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# GUISBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

# REPORT

for the Year 1959

of the Medical Officer of Health

P. BRODBIN, L.R.C.P. & S.I., D.P.H.



# TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

OF THE

# GUISBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure of presenting the annual report on the health of the Urban District of Guisborough for the year 1959.

Dr. D. H. S. Griffith resigned from the appointment as your Medical Officer of Health during June, and until the end of the year the late Dr. Hugh Pattinson, Medical Officer of Health for Redcar, Marske and Saltburn, acted as your Medical Officer.

During the year 205 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified.

Measles. (185 cases) accounted for the bulk of these notifications.

Whooping Cough. Not one case of Whooping Cough was notified. This is most gratifying as Whooping Cough is one of the most serious Infectious Diseases, particularly when it occurs in children. The case fatality rate from Whooping Cough is six times greater than Measles; nine-tenths of deaths from Whooping Cough occur among children under five years of age; two-thirds of the deaths occur in the first year of life; outstanding is the death rate in infants under three months.

At present "combined" Diphtheria-Whooping Cough vaccine is again available at our clinics, to afford the opportunity of protection against these two serious illnesses with a minimum number of injections. Mothers are advised to bring their infants to the clinic as soon after birth as possible. There, on the first visit, the Health Visitors will be very pleased to give advice and to explain the simplicity of following the immunisation programme. In fact our very competent Health Visitors (to whom I am most grateful) will keep reminding the parents of immunisation dates until the final injection has been completed.

**Scarlet Fever.** There were only six cases of this disease notified during the year 1959. Scarlet Fever is no longer the serious condition it once was. By careful nursing attention and modern anti-biotic treatment the disease can now be regarded as one of the milder infectious diseases. Neglected cases can give rise to cervical adenitis, otitis media and nephritis. The most important complication is, of course, acute carditis, which is identical with the acute carditis seen in acute rheumatism.

The Older Age Groups. There is a progressive increase in the number of the population in the older age groups in this country. In fact it is estimated that in approximately twenty years the over sixty-fives will number eight million and that the over seventy-fives will have doubled their number. This rapid increase in longevity is due in

part to the tremendous advances in Medical Science, the development of Anti-biotics, improved technique in surgery, the greater safety of Anaesthesia, the great progress in Biochemistry and Pharmaceutics. We must not forget, however, that the general increase in the health of the people, brought about by an improved standard of living, good food, better housing conditions and so on, has also reduced drastically the risk of dying prematurely. Much thought and consideration must be given to help these old people who have served the community in the past.

The desire of independence is acutely felt by the aged. They prefer to live as they please in the atmosphere of their own humble fireside rather than in regimented institutional care. Hence every encouragement should be given to methods of keeping elderly persons healthy and contented in their own homes.

Home Help Service. This is a relatively new addition to the Social Services and has advanced much within recent years. In Guisborough it is administered from the District Health Office, Park Lane, and although time consuming and difficult, it is consoling in the knowledge that it provides a means of permitting many of Guisborough's aged to continue to live in the independence of their own homes. This service helps the old person to "carry on". Domestic help is often a problem in many a home. It is a major problem when the woman of the family, who has been the housekeeper, becomes the patient and can no longer perform domestic duties. Here the home help may keep the flag flying and prevent hospitalisation. Our home help service does a very fine job of work and is greatly appreciated. Unfortunately this service is not a cheap commodity and the fact that the hospitals are free whereas the home help has to be paid for according to a means test is not conducive to a policy of trying to keep the old person at home. The fact is, however, that the high cost of keeping a patient in hospital is out of proportion to the small cost of home-helping a patient.

"How we treat our old people is a crucial test of our national quality."

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee I say "many thanks". I wish to record my appreciation of the help and advice I received from Mr. G. Beel, Clerk of the Council, Mr. A. T. Pallister, Chief Public Health Inspector and Mr. E. Ward, Additional Public Health Inspector. Finally I wish to thank Mr. R. K. Nuttall, Chief Clerk, District Health Office, Guisborough, for his efficient work and enthusiastic co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

P. BRODBIN,

August, 1960.

Medical Officer of Health.

## TABLE 1

# **Public Health Officers**

Whole Time Officers	Guisborough Urban District	Skelton & Brotton Urban District	Loftus Urban District
Medical Officer of Health who is also Asst. County Medical Officer No. 4 Area N.R.C.C. and School Medical Officer, N.R.C.C.		D. H. S. Griffith igned 20.6.59.)	I am indebt
Public Health Inspectors  Additional Public Health Inspector	*Mr. A. T. Pallister  Mr. E. Ward	Mr. J. H. Rhodes	*Mr. W. C. Ranson Mr. A. N. Errington

<sup>\*</sup>Also Surveyor of the district concerned

# County Public Health Staff attached to the Guisborough Area.

Miss H. M. Bell	Health Visitor/School Nurse
Mrs. R. E. Alderson	District Nurse/Midwife
Mrs. E. M. Faye	District Nurse/Midwife (Resigned 31.10.59)
Mrs. F. E. Potter	District Nurse (Part-time)
Mr. R. K. Nuttall	Senior Clerk
Miss P. Knaggs	Clerk Typist.

#### SECTION 1.

#### Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

## Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the district in the mid-year 1959 is 10,280,as compared to an estimate of the population in the mid-year 1958 of 9,830.

#### **General Statistics**

I am indebted to the Financial Officer of the Council for the following figures:-

- 1. Area of the District in acres .... 18,948
- 2. No. of inhabited houses according to the rate books 3,665
- 3. Rateable Value .... .... .... £,238,700
- 4. Sum represented by a penny rate .... £1,000

TABLE 2 Vital Statistics

		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Live Births		 104	115	219
Legitimate		 102	111	213
Illegitimate	4,	 2	4	6
Still Births		 3	2	5
Legitimate		 3	2	5
Illegitimate		 -	1 11 2 10	-

The number of births registered is 219, giving the birth rate of 21.3 per 1,000 population. Allowing for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas, the birth rate corrected by this comparability factor is 20.45 compared with the Registrar-General's provisional rate of 16.5 for England and Wales.

# Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

		MALE	FEMALE
Total	 	 4	-
Legitimate	 	 4	_
Illegitimate	 	 _	-

4 infants under the age of 1 year died, giving an infant mortality of 18.3 per thousand live births compared to the rate for England and Wales of 22.0.

## TABLE 3 — Vital Statistics

## CAUSES OF DEATH

	MALE	FEMALE
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	_	_
Tuberculosis, other	_	_
Syphilitic disease	_	_
Diphtheria	-	_
Whooping Cough	_	_
Meningo-coccal infections	_	_
Acute Poliomyelitis	_	_
Measles	_	_
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	_	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	_	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung, Bronchus	2	_
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast		2
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus	L	
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	10	4
Leukaemia	_	
Diabetes	1	
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	11	11
Coronary Disease, Angina	12	6
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	2
Other Heart Diseases	14	16
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	3
Influenza	2	2
Pneumonia	3	2
Bronchitis	2	5
Other Diseases of Descriptory System	2	
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum		1
Gastro-enteritis and diarrorhea	2	10
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	
	991	
Pregnancy, child-birth, abortion	-6	_
Congenital malformations	-	_
Other defined or ill-defined diseases	6	1
Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
All other accidents	1	1
Homicide and operations of war	2	1
ALL CAUSES	78	66
	-	

The deaths are classified under the headings based on the Abbreviated List of International Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948. The 144 deaths give a death rate of 14.0 per thousand of population as compared to 11.6 per thousand for England and Wales.

TABLE 4

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES 1959

(other than Tuberculosis)

	All	Under 1 year	Under 1 year	2	3	4	5-	10-	15—	25-	35—	45—	-59	Age Un- known
Scarlet Fever	9	1	1	1	1	-	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	o treito
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	I
Pneumonia		-	1	1	1	I	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	11	1	1	1	1	1	7	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	185	3	14	24	25	28	68	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas	1	1	1	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1
Encephalitis		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1
to occupation to the second														

## Infectious Diseases

Table 4 shows the incidence of notifiable diseases except tuberculosis and Table 5 that of tuberculosis.

TABLE 5

# Tuberculosis

	RESPIRAT Male	Female	Non-Respir Male	ATORY FORM Female
 AT	dpeper -	0-1	-	_
 	there is -	Contraction of	mannon —	_
 I sell reader	f Harlth Sa	Pro I slow	The General	
 	_	_ 1	tor_Facilities	L. Labora
 billoterod	tic Cath La	e at <u>de</u> Pub	nob won ii da	ne ske <u>tt</u>
 Side	2	and religion man	installed and re	biological re
 		med light fact	molegical of	Northallantoid
 	2	-		
 		ALL HORY SOLD	Ozera-	
	E DYS HOUSE	WENT SALE		DO GOOW
 	4	1	Of the last	
		Male		Male Female Male

No deaths from tuberculosis occurred in 1959.

TABLE 6

# Immunisation and Vaccination

# Diphtheria Immunisation

	UNDER 1	1 TO 4	5 TO 14	TOTAL
Completed	102	42	33	177
Reinforcing doses	marco Consum	31	150	181
Whooping Cough Immunisation				
	UNDER 1	1 то 4	5 то 14	TOTAL
Completed	105	6	adi or_ban	111

# Combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria Immunisation

	UNDER 1	1 то 4	5 то 14	TOTAL
Completed	32	7	involution in the state of	39

#### Immunisation and Vaccination—continued

Smallpox

PRIMARY

RE-VACCINATION

153

13

Vaccination is available from the family doctor and at the Clinic in Guisborough.

Poliomyelitis

PRIMARY

REINFORCING

1190

1134

#### The General Provision of Health Services in the District

## 1. Laboratory Facilities

This work is now done at the Public Health Laboratory, Middlesbrough, only the biological test for tuberculous milk being carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton.

## National Health Service Act, 1946

With certain exceptions the Guisborough Area Health Sub-Committee of the Health Committee of the County Council exercises the functions of the Local Health Authority in supervising the day to day administration of the services provided under this Act. The Committee met every two months at Guisborough. It is composed of members of the County Council, of the three District Councils of Guisborough, Skelton and Brotton, and Loftus, and of certain co-opted members. Among the services administered are the following:-

Domestic Help Service.

Home Nursing.

Prevention of illness: Care and After Care. Health Visiting.

Ambulance Service.

Midwifery.

Vaccination and Immunization.

Care of Mothers and Young Children.

# 3. Guisborough Area Voluntary Care Committee

I would like to record the work done by this Body for the welfare of persons suffering from tuberculosis and other illnesses. Whereas in connection with the welfare of the tuberculous the Committee has certain funds allocated to it, for the welfare of other sufferers it depends entirely on voluntary contributions. Enquiries and requests for assistance may be made to the Honorary Secretary, District Health Office, Park Lane, Guisborough (Telephone: Guisborough 321).

# National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951 — Section 47.

It has been possible to avoid advising the Local Sanitary Authorities to have recourse to the procedure laid down in these Acts.

#### SECTION II

# Water Supplies

With the exception of Mount Pleasant cottages and some outlying farms, water is supplied by the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board. The following table summarises the position:—

# Number of Dwellings supplied by Public Supply:—

(a)	Direct to houses				3307
(b)	By means of standpipes	been be	tel inspecte	O Are	Nil
(c)	Number of dwellings rece	eiving w	ater from va	rious	
	private cources				54

# Water Samples

#### TEES VALLEY AND CLEVELAND WATER BOARD

Number of	samples taken	and	submitted	for Bac	teriological	
	Examination				****	7

AREA	No. of Samples	RESULT
Guisborough	7	Satisfactory

## Inspection and Supervision of Food

#### Ice-cream

There are 25 premises registered for the storage and sale of pre-packed ice-cream. These were inspected regularly.

# Food Poisoning

No outbreak of food poisoning has been reported.

# Section 21—Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

No action was taken during the year under the above regulations.

# Milk Supply

There are sixteen milk distributors. Six visits were made to cowsheds.

#### Bakehouses

There are 4 bakehouses. 20 inspections and visits were made and no defects found.

# Fish and Chip Shops

There are seven. Twenty-eight inspections were made.

# Food Hygiene Regulations 1955

Informal action was taken on several occasions, the requirements asked for being provided.

## Food Retail Premises and Meat Inspections

65 visits were made to food premises and 140 to slaughter houses, of which there are 6 licensed; 7 premises are licensed under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the making of sausages, etc.

144 pounds of meat were voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption and 75 tins of canned food weighing 134½ pounds.

TABLE 7
Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

Laborator Suddiller	Cattle exclud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) Number inspected	496 287	29 9	68 32	1854 618	788 240	None None
All diseases except Tuber- culosis & Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned		w- o	_	1	_	_
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	_	_	1	_	_
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	0.7%	20 10		0.1%	-	OFF THE STREET
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned	_	_	_	_	autonio	Focal Fo
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		, a ( <del></del> 1 a )		100-100	197 <u>4</u> 13	hr-12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	_	_	_	_	_3540	ns Thin
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		_	_	_	-	and said
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	_	_	-	-10	18 <u>180</u>	100-4019
Generalised and totally con- demned	_		_	-	ST mode	ell Tools

There are 6 licensed slaughterhouses in the Area, and ten licensed slaughtermen.

#### HOUSING

#### Slum Clearance

Work commenced on the Council's Slum Clearance programme, a total of 49 properties being dealt with under the provision of Sections 16 & 17 of the Housing Act 1957.

## **Housing Statistics** New houses erected in 1959 By private owners 91 (a) 244 (b) By the Council Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 299 (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 421 2. (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or 3. injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 49 4. Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 77 Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit or repaired in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers 69 Action under Statutory Powers during the year Proceedings under Sections 9, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices (a) By Owners (b) By Local Authority in default of owners B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices (a) By Owners (b) By Local Authority in default of owners

# Housing Statistics-continued

	C.	Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957	
		(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition	
		Orders were made	39
		(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	12
	D.	Proceedings under Section 16, 17, 18, 26 and 35, Housing Act, 1957  (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	_
		(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	_
4.	Hou	sing Act, 1957, Part 4, Overcrowding	
	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year 1	Not known
	(2)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	Nil.
Но	nuse P	urchase and Housing Act, 1959	
	(1)	(a) Number of Improvement Grants made (b) Number of Improvement Grants refused	10 0
	(2)	<ul> <li>(a) Number of applications for Standard Grants</li> <li>(b) Number of applications for Standard Grants refused</li> </ul>	8
Rei	nt Aci	1957. Application for Certificates of Disrepair.	
1.	(a) (b)	Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair Number of Decisions to issue Certificates	Nil
		(1) in respect of some but not all defects	Nil
	(c)	(2) in respect of all defects	Nil
	(d)	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso	Nil Nil
	(e)	Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	Nil
2.	App	lication for Cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	
	(a)	Applications by landlord to Local Authority for cancellation of Certificate	Nil
	(b)	Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificate	Nil
	(c)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants objection	Nil
	(d)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	Nil

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

#### Nuisances

502
502
25
527
512
15

## Drainage and Sewerage

With the exception of outlying farms and villages, the District is served by public sewers discharging into various sewage disposal works, with the sewers of the Wilton parish discharging into the sewers of Eston Urban District Council.

Normal extension to the sewerage system in the District has taken place in connection with both private and council house development. The report in connection with the proposed extension of the Guisborough Sewage Disposal Works prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers, Messrs. D. Balfour & Sons, is still awaiting the Ministry's attention.

618 inspections were made to old and new drainage systems, 560 tests being made to new sewers and drainage systems.

189 choked drainage systems and sewers were cleared during the year.

#### Closet Accommodation

13 Sanitary pan closets were converted to water closets by the Council under the provisions of Section 47, Public Health Act, 1936.

8 Sanitary pan closets were converted to water closets under Improvement Schemes.

The whole of Guisborough, with the exception of Throstle's Nest is now on the water carriage system.

24 houses at Mount Pleasant, Guisborough require conversion, this work being delayed owing to the lack of adequate sewage disposal facilities. Several properties in Yearby Village together with the whole of Upleatham Village also require conversion, again the work being delayed owing to the lack of adequate sewage disposal facilities. The conversion of approximately 54 houses and farms in South Lackenby cannot be proceeded with until the completion of Eston U.D.C.'s main trunk sewer.

342 water closets were provided for new buildings in Guisborough during the year.

2 new water closets were added to the existing sewerage system in Guisborough.

13 new water closets were added to the existing sewerage system in Lazenby.

6 new water closets were added to the existing sewerage system in Wilton.

# Public Cleansing (Refuse and Disposal)

A weekly collection of house and trade refuse is maintained throughout the District. Refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping.

#### Smoke Abatement

No complaints of smoke nuisance were received during the year.

## Eradication of Bed Bugs, Cleansing, etc.

One infestation of fleas and six infestations of flies were dealt with during the year.

#### Rodent Control

During the year the Council's sewers were treated twice in accordance with the technique recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Routine surveys have been carried out in connection with farms, business premises, dwelling-houses, etc. and at the year end 34 houses, 6 schools and 5 business premises have been treated. The poison used has been 'Warfarin' which gives very good results and is used to deal with almost every infestation.

#### Caravan Sites

There are no licensed caravan sites in the Area.

## Shops Act 1934, Sections 10 and 13 (3)

65 visits were paid under the above Act. No unsatisfactory conditions were found.

#### Mortuaries

One at the Admiral Chaloner Hospital.

# Byelaws in force in the District

Byelaws in respect of cleansing of footpaths and pavements; nuisances; common lodging houses and slaughterhouses; 24th July, 1893.

Byelaw with respect to tents, vans and sheds: 16th November, 1917.

Byelaws in respect of new streets and buildings: 27th April, 1925.

Building Byelaws: 10th March, 1939.

Byelaws with respect to swimming baths and bathing pools: 18th October, 1946.

Byelaws in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the open air: 10th July, 1950.

Byelaws in respect of Smoke Pollution: 1st August, 1957.

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948

The following figures have been returned to the Director of Statistics, Ministry of Labour and National Service, regarding factories in the district.

TABLE 8

 Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(I) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities		44	_	_
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	30	48	_	_
(III) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)		_	_	_
TOTAL	53	92	-	-

Public Cleaning Chekker and Cheke and RHINOTOAY

Labour and Surjoint Service, regarding derivations of the distance of the contract of the cont

Smale Abstraces

#### TABLE 8

Impections for the corporate of provision as to beath (actuding Impections, and

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Realisms In Street St. Str. Street

Districts in respect of chemical

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Bearing to Bridge

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191



