

[Report 1964] / Medical Officer of Health, Dunstable Borough.

Contributors

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Bor

Montpelier House,

Dunstable.

May, 1965.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Dunstable.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1964.

The boundary change in 1964, when Luton became a County Borough, entailed a loss to Dunstable of 36 acres, 233 houses and flats, and a small part of the population.

Infectious Diseases: Except for Measles, the Borough was particularly free from infectious diseases. It is necessary to reiterate the importance of immunising children against certain dire diseases. Protection against smallpox, diphtheria, poliomyelitis, whooping cough and tetanus, can be given so easily and practically with no discomfort. There are still many parents who have not made use of this service.

Cancer: This is still one of the commonest causes of death. During the year there were 39 deaths from cancer, of which 14 were cancer of the lung.

I wish to acknowledge the help that has always been given me by the Town Clerk and the Public Health Inspectors.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

H.A.A. Pargeter.

Medical Officer of Health,
Borough of Dunstable.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

(a) Medical Officer of Health (part-time)

H.A.A. PARGETER, M.A., M.B., D.P.H. (Telephone No. Duns: 63526)

(b) Chief Public Health Inspector

H. STEW, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H. Meat and Other Foods
Certificate. (Telephone No. Duns: 61241)

(c) Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

M. HINCHCLIFFE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H. Meat and Other
Foods Certificate.

(d) Additional Public Health Inspector

A.F. PAVEY, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H. Meat and Other Foods Certificate

(e) Pupil Public Health Inspector (since August 1964)

P.A. SMITH

(f) Chief Clerk

A.G. SANDERSON (Until November 1964)

(g) Shorthand Typist

Miss R.M. DANSON

(h) Clerical Assistant

Miss L.I. MADDOCKS.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough (in acres)	.. .. .	2,048 acres
Area of Borough lost to Luton County Borough..	.. ..	36
Population: Registrar-General's Estimated Home Population for 1964	.. .. .	27,270
Number of inhabited houses - according to Rate Books	.. ..	8,578
Number of houses lost to Luton County Borough	.. ..	233
Rateable Value as at 31st December, 1964	.. .. .	£2,226,725
Net produce of a penny rate for the year ended 31st March 1964	.. .. .	£9,054
Number of new houses erected: (a) Council	.. .. .	33
(during year ended 31st Dec. 1964) (b) Private	.. .. .	258

Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 population</u>	
				<u>Crude</u>	<u>Corrected</u>
Total	364	363	727		
Legitimate	348	347	695	26.6	22.8
Illegitimate	16	16	32		

Still Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 population</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 total (live & still births)</u>
Total	9	4	13		
Legitimate	9	4	13	0.47	17.6
Illegitimate	-	-	-		

Total Live and Still Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total	373	367	740
Legitimate	357	351	708
Illegitimate	16	16	32

Infant Deaths (under one year of age)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
				<u>Total</u>	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>
Total	4	2	6			
Legitimate	4	2	6	8.3	8.3	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-			

Infant Deaths (under 4 weeks of age)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
				<u>Total</u>	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>
Total	3	-	3			
Legitimate	3	-	3			
Illegitimate	-	-	-	4.1	4.1	-

Infant Deaths (under one week of age)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>			
Total	3	-	3			
Legitimate	3	-	3	4.1	4.1	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-			

Stillbirths and Deaths under one week of age

Stillbirths	9
Deaths	<u>3</u>
	<u>12</u>

Combined rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births = 16.1

Illegitimate Live Births = 4.4% of total live births.

Maternal Deaths = Nil

Deaths

Male	129
Female	<u>94</u>
Total	<u>223</u>

Death Rates

All causes: Crude	.. .. .	8.2
Adjusted	.. .. .	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid..	.. .. .	-
Whooping Cough	.. .. .	-
Diphtheria	.. .. .	-
Tuberculosis	.. .. .	-
Influenza	.. .. .	0.04
Smallpox	.. .. .	-
Acute Poliomyelitis..	.. .. .	-
Pneumonia	.. .. .	.73
All causes under 1 year of age	.. .. .	.22

Notifications (Corrected)

Typhoid and Paratyphoid	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Meningococcal Infection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.04
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.11
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.04
Smallpox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.9
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Acute Poliomyelitis: Paralytic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Non-Paralytic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.04
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

POPULATION

Year	Population	Increase over previous year	Natural Increase
1955	18,140	570	5.2
1956	19,020	880	9.3
1957	20,150	1,130	9.9
1958	21,300	1,150	10.0
1959	22,320	1,020	11.3
1960	23,460	1,140	9.7
1961	25,740	2,280	8.3
1962	26,480	740	7.9
1963	27,200	720	6.4
1964	27,270	70	9.4

Natural Increase shows the difference between birth and death rates.

The average yearly increase for the last five years is 550.

Birth Rate

The number of births is largely determined by the number of women of child-bearing age resident in the area, thus the birth rate cannot be compared with another area unless it is of a similar sex and age structure or until some allowance is made in the calculation. This is the function of the comparability factor, this being supplied to all areas by the Registrar General.

Continued...

The birth rate for 1964 was 22.8 after multiplying by the comparability factor of 0.86. The crude rate for the year under review was 26.6.

The total number of live births was 727.

Still Births.

The number of still births was 13 and the still birth rate 0.47 per 1,000 population. The corresponding rate for 1,000 live and still births was 17.6.

Death Rate.

The uncorrected death rate was 8.2 as compared with 8.8 for the previous year. To make allowance for age and sex constitution the Registrar-General has allowed correction of this figure by the comparability figure of 1.39 by which a corrected death rate of 11.4 was obtained.

Causes of Death

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
All causes	129	94	223
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective & parasitic diseases..	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	11	3	14
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.	13	2	15
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
Diabetes	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	19	19	38
Coronary disease, angina.. .. .	28	14	42
Hypertension with heart disease.. ..	-	2	2
Other heart disease	5	5	10
Other circulatory diseases	4	8	12
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	10	10	20
Bronchitis	7	4	11

Continued.....

Causes of Death (continued)

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	3	1	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	3	1	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
Congenital malformations	2	-	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	9	8	17
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	2	5
All other Accidents	1	5	6
Suicide	3	2	5

Cancer of the stomach caused 4 deaths the same number as in the previous year, but cancer of the lung caused 14 deaths, 5 more than in 1963.

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths below 55 years of age:	26	16	42
Deaths over 75 years of age:	38	41	79

Maternal Mortality

There were no Maternal Deaths in 1964, but there was one death resulting from abortion.

Infant Mortality

The total number of infant deaths was 6 of which 4 were male and 2 female, giving an infant mortality rate of 8.3 per 1,000 live births over the year. 2 Infant deaths were due to broncho-pneumonia, 1 to intercranial haemorrhage, 1 to laryngo-tracheitis, 1 to congestive heart failure and 1 to asphyxia.

The number of neo-natal deaths, or those occurring under one month of age was 3, corresponding to a rate of 4.1 per 1,000 live births.

Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

The following table shows a summary of the number of infectious diseases notified during the year:

Disease	Total Cases Notified.
Scarlet Fever	1
Whooping Cough	3
Diphtheria	-
Measles	169

Continued.....

Infectious Diseases (continued)

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified.</u>
Acute Pneumonia	-
Meningococcal Infection.. ..	-
Acute Poliomyelitis: Paralytic ..	-
Non-Paralytic ..	-
Acute Encephalitis : Infective ..	-
Post Infectious.	-
Dysentery	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Smallpox	-
Paratyphoid Fever.. .. .	-
Typhoid Fever	-
Food Poisoning	1
Jaundice	-
Erysipelas	1
Malaria	-

Measles

There were 169 cases notified in 1964, as compared with 328 in 1963. This gives a case rate of 6.2 per 1,000 population.

Whooping Cough

3 notifications were received, compared with 11 the previous year, making a case rate of 0.1 per 1,000 population.

Tuberculosis

The following table shows the number of new cases:

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
under 5 years	-	1	-	-
5-14 years	-	-	-	1
15 - 24 years	-	-	-	-
25 - 44 years	-	2	-	-
45 - 64 years	1	1	1	-
65 years and over	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	4	1	1

Cases of Tuberculosis notified during the last five years.

Year	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
1960	8	4	2	-	14
1961	7	2	-	3	12
1962	3	1	-	1	5
1963	3	2	-	-	5
1964	1	4	1	1	7

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47

Persons in need of care and attention.

This section provides for the necessary care and attention of persons who:

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or, being aged and infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions; and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

It was not necessary to take steps for compulsory removal to hospital of any persons during the year.

