	218
Rateable Value	£7246. 1. 6.
represented by a penny rate	£22. 2. 10.

Annual Report of M.O.H.

Please circulate as quickly as possible.

S.M.O. III.
26 (93 II).

S.M.O. II.
42 (83 II).

S.M.O. IV.
(91 II).

S.M.O. VI.
(38 II).

S.M.O. I.
(110 II).

General Library.

Physical features and general character of the District.

Baslow and Bunnell is situated on the River Derwent where

the town has a tendency to spread out. It is built upon the

strata and is chiefly characterised by the open spaces

between the groups of houses. It is sheltered from the north by

the hills, and has a considerable share of sunshine.



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The physical features and general character of the District.

Baslow and Bubnell is situate on the River Derwent where the valley has a tendency to spread out. It is built upon the sandstone strata and is chiefly characterised by the open spaces between the groups of houses. It is sheltered from the north by rising ground, and has a considerable share of sunshine.



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VITAL STATISTICS.

The total number of Births during 1925 was five, one male and four females, there was no illegitimate birth. The Birth-rate is equivalent to 6.03 per 1000 of the estimated population.

Twelve deaths from all causes, five males and seven females occurred during the year. This gives a death rate of 15.1 per 1000 of the estimated population, a figure which, if taken without bearing in mind the small figures we are dealing with, would give an altogether false idea of the healthiness of the District.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales during 1925 was 18.3 whilst the Death Rate for the same period was 12.2 per 1000 of the population.

No death occurred amongst children under one year of age so that as is usually the case, the Infant Mortality is Nil.

GENERAL PROVISION of HEALTH SERVICES in the AREA.

Hospitals. The Hospital provision is as before described, six beds for Scarlet Fever only at The Whitworth Hospital, Darley Dale and eight beds for Small-Pox at Watergroove, near Foolow, under the direction of the Haddon Joint Hospital Board of which the Baslow and Bubnell Urban District is one of the constituent authorities.

The Ambulance is provided by the same Hospital Board.

School Clinics and Tuberculosis Dispensaries are provided by the County Council at centres convenient for the District.

The Public Health Officers of Your Authority include a Part-time Medical Officer of Health and a Sanitary Inspector who also carries out various other duties under your Council. Fortunately the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Baggaley, re-considered his decision of relinquishing his Post. It would have

been a great loss to the District, no less than to myself, if he had resigned.

Midwives are not subsidised by Your Council.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES of the AREA.

WATER. Baslow is well supplied with water of ample quantity and good quality. The supply is constant, and it is laid on to the houses. It takes its rise in moor lands, free from risk of pollution, above Baslow. There is no suspicion of its having any plumbo-solvent action.

RIVERS and STREAMS. Situate as it is on the River Derwent and a smaller stream the Barbrook a tributary of the Derwent pollution is inevitable. The chief points where this occurs are south of the old road bridge over the River Derwent, and at a point south of Baslow. Effective measures have been adopted by Your Council to deal with the sewage from the houses you have recently built under the Housing Scheme, double filtration being provided for.

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE. I dealt with this subject at some length in my Annual Report for 1919, when I drew attention to the great engineering difficulties which would be met with, the excessive cost of any comprehensive scheme, and gave reasons for my opinion that so long as Baslow and Bubnell remained about the size it is, the fact that sewerage passes into the River Derwent is not a condition likely to cause nuisance to places lower down the stream. Much as all of us would wish to see every place provided with up to date systems of sewerage collection and disposal, I cannot advise that this is really a pressing need in Your District, and especially so, in that you have demonstrated your intention of dealing with the sewerage from the new block of house property before the effluent does pass into the River.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. The approximate number and character of the closet accommodation in the District is shown in the following Table:-

Old privy midden	50
Approved type of privy midden	74
Pail closets	7
Water closets	189.

Four conversions have been made during the Year to water-closets, three from an approved type of privy and one to replace an old type of privy midden.

SCAVENGING. This remains as before. Depots have been provided in the District where householders may deposit house refuse. These depots are emptied by Your Council's workmen. The contents of privy middens and pail closets are disposed of on to land.

In my Annual Report for 1923 I advised Your Council that the question of a more efficient method of scavenging called for attention. This is a question which should be considered. In the Report referred to I said it would probably be found that the cost to the individual householder would be less if a rate was levied for scavenging than is now the case. The reasons which led me to that opinion are as evident to-day.

The Table which follows gives details of the Sanitary Inspection of the Area:-

There are no Offensive Trades carried on in the District no Common Lodging Houses and no underground sleeping rooms.

HOUSING.

For the actual inhabitants of Baslow and Bubnell there are, at this time, about enough houses to meet the needs. During the Year sixteen houses erected under Your Housing

Schemes have been completed.

No case of overcrowding has come under our notice.

The general standard of housing in the area is satisfactory

HOUSING STATISTICS for the YEAR 1925.

Twenty new houses were erected during the Year. Of this number sixteen were built by Your Authority under the Housing Scheme, and four by private enterprise, three of these latter with State assistance.

One house was inspected and found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation; but with this exception no house was found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.

No proceedings were taken under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 and no representations were made with a view to the making of Closing Orders. No Demolition Orders were made.

INSPECTION and SUPERVISION of FOOD.

MILK. There are ten Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops on the Register. Most of the milk produced is in small quantity only and is disposed of within the District.

MEAT. One slaughter-house is on the Register and this has been inspected on thirty occasions. A tabular statement is asked for at this point as follows:-

slaughterhouses	1920.	In January 1925.	In Decr. 1925.
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Registered)			
Licensed)	0.	1.	1.

BAKE-HOUSES. There are two Bake-houses in the District. The sanitary condition of these is satisfactory.

PREVALENCE of INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

As only one case of Erysipelas and three cases of Chicken-

Pox were notified during the Year I have nothing to report under this head. During the same period no case of tubercular disease was reported.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS FENTON.

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