

[Report 1951] / Medical Officer of Health, Knaresborough U.D.C.

Contributors

Knaresborough (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1951

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/vs45xusn>

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>



KNARESBOROUGH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the year 1951.

by

D. D. PAYNE, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Knaresborough :

Parrs Ltd., High Street.

1952.



Knarborough Urban District Council

1951

Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR P. BROADBELT, J.P.

Vice Chairman:

COUNCILLOR G. A. HOLCH, J.P.

COUNCILLOR J. COLES

COUNCILLOR E. JACKSON

„ C. COOPER

„ W. H. JACKSON

„ H. CORPS

„ P. KIRK

„ W. EMMETT

„ H. T. KNUTTON

„ W. HENRY

„ G. NICHOLSON

„ G. HUGHES

„ W. E. RICHARDSON

„ B. C. WILKINSON

Chairman of the Health Committee:

COUNCILLOR H. T. KNUTTON

Chairman of the Housing Committee:

COUNCILLOR W. EMMETT

Public Health Officers of the Council

1951

Medical Officer of Health

D. D. PAYNE, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

H. O. M. BRYANT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(resigned 13-8-51)

Sanitary Inspector:

W. JENNINGS, M.S.I.A., M.R.SAN.I., A.M.INST.P.C.

To the Chairman and Members of the

Knarborough Urban District Council

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration my Annual Report for the year 1951.

The Report is divided into two sections, the first section dealing with the Health and Social Circumstances of the area and the second section dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the District; the Sanitary Inspector has written a forward to the latter Section.

Dr. H. O. M. Bryant left the service of the Local Authority on the 13th August, 1951, to take up a more senior post in the County Borough of Bolton. It is a matter of regret that his successor has not yet been appointed and as a consequence the work of the School Medical Service in particular has suffered owing to a shortage of medical staff.

The health of the residents of the Urban District during the year has been very satisfactory except for the seasonal increase in whooping cough and measles mainly affecting school entrants and pre-school children.

I desire to acknowledge the assistance I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and to record my appreciation of the work of Mr. Jennings.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. D. PAYNE,
Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
KNARESBOROUGH.
August, 1952.

General Statistics 1951

Area (acres)	2,488
Population (mid-summer, 1951, estimated by the Registrar-General) ...	8,125
Number of Inhabited Houses ...	2,528
Rateable Value ...	£55,194
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	£217

BIRTHS—

Live Births:	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate, 53	58	Legitimate, 48	110
Illegitimate, 5		Illegitimate, 4	

Crude Birth Rate (Live births per 1,000 of the estimated population) ...	13.5
--	------

* Adjusted Birth Rate ...	13.1
---------------------------	------

Still Births:	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate, 2	2	Legitimate 0	2
Illegitimate, 0		Illegitimate 0	

Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births	18
---	----

DEATHS—

Number of Deaths—Males 45, Females 70 ...	115
---	-----

Death Rate ...	14.2
----------------	------

* Adjusted Death Rate ...	12.7
---------------------------	------

Deaths from Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	Nil
---	-----

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:	Total
--	-------

Males— Legitimate 3	3	Females— Legitimate 1	2	5
Illegitimate 0		Illegitimate 1		

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

All Infants per 1,000 live births ...	45.5
---------------------------------------	------

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	38
---	----

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	111
---	-----

Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	Rate (per 1,000 population) 0.12
--	----------------------------------

Deaths from other Tuberculous Diseases Nil ...	0.00
--	------

Deaths from Infective and Parasitic Diseases, excluding Tuberculosis (Whooping Cough) 1 ...	0.12
---	------

Deaths from Vascular lesions of the nervous system ...	23 ... 2.83
--	-------------

Deaths from Heart and Circulatory Diseases 36 ...	4.43
---	------

Deaths from Cancer ...	10 ... 1.23
------------------------	-------------

Deaths from Respiratory Diseases ...	16 ... 1.97
--------------------------------------	-------------

* Adjusted by Area Comparability factors (Births 0.97, Deaths 0.90), supplied by the Registrar-General. This adjustment makes allowance for the changing structure of the population.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area is mainly agricultural and residential, and the town itself, on account of its historical associations and picturesque position on the banks of the Nidd, is a well-known holiday resort. Hence, during the summer months, catering forms one of the principal industries.

There are also a number of small industries in the town including Saw Mills, Plastic Goods Factory, Manufacture of Childrens' and other Clothing, and Linen Weaving Mills.

Population

The Population as at the middle of 1951 is estimated by the Registrar-General at 8,125 (465 less than last year).

Births

The number of live births registered in Knaresborough during the year was 31. 15 males and 16 females, but the figure supplied by the Registrar General and adjusted for inward and outward transfers is 110, 58 males and 52 females.

This is a marked reduction in the number of births for the year; in 1950 the number of live births was 142.

The birth rate (adjusted by the Area Comparability Factor) is 13.1 per thousand of the population, which is 2.4 less than the rate for England and Wales (15.5).

There were 9 illegitimate births, 5 males and 4 females, representing 8 per cent of the live births.

Still-births

The still-birth figures (corrected for inward and outward transfers) supplied by the Registrar General is 2, both males, this gives a rate of 18 per 1,000 total births, and a still-birth rate of 0.24 per 1,000 of the population as compared with a still-birth rate of 0.36 for England and Wales.

Deaths

The number of deaths registered during the year was 174, 59 males and 115 females, but the corrected* number of deaths of residents as supplied by the Registrar-General is 115, 45 males and 70 females. The crude death rate is 14.2 per 1,000 but when adjusted in accordance with the comparability factor the rate is reduced to 12.7 which is only 0.2 higher than the rate for England and Wales (12.5).

The causes of death are shown in Table I, Page 6.

Infant Mortality

During the year 5 resident infants, 3 males and 2 females, died before reaching their first birthday. The infant mortality rate is 45.5 per 1,000 live births, compared with the rate for England and Wales which is 29.6.

The rise in the Infant Mortality rate as compared with 1950 (28.0) is partly accounted for by the decrease in the number of live births. The actual number of infant deaths was 5 in 1951 as compared with 4 in 1950.

4 of these children died in the Harrogate General Hospital, 2 of prematurity, 1 of congenital malformation and 1 of acute primary pneumonia. The remaining death occurred in a child who died from asphyxia while lying asleep in its cot.

* Corrected for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General

TABLE I

Causes of Death in Knaresborough Urban District, 1951

Causes of Death.				1951	
				Males	Females
All Causes				45	70
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...	1	—
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—	—
3	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	—	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	1
6	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	—	—
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	—	—
10	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...	...	1	2
11	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	...	...	—	—
12	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	...	—	—
13	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...	...	—	1
14	Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	1	4
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	—	1
16	Diabetes	...	...	—	—
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	6	17
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	2	6
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	1	2
20	Other Heart Diseases	...	...	10	12
21	Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	2	1
22	Influenza	...	...	3	2
23	Pneumonia	...	...	2	3
24	Bronchitis	...	...	3	1
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	2	—
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	—	—
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	—	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	—	1
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	1	—
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	—	—
31	Congenital Malformations	...	...	1	—
32	Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	...	...	8	7
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	1	—
34	All other Accidents	...	...	—	7
35	Suicide	...	...	—	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	—
Total				115	115

* Corrected for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority.

The names and qualifications of these are set out on page 1.

2. Health Services.

(a) **Laboratory Facilities.**

Chemical.

The chemical analysis of milk and other foodstuffs and of water is carried out by Messrs. Richardson and Jaffe, Bradford, the Public Analysts to the Local Authority.

The assessment of water for plumbo solvency is undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Wakefield.

Bacteriological

Bacteriological examination of clinical material (throat swabs, etc.) is undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory at the Harrogate General Hospital.

Water, milk, and other foodstuffs, including ice cream, are also bacteriologically examined at this laboratory.

The examination of milk for tubercle bacilli is undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory at Wakefield.

(b) **Ambulance Facilities.**

Ambulance facilities are provided by the West Riding County Council. An Ambulance Depot is situated in Harrogate and the service is provided free under the National Health Service Act.

This Ambulance Service also covers removal of infectious cases to hospital.

(c) **Health Visiting and School Nursing.**

Health Visiting and School Nursing have been carried out in the area by 1 part-time Health Visitor and 1 part-time School Nurse.

(d) **School Medical Service.**

A general School Clinic is held twice weekly and an Ophthalmic clinic is held on Friday mornings at Fysche Hall, Knaresborough. The following special clinics for

school children are held in Harrogate, children from Knaresborough, when attending these clinics, are issued, when necessary, with travel vouchers:—

Ear, Nose and Throat,
Orthopaedic.
Sunlight.
Remedial Exercises.
Speech Therapy.
Cardiac.

Special Examinations.

Special examinations are made, sometimes at the clinic, but more often at the child's home, where it is found that a child is educationally retarded. Children who are ineducable are reported to the Mental Deficiency Committee of the West Riding County Council. These cases are placed under supervision and are visited from time to time by the Mental Health Social Visitor.

Other children who are physically handicapped are recommended for admission to special schools when this is considered desirable.

Routine School Medical Examinations.

Children attending the schools in Knaresborough are periodically medically examined. Arrangements are made for the treatment of any defects found at these examinations, children either being referred to their own doctor, to the hospital, or to the special clinics for such treatment.

Examination of Employees.

School children are medically examined for fitness for part-time employment as errand boys, shop assistants, etc. There is also close liaison with the Youth Employment Officer and medical reports are made from time to time to the Youth Employment Officer on children who are leaving school and who are in some way handicapped.

Information is given to the Youth Employment Officer as to any occupation which would not be suitable for a particular child on medical grounds, and where the disability is severe, and the parents give consent in writing, more detailed medical reports are given in

order that the case may be registered under the Disabled Persons Act, which gives certain advantages to disabled persons, these include priority in gaining suitable employment.

(e) **Maternity Services.**

Maternity cases requiring hospital treatment were admitted to the Maternity wards at the Harrogate General Hospital. There were 64 births to Knaresborough residents at this hospital during the year. 17 Knaresborough residents were delivered at Carlton Lodge Maternity Home, Harrogate, 3 in Private Nursing Homes, 2 at a Clinic in London and 1 at the Leeds Maternity Hospital. This shows that of the 110 births to Knaresborough residents a very large proportion took place in hospitals or maternity homes.

(f) **Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery Services.**

General.

There are 2 whole-time Home Nurses and 1 whole-time Midwife resident in Knaresborough and their services are much appreciated by the community. The majority of the work of the Home Nursing Service is amongst the elderly, particularly those who have some crippling defect and who are, owing to chronic illness, bed-ridden.

(g) **Home Help Service.**

Throughout the year an average of 7 part-time Home Helps were employed each week in Knaresborough. Assistance was given to 45 cases, of these 16 were to illness in the home, 11 to old age and sickness, 6 to old age and infirmity, 1 to an expectant mother and 2 to children of school age. Home Helps were supplied to 9 Knaresborough maternity cases, enabling the mother to have her baby at home.

(h) **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

The West Riding County Council maintain Child Welfare Clinics and a School Clinic at Fysche Hall, Iles Lane, Knaresborough. The dates and times these Clinics are held are set out in tabular form on page 10. An Ante Natal Clinic was also maintained by the West

TABLE II

West Riding County Council's School Clinics and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics

Held at FYSCHIE HALL, ILES LANE, KNARESBOROUGH

SCHOOL CLINIC	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
General School Clinic ...	9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.	—	—	9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.	—
Ophthalmic Clinic ...	—	—	—	—	9-0 a.m. (by appointment only)
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE					
Child Welfare Centre ...	—	1-30 p.m. to 4 p.m.	—	* 1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.	—
Ante-Natal Clinic ...	† 1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.	—	—	—	—

* Every 2nd and 4th THURSDAY in the month

† Closed 30/6/51

Riding County Council at these premises but it was found necessary to close this Clinic at the end of June 1951 as the numbers attending the Clinic were insufficient to warrant its continuance.

Expectant mothers, since the commencement of the National Health Service Act, are now receiving their ante natal supervision from their own general practitioner. Health Visitors, however, visit these mothers in their homes and advise as to the preparations to be made for the coming of the baby.

Divisional Health Services.

Full details have been given in my Divisional Report, a copy of which has been issued to all members of the Council.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of cases notified are set out in Table 3 on page 12

1. Scarlet Fever.

There was a decrease in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever. 7 cases were notified as compared with 9 during 1950. 5 of these cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital and 2 were isolated at home.

2. Diphtheria.

No cases of diphtheria occurred in the district during 1951.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The Health Visitors during their visits, particularly to children under 1 year of age, stress the need for Diphtheria Immunisation, and it is felt that personal persuasion of this character is the best form of propaganda.

180 immunisations were carried out during the year, and in addition, 229 reinforcing injections were given to children in whom the degree of immunity had been diminished by the length of time since their initial inoculation.

3. Poliomyelitis.

No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year.

4. Whooping Cough.

131 cases of whooping cough were notified during 1951. 1 child, a year old, was admitted to the Isolation Hospital with whooping cough and this case proved fatal.

5. Measles.

82 cases of measles were notified during 1951. The cases were of a mild type and there were no deaths from this disease.

6. **Pneumonia.**

2 cases of acute primary pneumonia were notified and both these cases made a good recovery.

7. **Dysentery and Puerperal Pyrexia.**

No cases of these infectious diseases were notified during the year.

8. **Food Poisoning.**

No cases of food poisoning were notified.

9. **Tuberculosis.**

3 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, all males, were notified and all were admitted to Sanatoria. There was only 1 death from this disease during 1951.

10 **Vaccination** (Smallpox).

During the year 93 vaccinations were carried out for residents in Knaresborough, and 29 re-vaccinations were also carried out.

Table III

Age Groups of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases for the year 1951.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping Cough
Under 1.	..	..	3	8
1-2	1	..	18	35
3-4	3	1	26	41
5-9	2	..	30	40
10-14	..	..	1	5
15-24	1	..	3	..
25 and over	..	1	1	2
TOTALS :	7	2	82	131

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 — Section 47.

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No cases have been dealt with in the area during 1951.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year 1951

To the Chairman and Members of the Knaresborough
Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my fifth Annual Report on the Sanitary and Cleansing Services for 1951.

The scope of duties of the department continues to increase with the placing on the Statute Book of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951. Other statutes legislated during the year and enforced by the department are the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, and the Pet Animals Act, 1951. The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 was amended by the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1951. The Allotments Act, 1950 is of importance also in so far as it deals with the keeping of animals—it superseded Defence Regulation 62B from the 1st July, 1951.

The Reports of the Catering Trades and Meat Manufacturing Trades Working Parties give some indication of the line expected new legislation in these fields may take.

It was possible to maintain a 7 day collection of refuse throughout the year and the amount of salvage collected and receipts obtained therefrom both showed substantial increases over any previous year.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committees for their support and to the Medical Officer of Health for his co-operation and help.

I am, Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. JENNINGS,

Sanitary Inspector.

Health Department,
Knaresborough.
April, 1952.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Total number of inspections and visits made	..	..	1869
Number of contraventions found	..	..	150
Number of nuisances in hand at 31/12/50	..	..	47
Number of nuisances abated and contraventions remedied during 1951	..	..	166
Number outstanding at 31/12/51	..	..	31
Number of informal letter notices served (including Sec. 75 P.H.A., 1936)	..	..	150
Number of informal verbal notices	..	..	76
Formal Notices served	..	..	8
Formal Notices complied with	..	..	10

Details of Inspections.

Public Health Acts.

Obstructed drains and sewers	..	..	41
Drainage and sewer inspections	..	..	85
Drains tested:—Smoke test	..	..	7
Water test	..	..	3
Colour test	..	..	8
General nuisances and sanitary defects	..	..	91
Keeping of animals	..	..	9
Verminous and dirty houses	..	..	14
Rivers and streams—pollution	..	..	8
Smoke observations	..	..	4
Infectious disease—sewer swabbing	..	..	156
Infectious diseases enquiries	..	..	10
Disinfections	..	..	1
Disinfestations	..	..	7
Water supply	..	..	5
Water samples—Bacteriological	..	..	6
Moveable dwellings	..	..	37
Public Cleansing Service—			
Refuse Collection	..	..	57
Refuse Disposal	..	..	109
Salvage	..	..	91

Cesspool drainage and unsewered premises	35
Re-inspections, Public Health Act	171
Hotels and places of entertainment—sanitary conveniences	11
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	177
Re-visits	72
Factories Act, 1937.—	
Part 1	27
Means of escape in case of fire	3
Shops Act, 1950	25
Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951.	4
Housing Acts—	
Inspections—Housing Act, 1949, Improvement Grants	—
Inspections—Housing Consol Regs.	8
Re-inspections and miscellaneous visits	54
Overcrowding	6
Food and Drugs—	
Fried Fish Shops	8
Butchers Shops	14
Bakehouses	10
Grocers Shops	39
Greengrocers, Fishmongers, Poultry	15
Hotel, Cafe and Canteen Kitchens	49
Food preparing premises	16
Ice Cream premises	24
Hotels	11
Milk and Dairies	17
Unsound Food	31
Miscellaneous food visits	12
Bacteriological Examinations of Milk	20
Tuberculosis Examinations of Milk	5
Ice Cream and Lollipop Samples—Bacteriological Exam.	52
Knackers Yard	8
Slaughterhouses	4
Market Inspections	23
Meetings and Interviews	57
Court attendances	2
Miscellaneous visits	110

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

Water is supplied and distributed by Harrogate Corporation. A short description of the water supply was given in the Annual Report for 1950.

The supply has been excellent in quality and quantity throughout the district.

The following is a list of water samples taken during the year:—

Date	Place of Examination	Type of Examination	Probable No. of Organism per 100 m.l.	
			Coliform Bacilli	Faecal Coli
1. Public Supply:				
3/10/51	Knaresborough House	Bacteriological	1 (irregular type II)	None
3/10/51	York Road	do.	3	2 (B.Coli Type 1).
11/10/51	York Road	do.	3 (Irregular type V.)	None
2. Other Supplies:				
27/9/51	Three Cottages Hazlehead Lane	Bacteriological	1 (B.Coli Type II)	None
27/9/51	Bathingwell Farm	do.	1	1 (B.Coli type I)
11/10/51	do.	do.	None	None

Approximately 20 of the older houses in the town are without internal water supplies, but only 4 occupied houses are not on the public supply.

Public Cleansing.

A. Collection.

The weekly collection of house and trade refuse throughout the Urban District was maintained during 1951, approximately 2,200 tons of refuse being collected. A twice weekly collection was offered on payment from trade premises, where required.

B. Disposal.

The disposal point continues to be in the old Grimbald Quarry, Wetherby Road and this very good site should provide tipping space for a further 6-8 years. Manse Lane Tip has now been completely seeded down, and there is little evidence that underneath lies some 25,000 tons of house and trade refuse.

C. Salvage.

The following are the amounts of salvage collected and disposed of in 1951, and the financial figures:—

ITEM				1951 (Tons)
Paper	..	..	..	89.75
Textiles	..	..	..	2.4
Scrap Metal	..	..	..	8.15
Cost: £614 14s. 7d.				Receipts: £1575 11s. 9d.

The extent to which waste paper prices increased during 1951, surprised most people. As they increased out of proportion to labour etc. and as the tonnage of waste paper collected during the year exceeded that collected during any previous year by over 25%. Salvage enjoyed a boom year and played a major part in maintaining stability in the Council's Rate in a year of allround increasing costs.

The baling of waste paper was transferred from Iles Lane Depot to the tip itself in October and a Nissen type hut was erected for the purpose. Valuable space at Iles Lane was thus released, making other Council projects possible.

D. The cost of the Public Cleansing Service during the year ended 31st March, 1952 was:—

Refuse Collection	..			2296	0	1
Refuse Disposal	..			587	6	4
				<hr/>		
				£2883	6	5
Revenue	..	..	182 14 1			
Salvage Profit	..	..	960 17 2			
			<hr/>			
				1143	11	3
				<hr/>		
Nett Cost of Service	..	..		£1739	15	2

The above nett cost includes the cost and erection of the Nissen Hut on a concrete base at the tip.

The number of bins is estimated to be 2741 and the cost of emptying each bin weekly and disposing of its contents is, therefore approximately 2·9d as against 3·8d. last year.

Sewers and Drains.

Those portions of the district mentioned in previous years (parts of York, Wetherby, and Ripley Roads, and part of Crag Top) still remain unsewered. Although sewerage of Wetherby Road has been included in the Estimates for some years it was not carried out during 1951. A portion of the road should be sewerage in 1952 but the houses east of Grimbald Bridge and south of the road will remain unsewered.

Further nuisances were experienced in Mossop's Estate area during the year and it is hoped that, as the Nidderdale Sewerage Scheme is now completed, this estate will soon be connected thereto.

The recommendations in the 1950 Annual report still apply.

Factories.

The factories, which are comparatively small ones, engaged in light industry, have been inspected regularly. Five contraventions were found, and four remedied. No complaints were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories but four matters were referred to him.

There are 50 factories on the Register, including 4 factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Factories Act are enforced by the local Authority; and 45 factories where Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority. There is one building operation in progress where Section 7 is enforced by the Council.

There were 128 outworkers on the August lists required by Section 110 of the Factory Act, including 14 residing in the district.

Public Conveniences.

In this sphere the year saw very great strides and new conveniences at Conyngham Hall Gates, High Street and Low Bridge were commenced. These will all serve a particular area or problem but they will do little to improve the situation which arises most fine weekends in the centre of the town in the vicinity of the Castle and the bus station. Regarding the former the present conveniences are then unable to deal adequately with the needs of the public and regarding the latter it is a matter for concern that with large crowds waiting long periods for buses in summer there are no adjacent conveniences.

It is still considered that a very small convenience should be provided in Moat Gardens for the use of children, at some time in the future, possibly by utilising part of the shelter, and that the Women's conveniences on the Waterside should be brought under Municipal control and improved, if the opportunity presents itself.

Licenced Premises.

Routine visits were paid to licenced houses under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 89, and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 Section 13. One statutory Notice was served under Section 89, Public Health Act, 1936 and reconstruction of sanitary conveniences at two hotels was in progress at the end of the year as a result of notices. Generally speaking, sanitary conveniences at licenced premises are now quite good.

Smoke Abatement.

During 1951, 4 timed observations were taken of industrial chimneys in the district. In two instances smoke was emitted in such quantity as to constitute nuisances, and the occupiers were notified. There are very few industrial chimneys in the district these being limited to a few light industries, market gardens and hospitals.

Moveable Dwellings.

At the end of the year there were five licensed sites for moveable dwellings. Two licences to station and use moveable dwellings were also in operation.

37 visits were made to sites and dwellings. In only 4 instances was there permanent occupation of dwellings on Camping sites. In one case of new occupation of an unsatisfactory hut, Housing Act procedure was adopted and the hut demolished.

The water supply at one site was improved.

Owners of sites have been informally asked to co-operate in the eradication of immovable huts and the sites are steadily improving as they are removed and replaced with purpose made caravans.

Keeping of Animals

The Allotment Act, 1950 superseded Defence Regulation 62B from the 1st July and pig keeping then became controllable by our Nuisance Byelaws once again, not being referred to in Section 12 of the Act which restricts itself to hens and rabbits not kept by way of trade. Pigs, therefore, may not now be kept within 50 feet of a dwelling house.

The Small Pig Keepers Council & the Domestic Poultry Keepers Council both issue guidance to the small man on keeping animals and if their help was more often sought and advice followed, together with a stricter control on type of huts or shacks constructed, the rodent and fly populations would be considerably lessened and amenity improved.

Rodent Control.

The maintenance treatment of the town centre and test baits of the sewers on the outskirts was carried out twice as in previous years and work under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, continued.

249 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspector in connection with rodent infestation, surveys, or treatments, and the following table shows the details of rodent infestations which came to the Department's notice.

Type of Property	L.A. Property	Dwelling Houses	Business	Agricultural	Total
1. Infestations:					
Notified by occupier ..	7	21	4	—	32
Otherwise discovered ..	—	9	5	8	22
Total ..	7	30	9	8	54
Rats—Major ..	5	—	1	5	11
Rats—Minor ..	2	22	6	3	33
Mice ..	—	8	2	—	10

2. Control measures by Local Authority:

Inspections ..	10	69	145	25	249
Informal Notices (sec. 4)					
(a) Treatments ..	7	30	8	3	48
(b) Works ..	—	3	3	6	12
Treatments carried out (by arrangement)					
(a) Rats ..	7	17	6	3	33
(b) Mice ..	—	9	1	—	10
(c) Block ..					
Treatments ..	..	..	..	..	..

* Several small block treatments included in above figures.

Many infestations were again found to be associated with a poor standard of building construction, or hygiene in connection with the keeping of animals. The continued application of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 together with the use of the new methods of attack being developed and an enlightened public knowledge of the destruction and disease caused by rodents must surely in time reduce rodent infestation to a great degree. The reduction in sewer rat population has been evident for some time now, undoubtedly due to the regular deratisation carried out by the department.

The public are reminded of their statutory obligation to notify the local Authority of any but very minor infestations by rats and mice.

This information must be given to enable the Local Authority to find the source of the infestation or other infested properties in the area.

Free treatments for domestic premises and treatments on payment for other premises are offered by the department and these are usually taken up by the occupiers of infested premises.

Offensive Trades.

There is only one offensive trade on the Register. The licence in respect of this—a Rag and Bone Dealer was renewed in April for a further year.

Shops.

25 inspections of shops were made under the provisions of Section 10 of the 1943 Act. Many more inspections were made in actual fact, but were not separately recorded, as the major reason for inspection was under other law.

In one case contraventions were found.

Swimming Baths or Pools.

There are no public swimming baths or pools in the Area.

Infestation and Disinfestation.

Seven houses were disinfested during the year—1 for flies and 6 for cockroaches. No bed bug infestations were reported or found during the year. Quick cheap and effective treatments, with a

minimum of disturbance to occupiers, are now available and are used for infestations. The residual effects of "D.D.T." and "Gammexane" have revolutionised this branch of environmental sanitation.

Infectious Disease and Disinfection

Investigations were made after cases of certain infectious diseases and disinfection of houses and fomites carried out where necessary.

156 visits were made in connection with sewer swabbing. Knaresborough, along with a limited number of other small compact towns and villages throughout the Country, was selected for certain investigations into the occurrence of poliomyelitis virus in sewage which required swabbing of 30 sewer points each serving 12-50 houses, twice, in April and June to ascertain whether the virus of Poliomyelitis was present in the sewage. During the first swabbing other organisms—paratyphoid "B"—were isolated and as a result of further swabbing of the associated sewers and drains the organisms were finally traced back through the district sewers to the individual house and human carrier. The usefulness of this technique in outbreaks of enteric infection not readily traceable to a source will be appreciated and the present experience will be invaluable should the need ever arise to use this method of detection.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials.

Only 1 premise in town is affected by the provisions of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951 which came into force during the year, and it was duly registered.

No samples of filling material were taken.

Pet Shops.

The Pet Animals Act, 1951 was placed on the Statute Book and will come into force on the 1st April, 1952. It is administered by the department.

Housing.

Housing still constitutes the most urgent problem before the Authority. At the end of 1951 there were 319 applicants on the Council Housing Waiting List consisting of:—

- 127 without houses.
- 75 with houses.
- 55 living out of Knaresborough.
- 62 applicants for bungalows and flats.

This is a slight increase on the position as reported last year.

In addition there were 55 applicants for private building licences, 15 being without houses, 17 with houses and 23 living out of Knaresborough.

Again only limited formal action under the housing Acts with regard to unfit houses was taken as follows:—

Hut, Camping Site, York Road.	Demolition Order (Sec. 11 H.A. 1936) Demolition completed.
Riverside Farm, Spitalcroft.	Undertaking to render house fit accepted (Sec. 11, H.A. 1936) work in progress.
2 & 4, Union Street.	Demolition Order (Sec. 11, H.A. 1936) Implementation thereof deferred.

With an ever increasing number of modern Council houses and improved standards of living many of the older houses are falling further and further below the general standard in the town. Controlled rents as against ever increasing costs of repairs together sometimes with a premonition by owners that houses will come within the scope of demolition orders are not helping matters and many older houses—and some quite modern rented ones—are yearly falling into serious disrepair. Section 9, Housing Act, 1936—the repair Section—is inappropriate to present day conditions, except in modern highly rented property, and should be brought up to date if further large scale deterioration of house property is to be avoided.

Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants.

No applications were received for grants under Section 20 of the Act. It is hoped that more use may be made of the Section as a means of bringing good but old property up to a modern standard of fitness.

New Houses.

On Meadows Estate a further 30 houses were completed, and 6 were built by private enterprise.

The Council now own 464 houses, of which 4 have 5 bedrooms; 19, 4 bedrooms; 336, 3 bedrooms; 61, 2 bedrooms; 40 bungalows and flats and there are 4 Miscellaneous properties adjoining parks.

At the end of 1951 there were 11 requisitioned houses.

Land Searches.

In 105 cases information was given to complete land searches.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk.

The following are results of samples of milk taken during the year.

Type of Milk	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	—	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	1	—
Tuberculin Tested	12	1 (4½ hrs.)
Ordinary	6	—
Total	19	1

Five samples of milk were submitted for biological examination of which four were found to be negative and one positive. This was an ungraded raw milk. An order for pasturising the milk was made and was still in force at the end of the year.

No. of Registered Distributors	.. .. .	10
No. of Dealers Licences—Tuberculin-Tested milk		5
—Pasteurised milk	..	5
No. of Supplementary Licenses	..	
—Tuberculin-Tested milk		4
—Accredited milk	..	1
—Pasteurised milk	..	4
—Sterilised milk	..	2

Undesignated milk is now retailed by only two distributors and in one of these cases the retailer holds a Dealer's Licence and deals in designated milk. One hopes that it will not be long, therefore, before the area is "specified" under the Food & Drugs (Milk etc.) Act, 1950.

As a result of unsatisfactory sample results and contraventions of his Dealer's Licence one Dealer was interviewed by the Public Health Committee and warned.

Meat.

The Slaughterhouses in Knaresborough are still compulsorily closed and slaughtering continues at Harrogate.

Regular inspections of Butchers' shops were made, where conditions found were generally satisfactory.

16 premises are registered with the Local Authority under Section 14, Foods and Drugs Act, to prepare or manufacture sausages, or potted, pressed, preserved, or pickled food. With one exception all are of a minor nature and usually connected with retail shops adjacent.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The number of Slaughtermen's licences in force at the end of the year was 15.

Ice Cream.

The conditions of the preparation and sale of his product were again watched during the year.

40 premises are registered under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

4 premises are registered to manufacture and sell Ice Cream.

4 premises are registered to manufacture by the Cold Mix method and sell Ice Cream.

32 premises are registered to sell Ice Cream, 14 of these being for prepacked type only.

42 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results.

		Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Total
Produced in Knaresborough	Hot Mix	17	3	—	—	20
	Cold Mix	4	1	1	—	6
	Total	21	4	1	—	26
Produced Elsewhere	Total	15	1	1	1	18
Total Samples		36	5	2	1	44

These results may be said to be quite satisfactory.

Six Lollipop samples were all satisfactory bacteriologically.

Market.

23 visits were paid to the Market but there is no serious problem largely because of the types of food now retailed.

Other Foods.

It will be seen from the details of inspection on page 15 that visits were made to every type of food premises.

The Food Handling Byelaws were invoked in many instances informally to secure improved conditions in handling food and regarding the condition and cleanliness of equipment at all stages of manufacture, storage, exposure for sale and delivery.

The department has continued to seek the cooperation of Food Traders and Handlers with a view to securing improved standards of food handling in premises complying with the Food and Drugs Act and byelaws made thereunder. The issue of Clean Food Bulletins has continued from time to time when it has been considered appropriate to bring some information to the notice of traders of a particular food trade or to stress certain points.

A film show for Catering personnel held in November at Knaresborough House was quite well attended in spite of rival attractions on the particular night.

The incidence of unsound food being sold or offered for sale was very low but 4 cases—including glass in food, mouldy cake, insect in jam and mouse droppings in cake—were dealt with informally.

Unsound Food.

Some 11 cwts. 1 Qr. 11 lbs. 7 oz. of food unfit for human consumption was surrendered and destroyed or, in appropriate cases used for animal feeding. Of this amount 659 lbs. 5 oz. was tinned cooked ham. This high incidence of unfitness amongst this particular tinned food was apparently common throughout the Country and must have resulted in many hundreds of tons of it being wasted.

44	1	2	2	36	Total Samples
----	---	---	---	----	---------------

These results may be said to be quite satisfactory.
Six Lollipop samples were all satisfactory bacteriologically.

Food & Drugs Act, 1938—Analysis

The County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority and the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures has kindly given the following particulars of samples taken during the past four years:—

Year :				1948	1949	1950	1951
Milk—Genuine	...	...	...	21	10	13	14
Adulterated	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
Other Foods—Genuine	...	...	...	2	10	4	10
Adulterated	...	...	...	—	2	1	—
Drugs	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Cautions	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Prosecutions	...	...	...	—	—	—	—

INDEX

	Page
Members of the Health Committee	1
Public Health Staff	1
Introductory letter by the Medical Officer of Health	2
General Statistics	3
Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area	
Population	4
Births	4
Still-births	4
Deaths	5
Infant Mortality	5
Table I. Causes of Death in the Knaresborough Urban District	6
General Provision of Health Services in the Area	
Laboratory Facilities	7
Ambulance	7
Health Visiting and School Nursing	7
School Medical Services	7-8
Maternity Services	9
Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery Services	9
Home Help Service	9
Clinics and Treatment Centres	9-11
Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases	
Table III.—Analysis of Cases of infectious diseases under age groups	12
National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47	12
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area	
Introductory Letter by the Sanitary Inspector	13
Sanitary Inspection of the Area	14
Water Supply	16
Public Cleansing	16
Sewers and Drains	18
Factories	18
Public Conveniences	18
Licensed Premises	19
Smoke Abatement	19
Moveable Dwellings	19
Keeping of Animals	19
Rodent Control	20
Offensive Trades	21
Shops	21
Swimming Baths and Pools	21
Infestation and Disinfestation	21
Infectious Disease and Disinfection	22
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials	22
Pet Shops	22
Housing	22
Milk Supply	24
Meat Inspection	25
Ice Cream	25
Market	26
Other Foods	26



