[Report 1956] / Medical Officer of Health, Newton Abbot U.D.C.

Contributors

Newton Abbot (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1956

Persistent URL

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/bfh437pv

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.

Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
https://wellcomecollection.org

Library

HEALTH
A 6 JAN 23
C.R.

NEWTON ABBOT

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1956

---oOo---

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

H. M. DAVIES,
M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
ASSISTANT COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER:
DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:
DAWLISH U.D.C.
NEWTON ABBOT R.D.C.
NEWTON ABBOT U.D.C.
TEIGNMOUTH U.D.C. AND
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

TELEPHONE No. NEWTON ABBOT 571

COUNCIL OFFICES,
KINGSTEIGNTON ROAD
NEWTON ABBOT.

NEWTON ABBOT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT - 1956

Mr Chairman and Councillors,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my report for the year ended the 31st. December, 1956.

The Death rate continues to be below the National level after applying the Registrar General's factor for correction to allow for the fact that there are many more older people in this District than are to be found in the more populous parts of the Country.

A disturbing feature of the report is the fact that the Infant Mortality rate (Death of children under One year) was almost double that for England and Wales.

With regard to Infectious Diseases, it is noteworthy that there were no cases of Acute Poliomyelitis during the year. This must be regarded as fortuitous as the campaign for vaccination against Acute Poliomyelitis was in its very early stages and only a very few children had received protection. It is hoped that this campaign will, in time, have an effect similar to that which immunisation has had against Diphtheria.

The acute need for accommodation for the aged person continues and the difficulty experienced in obtaining beds becomes progressively worse as each year passes. In particular I would refer to those frail aged persons who require ground

floor accommodation; persons such as these are not regarded as in need of a Hospital bed, nor is the County Council able to provide enough Welfare accommodation for them. It would seem that until some co-ordinating body, interested in all aspects of the welfare of old people in the County, is formed there will be continual difficulty with regard to the best use of the accommodation available.

I should like once again to thank the Chairman, Councillors, and all members of the staff for the help and co-operation received during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

Medical Officer of Health

December, 1958.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29909582

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	4,153
Population Mid 1956	17,120
Population 1951 Census	16,393
Rateable Value as at 1st. January, 1956	£140,946
Rateable Value as at 31st. December, 1956	£267,726
Product of 1d. rate as at 1st. April, 1956	£534

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	102	112	214
Illegitimate	5	5	10
	107	117	224

Crude Live Birth rate per 1000 total population	13.08
Corrected Live Birth rate per 1000 total population	13.47
Crude Live Birth rate per 1000 total population Administrative County of Devon	12.96
Corrected Live Birth rate per 1000 total population Administrative County of Devon	14.77
Live Birth rate per 1000 total population England and Wales	15.6

STILL BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth rate per 1000 total population	0.23
Still Birth rate per 1000 total live and still births	17.54
Still Birth rate per 1000 total live and still births Administrative County of Devon	22.7
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	22.9

DEATHS

The average age at death, from all causes, was found to be 67.95 years. It is of interest to note that the average age of all male deaths was 64.16 years and for female deaths 71.88 years.

Male	Female	Total
117	107	224

Crude Death rate per 1000 total population	13.08
Corrected Death rate per 1000 total population	11.12
Crude Death rate per 1000 total population Administrative County of Devon	14.48
Corrected Death rate per 1000 total population Administrative County of Devon	11.15
Death rate per 1000 total population England and Wales	11.7

Infant Mortality

(Death of Infants under One year)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	5	10
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infant Mortality rate (Death of Infants under One year) per 1000 related live births	44.64
Infant Mortality rate England and Wales	23.7

Neo-Natal Mortality

(Death of Infants under Four weeks)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neo-Natal Mortality rate (Death of Infants under Four weeks) per 1000 related live births	31.25
Neo-Natal Mortality rate England and Wales	16.8

Maternal Mortality

No maternal deaths occurred in this area during 1956. Three Maternal deaths occurred within the Administrative County of Devon.

DEATHS (continued)

AGE AT DEATH

	Male	Female
Infants under Four weeks	3	4
Infants under One year	2	1
1 -	2	-
5 -	-	-
15 -	-	-
25 -	5	2
45 -	34	22
65 -	35	17
75 and over	36	61
	117	107

Total: 224

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female
	117	107
Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	-
Tuberculosis, other	1	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	-
Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	7	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	14
Diabetes	2	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	14	23
Coronary disease, angina	22	8
Hypertension with heart disease	2	5
Other heart disease	9	16
Other circulatory disease	1	6
carried forward	82	78

CAUSES OF DEATH (continued)

	Male	Female
brought forward	82	78
Pneumonia	4	8
Bronchitis	3	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	5	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-
Congenital malformations	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	13
Accidents (other than motor vehicle)	1	3
Suicide	1	-
	117	107

Total: 224

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever	2	1	3
Whooping Cough	1	-	1
Measles	7	17	24
Dysentery	3	-	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	1
Acute Pneumonia	6	2	8
Paratyphoid	1	-	1
	20	21	41

Total : 41

TUBERCULOSIS

Fourteen cases of pulmonary and three cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1956. Details are set out in the following table:-

TUBERCULOSIS (continued)

AGE PERIODS	CASES			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under five years	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	2	-
15 - 24	1	-	-	-
25 - 44	1	4	-	1
45 - 64	4	-	-	-
65 and over	2	2	-	-
	8	6	2	1

Total: 17

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Official action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Acts, 1958 and 1951 was necessary in one case during 1956.

NEWTON ABBOT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
of
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

1956

STAFF:

Chief Public Health Inspector
C. E. Pethick, F.A.P.H.I.,
Additional Public Health Inspectors
F. B. Elliott, M.A.P.H.I. (To April, 1956),
J. A. McPherson, F.A.P.H.I. (From October, 1956).
Clerk
G. J. Ingram.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I submit herewith the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1956.

The year under review has been one of the most difficult I have experienced because of the fact that there was no additional inspector for nearly half of the year.

Meat inspection duties were maintained at 100% throughout the year but every other branch of the work suffered.

Details of inspections made are set out in the following pages :-

DRAINAGE:

Number of premises visited	64
Number of tests applied	98
Number of visits made	206

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS:

1. Inspections	No. on register	Inspections	No. of written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
i. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	17	9	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	30	19	9	-
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	6	4	-	-

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (Cont'd).

2. Cases in which defects were found.

No. of cases in which defects were found :-		Found	Remedied	Ref. to H.M. Insp.	Ref. by H.M. Insp.	Prosecution
Want of cleanliness	(S1)	1	1	-	1	-
Overcrowding	(S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	(S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	(S4)	1	1	-	1	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	(S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences	(S7)					
(a) insufficient		-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective		5	5	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes		2	2	-	2	-
Other offences (not relating to outwork)		-	-	-	-	-

FOOD INSPECTION:

Details of the animals slaughtered and the results of inspection are shown in the following table :-

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Bullocks	2,721	2,933	3,032	2,545	2,919	3,347
Calves	2,961	2,487	2,132	7,392	9,053	10,737
Sheep	9,565	9,868	10,486	12,261	10,746	10,931
Pigs	876	715	1,579	4,210	7,234	6,066

FOOD INSPECTION (cont'd).

	CATTLE (excluding Cows)	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS
NUMBER KILLED	2,405	942	10,737	10,931	6,066
NUMBER INSPECTED	2,405	942	10,737	10,931	6,066
All diseases other than Tuberculosis (i) Whole carcase condemned	3	5	25	78	15
(ii) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	588	336	36	557	320
% of animals inspected affected by disease other than Tuberculosis	24.57	36.20	0.56	5.80	5.52
Tuberculosis only (i) Whole carcase condemned	14	12	5	-	6
(ii) carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	192	129	3	-	143
% of animals inspected affected by Tuberculosis	8.56	14.96	0.07	-	2.45
Number of cases of C. Bovis	NIL				

FOOD INSPECTION (cont'd).

Ice Cream.

11 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratories for examination with the following results :-

Grade 1 - 6 samples,
Grade 2 - 3 samples,
Grade 3 - 1 sample,
Grade 4 - 1 sample.

Comparison with previous years is shown by the following table :-

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Grade 1	63.2%	57%	57.6%	60%	44.5%	54.547%
Grade 2	13.2%	14.3%	42.4%	30%	33.3%	27.273%
Grade 3	5.2%	21.4%	NIL	10%	22.2%	9.09%
Grade 4	18.4%	7.1%	NIL	NIL	NIL	9.09%

Unsound Food: During the course of the year, the following foodstuffs have been found to be unfit for human consumption :-

33 Bovine carcases and offals,
26 Calf carcases and offals,
76 Sheep carcases and offals,
19 Pig carcases and offals,
102 Bovine Heads,
112 Pig Heads,
2,345 Organs and parts,
2,197 lbs. Beef,
56 lbs. Veal,
36 lbs. Mutton,
84 lbs. Pork,
307 tins Fruit,
156 tins Meat,
158 tins Peas and Beans,
94 tins Tomatoes,
53 tins Milk,
20 tins Soup,
10 tins Rice,
6 tins Coffee,
126 pkts. Cheese Spread,
37 pkts. Cake Mixture,
30 pkts. Macaroni,
24 pkts. Puff Pastry,
8 pkts. Cereals,

FOOD INSPECTION (cont'd).

Unsound Food (cont'd).

70 lbs. Cake,
32 lbs. Flour,
18 lbs. Sausages,
11 lbs. Ham,
3 lbs. Sugar,
3 jars Sauce,
2 Jellies.

General.

797 visits were made during the year to the Public Abattoir for meat inspection,

105 visits were made during the year to other food premises,

18 Informal Notices were served during the year under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

HOUSING:

A summary of the work carried out under this heading is as follows :-

Number of council houses constructed	11
Number of private houses constructed	64
Number of houses inspected for defects	97
Number of inspections made	164
Number of informal notices served	36
Number of statutory notices served :-	
(a) under Section 9, Housing Act, 1936	9
(b) under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936	1
(c) under Public Health Act, 1936	3
Number of dwellings rendered fit	37

RODENT CONTROL:

A member of the manual labour staff of this department has continued to be employed on a part-time basis on this section of work. As in previous years two treatments of the sewerage system of the town were carried out, approximately 35 manholes being baited and poisoned on each occasion.

In addition 49 premises were treated for rat infestation involving 135 visits.

STAFF:

Mr. Elliott resigned from his appointment in April, 1956 and Mr. J. A. McPherson took up duties in October, 1956.

Mr. Ingram continued as Clerk in this department and is again due for thanks for the able manner in which he carried out his work.

I would also like to record my thanks to colleagues for their co-operation during the year and to the Chairman and members of the Council for their consideration and support.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

Chief Public Health Inspector.