# [Report 1952] / Medical Officer of Health, Filey U.D.C.

# Contributors

Filey (England). Urban District Council.

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# Report

of the

# Medical Officer of Health

and Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1952.



URBAN DISTRICT OF FILEY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1952

including

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

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#### HEALTH COMMITTEE

#### Chairman:

Councillor H.R. DORAN

#### Members:

Councillor L. HALLAM, D.L., J.P. Councillor F.T. WELBOURN. Councillor T. FENBY. Councillor S. BAKER. Councillor T. FENBY. Councillor W. MALLINSON. Councillor C. BECK.

Councillor D.H. WATKINS. Councillor Mrs.K. WILLIAMS.

Clerk of the Council: K. HENDERSON, A.C.I.S.

Surveyor & Water Engineer : A.G. KELLY, A.M. I.Mun.E.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Divisional Medical Officer, East Riding County Council: E.T. COLVILLE, M.D., M.B., B.S. (Hons)., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector & Housing Manager:

P.A. WILLIAMS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., R.S.I., Meat and Other Foods Certificate

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL STAFF, EAST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL

Assistant Divisional Medical Officer: Miss A.D. COLLINS, M.B., CH.B., L.M., D.P.H., D.C.H. (resigned January 1952)

> Assistant Divisional Medical Officer: Miss M. MULVEIN, M.B., CH.B. (appointed March 1952)

> > -----

Health Visitor, School Nurse and Tuberculosis Visitor, Filey Area: Miss H.G.H. MACDONALD, H.V. Cert., S.C.M., S.R.N.

District Nurse: Miss M. SPAVIN, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.M.N.



Divisional Health Office, Town Hall, BRIDLINGTON.

To the Chairman and Councillors, Urban District of Filey.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health Services of the District for the year 1952.

In March 1951 an enquiry was held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Local Government and Planning into the new proposed Sewerage and Sewage disposal Scheme and the Scheme was approved in principle at an estimated cost of £110,000. Pollution of beaches is a nuisance common to many seaside resorts and each year it is aggravated by building programmes and the improvment in water supplies with the increased final sewerage effluent. The Scheme of the Council should completely obviate this nuisance and it is hoped that the work will be commenced at the earliest date possible.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Health Committee of the Council and my fellow officials for their ready assistance at all times.

I an,

Yours faithfully,

H.T. COLVILLE

Medical Officer of Health



#### STATISTICAL MEMORANDUM

Urban District	Filey.
Area in acres	2,106
Population : 1952 Registrar General	4,540
Number of Inhabited Houses (Estimated 1952)	1,744
Rateable value	£53,874
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£208
Birth-rate	12.3
Death-rate	12.5
Infantile Mortality	35.7

#### VITAL STATISTICS

(a) Live Births :

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	26	28 2	54
TTTOBLOTHING		-	56
Birth-rate Percentage of Illegitimate b			

The birth-rate for England and Wales was 15.3 per 1,000; our rate is, therefore, 3.0 below that for the country generally.

#### (b) Still-births :

There were no still-births during the year.

#### (c) Deaths:

The total number of deaths registered during the year as belonging to the Urban District was 57. This is equal to a death-rate of 12.5 per 1,000 compared with a rate of 11.3 for the country generally. The conparability factor to correct the crude death-rate for age and sex distribution in the Urban District is calculated by the Registrar General at 0.90, this on multiplication with the actual rate gives a comparative death-rate of 11.2 against that of 11.3 for the country generally.

The causes of death are given in Table I.

#### (d) Infant Mortality :

There were two deaths in infants under 1 year of age (Legitimate) The infantile mortality rate based upon the number of live births registered in the year, i.e., 56, is equivalent to a rate of 35.7 per 1,000 births, campared to with a rate of 27.6 for the country.





All causes	Males 28	Females 29
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-
Cancer, stomach	1	1
Cancer, breast	-	1
Cancer, other sites	1	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	7
Coronary disease, agina	5	1
Other heart disease	5	7
Other circulatory disease	4	3
Bronchitis	1	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .	3	3
All other accidents	1	1

### TABLE I

### Causes of Death in Filey U.D., 1952 (R.G.)

#### TABLE II

#### Vital Statistics - England and Wales (extracts)

#### Births

#### Deaths

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#### General provision of Health Services for the Area

#### Laboratory Facilities

Specimens for bacteriological and pathological examinations are sent to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council at Hull or to the Pathological Laboratory at Scarborough Hospital.

Samples of water for chemical analysis are forwarded to the Public Analyst for the East Riding.

#### Maternity and Child Welfare

The County Council provide a fortnightly Clinic which is held in the Conference Hall adjoining the Council Offices and there is one Health Visitor resident in the town.



#### Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and Other Diseases

There were no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough.

#### Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children who completed the full course of immunisation in the Authority's area between 1st January and 31st December, 1952, is as follows:

<u>Under 5 years</u> 35 <u>5 - 14 years</u> 1 In addition 72 children received boostingdoses.

The estimated number of children immunised at any time who were born between 1938 and 1952 inclusive is as follows:

Under 5 years 240 5 - 14 years 525

#### Tuberculosis 1952

The Register for Tuberculosis for the year is as follows: Non-

Pulr M	nonary F	Pulm M	onary F	Totals
Number of cases on the Register at 31,12,51 13	8	1	3	25
Added to the Register :-				
<ul> <li>(a) Cases notified for the first time during the year2</li> <li>(b) Un-notified cases brought to notice otherwise than</li> </ul>	3	1	-	6
by formal notification	2	!	-	2
Removed from Register on account of death, change of address, etc	1			2
Number of cases on the			-	4
Register at 31.12.5214	12	2	3	31

#### Mass Radiography Survey

298 persons were examined in Filey, 8 were considered to have significant abnormalities. On re-examination 2 were thought to be suffering from active Tuberculosis and 2 were considered to be inactive, the remaining 4 were referred to the Chest Clinic for further investigation which resulted in 2 being referred to the Heart Clinic at Hull and 2 to their own General Practitioners.

-7-



#### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water

The Water Undertaking is the property of the Filey Urban District Council and supplies the whole of the district and the village of Gristhorpe situated within the Rural District of Scarborough.

The water is obtained from 2 boreholes situated in Station Avenue, 1 of which was sunk in 1891 to a depth of 375 feet and the other in 1926 to a depth of 600 feet. During 1952 the daily yield was 300,000 and 260,000 gallons respectively, making a maximum quantity pumped per day of 560,000 gallons.

During the year the following improvements were made:

Water mains were laid in new roads to accommodate 100 houses.

In Primrose Valley approximately 300 yard of 3 inch main extension was leid to the Flat Cliff bungalow area and resulted in an adequate water pressure at peak summer periods.

The temporary booster station at Scarborough Road which ensured sufficient water pressure to the village of Gristhorpe was removed and a permanent booster station was constructed on Council land on the Scarborough Road boundary.

Approval was sought from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to construct a new 6 inch main from the reservoir to Messrs Butlin's Holiday Camp at the southern end of the district. This work is now being carried out.

Chemical analyses of the supplies at both bores were as follows:

	Borehole	Borehole
Suspended matter, Appearance in 2 ft. column	Slight trace. Clear: pale yellow	Slight trace. Clear: pale yellow
Odour	None	None
	PARTS PER M	ILLION
Chlorides expressed as chlorine	68	55
Nitrites Poisonous Metals .	None None	None None
Hardness Total (Soap Test) Oxygen absorbed at 80°F (4 hours)	132	148
	0.175	0.125
Free Ammonia Albuminoid Ammonia	0.276	0.220
Iron	0.10	0.15
Sulphuretted Hydrogen pH value	None 7.6	None 7.5

#### Conclusion

Judging from the above results, I am of the opinion that these samples are fit for human consumption.



Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector and Housing Manager for the year ending 31st December, 1952

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

#### Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the privilege to present to you my third Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Staff and the operation of the Housing Department and Refuse Collection Service for the year ending 1952. It was a year of further progress towards the preparation, and in some ways the substitution, of Urban standards of sanitation throughout the outer areas which were previously rural in character. During the year 43 Council houses were built and tenanted and 3 new private houses occupied for the first time.

In Primrose Valley the development of the camping areas and the increased activity were very noticeable and led to interest in all branches of sanitation, such as controlled tipping, water extensions, cleaning of septic tanks and further plans for sewerage of the Valley.

#### General.

The sanitary condition was satisfactory. The most noticeable defects being the pollution of the beach by the sewer outfall near to the Coble Landing, the contamination of the Primrose Valley stream by overflows from septic tanks and the deposit in the stream of tea leaves and grease from from surface drains from the camping area. This latter difficulty is being temporarily overcome by the construction of a large hopper tank and filter.

#### Food.

All meat sold within the Urban District was inspected at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse at Bridlington, one slaughterhouse within Filey was licensed and used for the slaughter of animals for human food, but not for sale. Five persons were licensed as slaughter-men, but these were employed most of the time in slaughterhouses outside the area. Regular visits were made by your Sanitary Inspector to Butchers Shops and to the slaughterhouse, and the meat van was inspected periodically. Unfortunately, the amount of meat conveyed does not at present warrant one closed van being used solely for this work.

The model byelaws with regard to the handling and wrapping of food, made in 1950, under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were of considerable assistance and most handlers had purchased copies of these byelaws. Comment was mostly necessary by the Sanitary Inspector with regard to covering meat and food, so as to ensure protection from dust and flies, and the provision of notices in toilets and facilities for staff washing under the byelaws.

The general standard of hygiene in food shops, hotels, public houses and cafes was satisfactory. Most of the informal notices served were fegarding the provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences.



#### Milk

There were mainly two grades of milk sold (a) Tuberculin Tested (b) Pasteurised. Milk production on farms was supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Raw ungraded milk was obtainable from four retailers within the area but was not in great demand.

The County Council supervised and licensed the only milk pasteurising plant in Filey Messrs R. Dale & Sons Ltd., but by arrangement your Sanitary Inspector assisted with day to day supervision and submitted 2 samples each month to the laboratory.

Of a total of 24 samples of pasteurised milk produced in Filey and submitted to the laboratory, 1 was reported insufficiently pasteurised and was found to be due to a faulty valve, and the warning to the producer caused immediate correction. One other letter of warning was forwarded to the same producer with regard to a bottle of milk adulterated by sterilising material. Of a total of 11 samples of pasteurised milk produced in Scarborough or Bridlington, including school milk no samples were found to be unsatisfactory.

The following licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations:

Tubercul	in Tested		Paster	urised		Steril	ised
Bottling	Dealers	Supple- mentary Dealers	Producers	Dealers	Supple- mentary Dealers		ers
1	4	3	1	5	2	2	5

#### Water Supply

The Council water supply is pumped from two deep boreholes in Station Avenue, chlorinated and passed into two reservoirs at Sands Road, in the extreme south end of the District. Parts of the water mains in the built-up area are about 70 years of age, although much has been renewed or extended in recent times.

During the year the system was sterilised in sections by the overnight filling with a strong solution of chlorine, and flushing. This operation was successful in removing deposits and growths of iron bacteria, and resulted in a water greatly improved in colour, odour and taste. 28 samples were forwarded to the laboratory for bacteriological examination, 25 were reported Class I, and 3 were Class III (with no probable faecal bacteria). 2 chemical analyses confirmed the water as suitable for human consumption. The water supply to the large camping area in Primrose Valley was improved by an extension of the 3 inch main, and the Flat Cliff bungalow area was improved by a  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inch main.

#### Ice Cream

There were 6 premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream, which were used during the summer only. All premises conformed to the Ice Cream Regulations, 1947.

7 samples of ice cream were submitted to the laboratory for methylene blue tests, 4 were Grade I, 1 Grade II, 1 Grade III and 1 Grade IV. The latter sample was obtained from a new producer who has since improved.



The County Council, being the Food and Drugs Authority, submitted independent samples of foods, including ice cream, to the laboratory. The results appear in the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health, but are not separated into the various Urban Districts.

Food	No. of Weight Tins	Food	<u>No. of Weight</u> <u>Tins</u>
Ham	6 133 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> lbs	Strawberries	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Sausages	6 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>2</sub> lbs	Bacon	
Plums	84 105 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>2</sub> lbs	Grapes	
Tomatoes	17 7 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>2</sub> lbs	Tongue	
Meat	4 12 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>4</sub> lbs	Tunafish	
Peas	6 3 lbs	Cherries	
Milk	5 10 pts	Cheese	

#### Housing

During the year the Council constructed and let 43 new houses of the three bedroom type and approved drawings for a further 22, and 12 with two bedrooms (which are now let). The first block of Council owned flats was also approved and is now in course of construction.

At the close of the year the Council owned and had let the following:-

Type	NC
4 Bedroomed houses	8
2 " "	68
3 " "	264
1 " Old Folks Bungalows	_12

Apart from this, roads were constructed to accommodate a further 43 two bedroomed type houses and 14 Old Folks Bungalows

The housing need was still acute, The resident population in 1952 was 4,540 and there were 1,744 dwellinghouses, some combined with shops and several hundred let in flats. During the summer the population was estimated at 22,000 (including caravan sites and holiday carps). Many houses and flats which were let furnished during the winter to local families, had to be vacated at short notice for seasonal lettings. In spite of this, it was rare that a case of overcrowding under the 1936 Housing Act standard was found. About 60 of the younger local families, often with one child, were sharing houses or flats with relations, or were in expensive furnished accommodation which they could ill-afford. 3 families were known to reside throughout the winter in caravans. There were 42 requisitioned bungalows at West Vale, which, although let by the Council for the Minsitry of Health, were considered unsuitable for permanent occupation. About 16 basement flats or attics were occupied which require to be adapted or closed, and some 36 houses fell into the demolition category, but alternative accommodation was not available.

Altogether 52 houses were let during the year and arrangements were made for 83 tenants to exchange their houses (one with a tenant from another Authority). At the close of the year there were 295 applicants seeking Council houses, of which approximately 85 had unsuitable accommodation, although they had lived in Filey more than 5 years.



#### Camping Sites.

Only 2 large camping sites were licensed, 1 at Primrose Valley and 1 at Collings Farm. A large field was also used by the Caravan Club at Muston Grange Farm, and a site for about 100 caravans was in course of preparation at Wright's Field, near to West Avenue, Filey, O.S. 226.CX.3. The general standards on the camping areas were good.

All sites had an adequate water supply from the Council's mains, never more then 200 feet from the caravans. Water was supplied by standpipes. Ablution blocks throughout the camps were supplied with water from Council mains.

The greasy water and tea leaves from the 750 caravans in Primrose Valley caused a nuisance in the stream from soap and deposits, and an informal notice was served requiring the abatement, which resulted in the construction of six large grease traps, six ventilation shafts and a hopper settlement tank suitable to hold one day's flow.

At Lowfield Farm several hundred caravans were accommodated. Pail closets were used, the contents being ploughed into agricultural land at regular intervals

The estimated population of the camps during August was 3,600 persons.

#### Public Cleansing

The Council maintained a weekly collection of refuse throughout the area and also removed the bulk of the trade refuse, the first bin free and subsequent bins being charged at a rate of 3d each.

3 Karrier 12 h.p side-loading covered lorries, 7 cubic yards, were used during the summer and 2 during the winter. On the tip at Scarborough Road, 2 men were employed during the summer but 1 man only during the winter. A Fordson Major Tractor fitted with drag scoop and muledozer plate for collecting and spreading over soil was used to maintain a good standard of controlled tipping. It is estimated that 2,800 tons of house and trade refuse were disposed of.

The tip was maintained free from rats.

#### Salvage.

During the year paper salvage was partially discontinued owing to the excessive fall in prices, but the total amount yielded for salvage was £160. Os. Od. Scrap metal brought £6. 10s. Od. and rags were sold for £8. Os. Od.

#### Sewage Disposal

The built-up area of Filey comprising 1,300 dwellinghouses and business premises is sewered into an outfall which is situated in Filey Bay, near the Coble Landing. The large holiday camp at the southern end of the area, where approximately 6000 persons resided during the peak of summer, has a separate temporary outfall into Filey Bay and is fitted with storage tanks so that sewage can be released twice daily at high tide. The sewer outfall and storm water overflows at Coble Landing continued to cause serious fouling of the beach at low tide by sewage, and the Council were eagerly awaiting the starting day of a Ministry approved scheme to pump the sewage to the outside of Filey Brig.



At Primrose Valley where approximately 3,500 persons reside during the summer in permanent houses, temporary bungalows or caravans, there were two methods of sewage disposal, namely, septic tanks and pail closets. The overflows from the septic tanks and the greasy water from the camping sites caused settlement in, with consequent smells from the Primrose Valley Stream, and necessitated informal action to obtain the construction of six grease traps and a large tomporary settlement tank to intercept tea leaves and grease. The large number of overflows from septic tanks (each of which was working as correctly as possible) jointly caused a nuisance in the stream, and the severing of the Valley or the conveying of overflows from the drains and septic tanks to a temporary sewer outfall was advised as essontial as soon as possible.

There are several cesspools, notedly at Airey Hill and Royal Oak, which are poorly constructed and require so frequent pumping that digestion of sewage is disturbed. A contracted mechanical sewage tanker was used for this work, and, although costly, no nuisance resulted. It was recommended that a new septic tank should be constructed at Royal Oak and the Council considered the undertaking of this by loan. At Airey Hill the conveyance of the tank overflow to a nearby soil drain falling into Messrs Butlins sewage tank has been recommended and is being pursued.

#### Rodent Control.

Filey has been maintained free from rats throughout the year by 1 Rodent Operative working 4 days per week. The works has been checked by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Inspector and qualifies for the 50% Ministry grant. Business premises were charged at the rate of labour, plus materials, plus 15% administration. Farms within the area were regularly treated and haystacks were ringed with netting after notification of the date of breaking the stack. The sewer manholes were test baited twice during the year and several minor infestations were eradicated by poison.

#### Factories Acts 1937 and 1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health:

]	Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	written notices
(1)	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	<u>1115900010115</u> 9	2
(2)	Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority		36	2
(3)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorit;		21	3
	Total	41	66	7



2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars	Found	<u>Remidie</u> d	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	1	1	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)			
(c) Not separate for sexes.	1	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	2	3
Total	•4	4	3

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#### Visits and Inspections

Houses - Public Health and Housing Acts Investigating suspected overcrowding Structural defects and disropair	141 27 51 17 27 21 78 765
Common courts etc,	1402088613397658791263619844313

In conclusion, I wish to tender my thanks to the Chairmen of the Health and Housing Committees, to the many Councillors, Officers and men of the Council whome co-operation, support and assistance on all occasions in dealing with many difficult matters has been invaluable.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

P.A. WILLIAMS

Sanitary Inspector

Housing Manager.

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