

[Report 1959] / Medical Officer of Health, Clevedon U.D.C.

Contributors

Clevedon (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1959

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/mdx9mwaq>

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>

Library.

URBAN DISTRICT OF CLEVEDON

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1959



Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I submit a report on the health and sanitary conditions of the District and include in the statistical summaries some of the work done by your Public Health Inspector.

The year has been, from the public health point of view, uneventful though it began with a fairly widespread epidemic of "Asian Flu." Those who had suffered an attack in 1957 enjoyed a very considerable degree of immunity. The attack was short and sharp if treated with respect from the onset by rest in bed for three or four days, followed by convalescence of a week or ten days; but those who felt compelled to resume duties too early suffered a more prolonged debility. One death has been assigned to Influenza.

The other feature was the phenomenally fine summer we enjoyed, during which, contrary to expectation, we suffered no cases of Poliomyelitis. It is yet too early to assume that this freedom from attack has been due to the immunisation campaign against this disease which has recently begun, but it is hoped that all concerned will continue to avail themselves of the protection which this vaccine promises.

Diphtheria has also been unknown to us during the year, but I make no apology for stressing again the great importance of continuing to protect the rising generations against this scourge which most of the younger parents have never seen. During the year there has been a small, but very disturbing, epidemic in London and odd cases continue to crop up throughout the country.

Though the number of cases of Scarlet Fever may seem considerable, the disease has usually been so mild as to be almost unrecognisable and no complications have followed from it. Measles and Whooping Cough have, however, been more troublesome and debilitating, but there have been no fatalities from these diseases.

The local Hospital, with its ancillary services, continues to fulfil a very valuable function; the Maternity Home receives all local cases who require admission; the Ambulance Brigade is on call day and night; the District Nurses render skilled help to the sick in their homes, where the Home Helps attend to cooking, chores and shopping.

Thanks to the initiative of the W.V.S. and other local helpers a "meals on wheels" service has now been started and is much appreciated, and we look forward to the erection of a further twenty houses for elderly couples to make their lot easier and to retain them in their home region.

It gives me pleasure to acknowledge the help I always receive from your Staff, from the County Council Health Department and from the Bristol City Health Department.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

G. MACLEOD.

15th March, 1960.

STATISTICS

Area of District	3,464 acres
Population (mid-year estimate)	9,890
Number of inhabited houses and flats	3,230
Rateable value	£144,178
Sum represented by ld. rate	£580

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number	63	75	138
Rate per 1,000 population			16.6 (corrected)
Illegitimate Live Births % of total live births			5%

Still Births

Number - 1 female	1
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	7

<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	139
------------------------------------	-----

<u>Infant Deaths (under one year)</u>	4
---------------------------------------	---

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	28.9
Legitimate " " " legitimate live births	30.5
Illegitimate " " " illegitimate " "	0

<u>Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks)</u> per 1,000 total live births	21.7
--	------

<u>Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week)</u> per 1,000 total live births	14.5
--	------

<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)</u>	21.5
---	------

<u>Maternal Mortality (including abortion)</u>	
Number of deaths	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	0

<u>Percentage of Births in Maternity Homes</u>	82%
--	-----

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	84	101	185
<u>Death Rate</u>			(corrected) 11.4

Average age at death	73 years
Comparability Factor (for Deaths)	1.19
(for Births)	0.61

Cause of death of infants under one year:-

One male at 3 weeks (inquest) - Bilateral Bronchopneumonia
 Two females - one at 6 hours and one after 20 minutes - Prematurity
 One male at 7 months - Virus Encephalitis

<u>Some of the principal causes of death were:-</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cancer of lung and bronchus	3	2	5
Other malignant diseases	11	10	21
Coronary disease, Angina	22	24	46
Other heart diseases	14	18	32
Cerebral vascular disease	15	19	34
Pneumonia	1	6	7
Bronchitis and respiratory diseases	4	1	5
Tuberculosis	0	0	0
Influenza	1	0	1

<u>Notifiable Diseases</u>	<u>No. of Cases</u>	<u>Admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Scarlet Fever	38	0	0
Measles	238	0	0
Whooping Cough	32	0	0
Pneumonia	7	0	7
Puerperal pyrexia	7	0	0
Dysentery	4	0	0
Food poisoning	1	1	0
Erysipelas	1	0	0
Ophthalmia-neonatorum	1	0	0
Meningococcal infection	1	0	0

<u>Tuberculosis</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>	
<u>Age group</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
5 - 14	0	0	0	1
15 - 24	0	1	0	0
25 - 44	1	1	0	0
45 - 64	1	0	0	0
Total	2	2	0	1

Sanitary Services

Under the direction of your Public Health Inspector, all these services have been satisfactorily discharged. The water supply is of proven purity and in ample quantity; streets are regularly swept and cleansed; the drainage system works smoothly and a comprehensive new sewer to meet the needs of increasing housing development is about to be laid down; cesspits, where they still exist, are emptied free of charge twice a year and house and trade refuse are collected at weekly intervals.

Public Swimming Baths

There is little to add to the comment made in my Annual Report for 1957 on the bacteriological condition of the water in the Marine Lake. It is hoped that the further cementing of the floor of the Lake will lead to a speedier cleaning of the sedimentation which accumulates between high tides.

Housing

There has been considerable housing development by private enterprise during the year and this activity still continues. Private philanthropy has already provided four very desirable bungalows for old couples which are already in happy occupation, while four more are ready for allocation. The Local Authority hopes to start erection of twenty dwellings for old people at an early date. These will greatly help in relieving a sore need.

Action taken during the year

- (1) Number of houses in clearance areas for which Orders are still to be made Nil.
- (2) Number of houses in clearance areas which have been patched for temporary accommodation under Section 48 of the Housing Act, 1957.. .. . Nil.
- (3) Number of houses demolished under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957.. .. . Nil.
- (4) Number of houses demolished or closed under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 2
- (5) Number of temporary dwellings demolished Nil.
- (6) Number of houses declared unfit under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957.. .. . Nil.
- (7) Number of houses made fit during the year.. .. . Nil.
- (8) Number of unfit houses occupied under licence.. .. . Nil.
- (9) Rent Act, 1957 (1st Schedule) - Certificates of disrepair:-
 - (a) Number of applications received 2
 - (b) Number of certificates issued.. .. . 2

Houses erected during the year

By Local Authority	0
By Private Enterprise	35
By Private Enterprise (conversion of large houses into flats)	6
By Private Enterprise (in course of erection)	24

Houses erected from 1st May, 1945 to 31st December, 1959

<u>By Local Authority</u>	<u>By Private Enterprise</u>
312	258
20 Prefabs are still in satisfactory occupation	
Applicants on the Council's list at end of 1959	97
Applicants on the Council's list for old people's homes at end of 1959	93

Improvement Grants

<u>Discretionary</u> - Applications received - 13	Approved - 13
Houses dealt with - 13	Approved - 14
Applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers	11
Average cost per dwelling approved during year	£723
Amount of grant payable by Local Authority	£3,684
<u>Standard</u> - Applications received - 12	
Approved - 11	
Number of houses where standard amenities have been provided - 5	

Food

Milk

Registered Distributors	5
Registered Dairy Premises (other than dairy farms)	4
Licensed Dealers in Designated Milk	5
Supplementary licences to distributors outside the area	0

Milk Sampling

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Samples taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Tuberculin Tested	91	90	1
Pasteurised	81	81	0
Sterilised	37	37	0

Ice Cream

Premises registered for:-	
Manufacture and retail	0
Manufacture only	0
Retail only	30

All hotels, boarding houses and food shops have been inspected and found satisfactory. The slaughter house, which is owned by and leased from the Local Authority, has been regularly inspected. There are no bacon factory or knacker's yard in the district.

Carcases and Offal of animals inspected at slaughterhouse

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
	<u>71</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>2079</u>	<u>574</u>	<u>403</u>
Meat in lbs: condemned for:-					
Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	80
Cysticercosis	0	0	0	0	0
Other conditions	472	414	24	6	128

Public Health Staff

Public Health Inspector - J. Topham, A.M.I.Mun.E; M.I.H.E; M.R.San.I.

Medical Officer - G. Macleod, M.A; M.D; D.P.H.,
"Merrylee,"
Cambridge Road, Clevedon.
Telephone: Clevedon 3297.

