

[Report 1971] / Medical Officer of Health, Selby U.D.C.

Contributors

Selby (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1971

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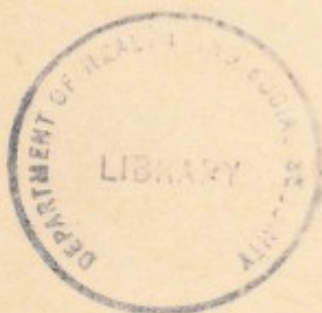
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the Medical Officer of Health.



**SELBY URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

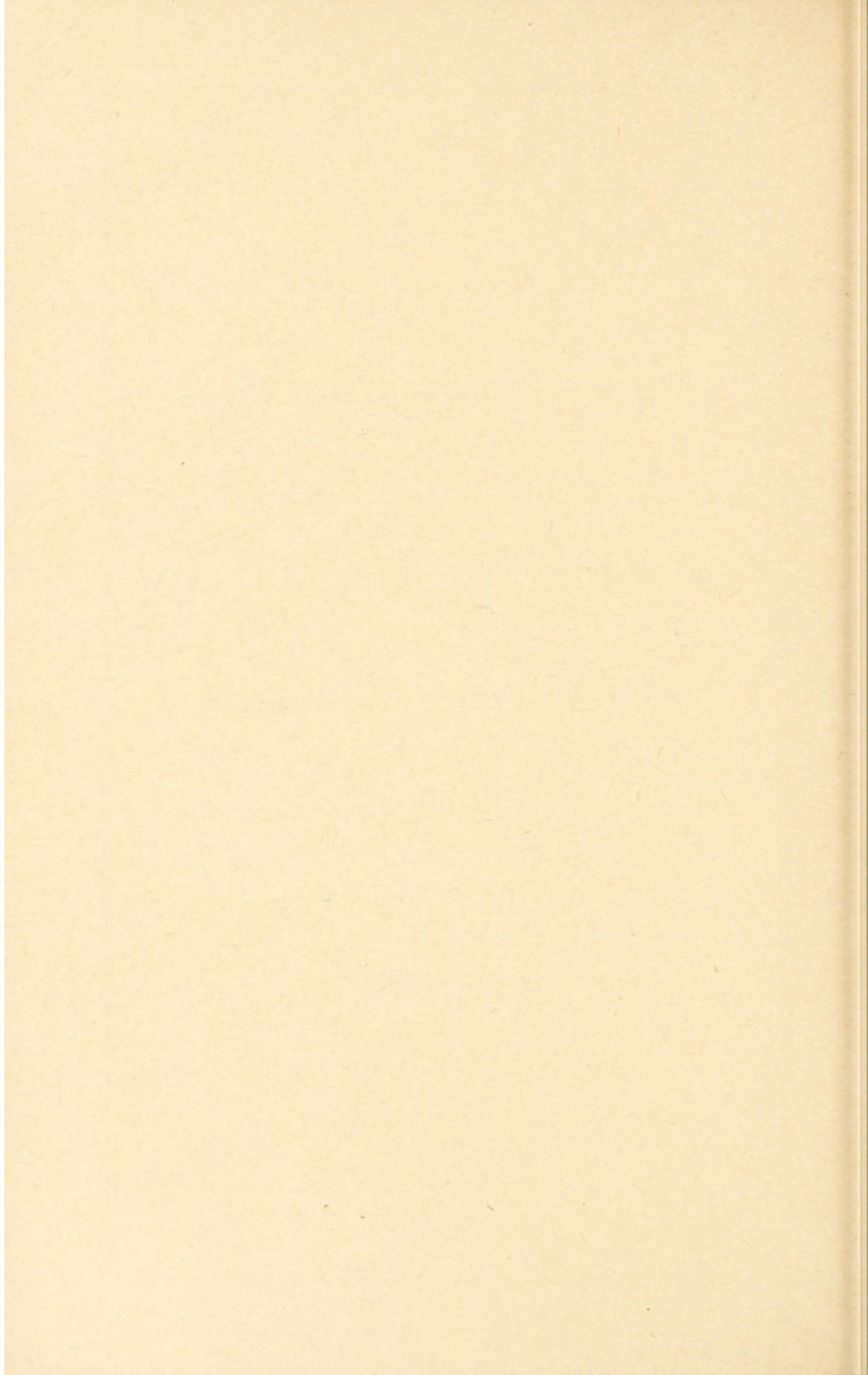
Medical Officer of Health

and the

Public Health Inspector

1971

Regency Printers of Selby.



SELBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman : Councillor J. FOSTER, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : County Councillor C. P. BLYTHE, J.P.

**HEALTH, HOUSING AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**

Chairman : Councillor Mrs. H. GANT, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor C. COULTISH, J.P.

Medical Officer of Health :

**MURIEL J. LOWE,
M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H., M.F.C.M.**

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

**EILEEN M. R. BELL-SYER,
M.B., B.S.**

Public Health Inspector :

**NORMAN BUCKLE
D.P.A., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.**

Pupil Public Health Inspector :

JOHN T. DYSON

Clerk : Miss MARGARET JACKSON

To The Chairman and Members of the Selby Urban District Council.

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my third Annual Report on the health of the Urban District, and the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1971.

VITAL STATISTICS

182 live births were registered, an increase of 9, giving a Birth Rate of 15.7 per thousand population (Adjusted Birth Rate 16.3). The County Aggregate of Urban Districts was 16.9 and England and Wales 16.0. The Still Birth Rate was 5.5 (1 Stillbirth) another record year, being 0.2 lower than in 1970. The Perinatal Mortality Rate was also 5.5 (stillbirths plus deaths in the first week of life per thousand total births) the rate being calculated on this one stillbirth as there were no infant deaths at all. So this constitutes another important record, together with an Infant Mortality Rate of nil. This has never occurred before since recordings started in this District in 1895. There are only six other Districts in the Administrative County returning a nil Infant Mortality Rate. For comparison the Rate for the West Riding Aggregate of Urban Districts was 18.7 and for England and Wales 17.5. The neonatal Mortality Rate was, of course, also nil.

No maternal deaths occurred keeping up the excellent record of the past 17 years.

There were 140 deaths giving a Crude Death Rate of 12.0 (Adjusted Death Rate 11.0) which is the same as the West Riding Aggregate; the National figure being 11.6. Births exceeded deaths by 42. The most important cause of death was ischaemic heart disease, there being 43 deaths, 19 more than in 1970. Cerebro-vascular disease, that other common cause of death claimed 24 deaths. There were 5 deaths from cancer of the lung, of which 4 were in males. There were 18 deaths from respiratory disease, bronchitis and emphysema accounting for 8 deaths, all in males.

Ischaemic heart disease affects both males and females although usually there is a preponderance of males, particularly in middle life. There is much that is incompletely understood about this disease which claims so many lives and on which a vast amount of research has been done, and although there may be a number of causes and not one alone, there are various closely correlated factors:—

1. Smoking.
2. A high consumption of saturated fats and cholesterol, derived from animal fats.

3. A high consumption of sugar which leads to fat deposition in the body.
4. A diminishing amount of exercise particularly in relation to the intake of energy-giving foods, such as fats and carbohydrates, over and above need.

So I would commend to all men, especially those who are coming up to middle age, to stop smoking, to eat margarine containing unsaturated vegetable oils instead of butter, to reduce their sugar intake, and to exercise regularly to a reasonable degree commensurate with their age. To younger people I would say that it is much better never to start smoking, and to keep their carbohydrate intake, particularly sugar, in check. To them, as to older people, my advice is that the car should be their servant and not their master.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Only 4 cases of infectious disease were notified during 1971. There was one case of food poisoning, one scarlet fever, and two cases of measles.

Over many years measles has been the commonest infectious disease notified and recently whooping cough and scarlet fever have been much less in evidence. In 1970 there were 100 cases of measles notified, a greater number usually occurring in alternate years. It is to be hoped that measles vaccination will change the familiar pattern and prevent this cause of morbidity in the future.

No new cases of tuberculosis were notified during 1971.

Dr. J. Stevenson, Consultant in infectious diseases at Leeds has said in the West Riding's 'Health Notes' Supplement No. 26, that "in the United Kingdom today there is virtually no endemic infectious disease capable of striking terror into a mother's heart". But despite the diminished virulence of scarlet fever and the rarity of diphtheria and poliomyelitis in the United Kingdom (thanks to immunisation) he advises us not to become complacent. Diphtheria, he states, is still relatively common in Eastern Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean and this is a hazard to holiday makers themselves and to those at home to whom they may carry the disease. A good immunity before travelling to these parts is, therefore, a wise precaution.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

In September, 1971, the Secretary of State for Health and the Social Services decided to accept the advice of the Joint committee on vaccination and immunisation that routine vaccination of children against smallpox need no longer be recommended. This step was not taken lightly, but the areas of the world where

smallpox is endemic has contracted greatly in recent years and therefore introduction of the disease into this country by foreign travellers and immigrants is less likely. The stage had also been reached where the numbers of deaths and serious sequelae from vaccination had exceeded the deaths from the disease itself.

It has, therefore, become County policy to cease to offer routine vaccination against smallpox to children in the second year of life.

It must be emphasized, however, that persons travelling to places abroad where smallpox is endemic must have adequate protection and it is sensible that those who might come into contact with imported cases, such as those working in the Health Services, should be vaccinated at frequent intervals.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

In addition to diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles and tuberculosis protection, vaccination against german measles is now offered to girls between 11 and 12 years of age. This, we hope, will eliminate congenital defects in the foetus caused by women of childbearing age contracting the disease in early pregnancy.

FOOD HANDLING AND THE HOUSEWIFE

One case of food poisoning was notified during the year 1971. On the face of it this is a very satisfactory state of affairs, but can we be sure that there has been only one case of food poisoning in the Urban District during this period of time. Many people do not report to their doctors with symptoms of diarrhoea, abdominal pain and/or vomiting, which might be associated with the eating of infected food.

I am well aware that the Council's Public Health Inspectors do a really excellent job in supervising and advising food shops and institutions, and this is an important preventive service, very similar to that of the Factory Inspector's with his advice on safety. But no one is directly responsible for advising the housewife whose job it is to serve safe food to her family.

She should remember that raw meat and poultry are potentially infected with food poisoning organisms. Therefore, they should be handled as little as possible, kept in a refrigerator (but only for short periods — 1 to 3 days) and cooked WELL as soon as possible. Cooked and raw meat, and vegetables should be kept apart in storage. Joints should be kept to under 6 lbs. in weight so that they can be cooled, after cooking, within 1½ hours in a current of cool air (if possible) and then refrigerated. Frozen poultry should be properly defrosted, preferably in a refrigerator, and particular attention paid to thawing out in the centre of the carcass.

If refrigeration is not available, only enough meat, fish or poultry should be purchased for immediate use. The re-heating of food should be avoided, but if food has to be used up, then it should be re-cooked thoroughly. Pet foods should be stored separately and separate utensils should be used for them. Dish-cloths and tea-cloths can be a harbour for germs. It is much better to use kitchen paper for all wiping jobs and to use plate racks for drying crockery.

And above all, good personal hygiene is essential, remembering that it is just as important to wash one's hands AFTER, as well as BEFORE, and DURING the preparation of food, and to use a nail brush.

CENSUS

1971 was the census year and the population figure for the District was 11,810. The Registrar General's Estimated mid-year population for 1971 was 11,620 which shows an under estimate of 190. From the table below it will be seen that the population of Selby Urban District has increased by 1,370 in the last 10 years.

1901	7,786		
1911	9,049	increase	1,263
1921	9,984	"	935
1931	10,064	"	80
1951	10,218	"	154
1961	10,440	"	222
1971	11,810	"	1,370

FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

It is now fifteen years since fluoridation of public water supplies was first started in the United Kingdom, as an inexpensive and safe method of improving dental decay. Trials in certain areas of Britain have shown that tooth decay in the temporary teeth of children aged 3 to 7 has been reduced by half, and the number of children free from decay more than doubled. In the permanent teeth of children aged 8-10, the reduction in the amount of decay has been about one third, and again there was a substantial increase in the proportion with no dental decay. I quote from "Our Teeth", a Health Education Council publication, which is a summary of the 1969 report on eleven years of fluoridation in the U.K. These figures are precisely similar to figures throughout the world, wherever fluoridation has been carried out.

Fluoride is a natural substance present in nearly all foods and water. Some water supplies have enough natural fluoride already present and do not need the addition of more fluoride. It was the

remarkably healthy teeth of children in these areas — South Shields is one — that first attracted medical attention. Mortality and morbidity experience in areas with high fluoride in the water, are no different from those in fluoride deficient areas.

Fluoridation means the addition of a minute amount of fluoride to public water supplies so that the natural fluoride content is raised to one part per million. This is the level at which it can effectively provide permanent resistance to tooth decay.

“The World Health Organisation through its Assembly in 1969, adopted a resolution calling for the implementation of fluoridation throughout the world, a resolution which was passed unanimously by all member states, including the United Kingdom”, states the Fluoridation Society’s pamphlet. Canada and the United States have used the process for a quarter of a century. We have the long term experience in the natural fluoride areas so why do we not take action NOW. Our children have, on average, as many decayed teeth as years of age.

This Division of the West Riding is a typical non-fluoride area. A careful survey of children’s teeth was carried out in 1963 by the School Dental Service throughout the County. The following table shows the results obtained in this area.

No. of Children Examined	No. of Children showing no *D.M.F. teeth	No. of *D.M.F. teeth	Percentage of children showing no *D.M.F. teeth	Average No. of *D.M.F. teeth per child
	5 YEAR OLDS			
181	19	1187	10.5	6.5
	12 YEAR OLDS			
100	NIL	714	NIL	7.14

* D.M.F. = Decayed, missing or filled teeth.

Fluoridation does not obviate the need for good dental hygiene and a sensible diet, but there is no doubt that dental decay is drastically reduced. I believe that the time is now ripe, when our water undertakings are being re-organised, to make this change now. The annual cost of dental treatment in Britain is more than £1 per head; the annual cost of fluoridation is not more than 5p. per head. Let us protect our children’s teeth and at the same time reduce the cost of our dental services.

RE-ORGANISATION

In my report last year, I was looking forward to changes which were mooted, but which were indefinite and vast. These changes are now almost upon us and yet a tremendous amount of preparatory work has still to be done before the 1st April, 1974. The anxiety and suspense resulting from our ignorance of the future must surely end soon and enable us all to do our utmost to make the great changes a success.

IN CONCLUSION, I wish to thank my Deputy M.O.H., Dr. Eileen Bell-Syer, once again for her loyal support and help during the past year; for the interest and kindness shown to me by the members and other officers of the Council; the excellent assistance and most helpful services of the Public Health and Divisional Health staffs, and for the service, so willingly given, by the voluntary helpers at the clinic.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

MURIEL J. LOWE,

Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1972.

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1971

Area of Urban District	3,883 acres
Population (estimated mid 1971) ..	11,620
Number of Houses	3,995
Rateable Value	£416,735 (Apr. 1972)
Product of Penny Rate (estimated) ..	£4,031 (Apr. 1972)

VITAL STATISTICS

	SELBY U.D.	Aggre- gate West Riding U.D.s	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (Provi- sional)
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population) ..	15.7	16.9	17.0	16.0
CRUDE DEATH RATES (all per 1,000 estimated population) ..	12.0	12.0	11.4	11.6
All causes (Crude D.R.)				
Infective and Parasitic Diseases ..	0.00	ø	ø	ø
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	1.60	1.53	1.42	ø
Malignant Neoplasms	1.86	2.25	2.16	2.39
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	3.37	4.62	4.41	ø
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	2.93	1.86	1.75	ø
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	0.00	18.7	18.4	17.5
STILLBIRTHS	5.0	12.8	12.3	12.5
PERINATAL MORTALITY	5.5	21.8	21.7	22.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY (Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 total births)	0.00	0.09	0.10	0.17

Comparability Factors:

For Births, 1.04.	Adjusted Birth Rate, 16.3.
For Deaths, 0.91.	Adjusted Death Rate, 10.9.

ø Figures not available

**BIRTH AND DEATH RATES, 1971
AND MEAN RATES FOR DECENNIAL PERIODS**

BIRTH RATE = 15.7

(per 1,000 population)

1901-1910	.. ..	27.2	1941-1950	.. ..	17.8
1911-1920	.. ..	23.0	1951-1960	.. ..	15.1
1921-1930	.. ..	19.7	1961-1970	.. ..	18.05
1931-1940	.. ..	15.5			

STILLBIRTHS = 5.5

(per 1,000 total births)

1901-1910	.. ..	—	1941-1950	.. ..	37.5
1911-1920	.. ..	—	1951-1960	.. ..	34.1
1921-1930	.. ..	38.6	1961-1970	.. ..	14.6
1931-1940	.. ..	28.0			

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS = 4.0

(per 1,000 total births)

1901-1910	.. ..	—	1941-1950	.. ..	56.9
1911-1920	.. ..	48.4	1951-1960	.. ..	27.0
1921-1930	.. ..	46.5	1961-1970	.. ..	46.8
1931-1940	.. ..	38.4			

INFANTILE MORTALITY = 0.00

(per 1,000 live births)

1901-1910	.. ..	127.7	1941-1950	.. ..	54.0
1911-1920	.. ..	97.4	1951-1960	.. ..	32.1
1921-1930	.. ..	62.9	1961-1970	.. ..	19.95
1931-1940	.. ..	49.1			

NEONATAL MORTALITY = 0.00

(Deaths in first month per 1,000 live births)

1901-1910	.. ..	28.8	1941-1950	.. ..	31.1
1911-1920	.. ..	38.1	1951-1960	.. ..	23.8
1921-1930	.. ..	33.4	1961-1970	.. ..	14.7
1931-1940	.. ..	26.2			

PERINATAL MORTALITY = 5.5

(Stillbirths and first week deaths per 1,000 total births)

1921-1930	.. ..	61.1	1951-1960	.. ..	54.8
1931-1940	.. ..	65.4	1961-1970	.. ..	27.0
1941-1950	.. ..	58.8			

TOTAL DEATH RATE = 12.0

(per 1,000 population)

1901-1910	.. ..	13.7	1941-1950	.. ..	13.0
1911-1920	.. ..	13.0	1951-1960	.. ..	12.9
1921-1930	.. ..	11.8	1961-1970	.. ..	12.7
1931-1940	.. ..	11.7			

DISEASES OF HEART AND CIRCULATION = 5.16

1901-1910	1.01	1941-1950	2.73
1911-1920	1.29	1951-1960	4.72
1921-1930	1.53	1961-1970	4.92
1931-1940	2.41		

VASCULAR DISEASES OF CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM = 2.07

1901-1910	—	1941-1950	1.50
1911-1920	—	1951-1960	1.75
1921-1930	1.24	1961-1970	2.00
1931-1940	1.03		

MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS = 1.81

1901-1910	0.91	1941-1950	2.04
1911-1920	1.16	1951-1960	2.17
1921-1930	1.62	1961-1970	2.13
1931-1940	1.73		

RESPIRATORY DISEASES = 1.55

1901-1910	1.72	1941-1950	1.80
1911-1920	1.90	1951-1960	1.65
1921-1930	2.56	1961-1970	1.52
1931-1940	1.57		

INFECTIVE AND PARASITIC DISEASES = 0.00

1901-1910	1.53	1941-1950	0.06
1911-1920	0.68	1951-1960	0.04
1921-1930	0.43	1961-1970	0.03
1931-1940	0.24		

RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS = 0.17

1901-1910	0.94	1941-1950	0.32
1911-1920	0.92	1951-1960	0.06
1921-1930	0.72	1961-1970	0.02
1931-1940	0.59		

NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS = 0.00

1901-1910	0.36	1941-1950	0.08
1911-1920	0.44	1951-1960	0.03
1921-1930	0.17	1961-1970	0.02
1931-1940	0.16		

MATERNAL MORTALITY = 0.00

(per 1,000 total births)

1901-1910	5.08	1941-1950	1.59
1911-1920	5.02	1951-1960	0.69
1921-1930	3.11	1961-1970	0.00
1931-1940	3.69		

BIRTHS, 1971

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births.—Legitimate	86	88	174
Illegitimate	6	2	8
	—	—	—
Total	92	90	182
Stillbirths	0	1	1
Premature Births.—Babies weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth.			
	Live	Still	Total
Born at home	0	0	0
Born in hospital	9	1	10

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1971

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	2	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ..	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ..	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ..	3	3	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ..	4	1	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ..	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	—	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	1	3
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ..	—	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	—	1	1
Anaemias	—	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System ..	1	—	1
Hypertensive Disease	—	2	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	27	16	43
Other forms of Heart Disease	2	7	9
Cerebrovascular Disease	13	11	24
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ..	2	4	6

					Male	Female	Total
Influenza	..	..	..	..	—	2	2
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	4	2	6
Bronchitis and Emphysema			..	..	8	—	8
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	..				1	1	2
Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia				..	—	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Other diseases, Genito-Urinary System	..				—	2	2
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	..				—	1	1
Symptoms and ill-defined Conditions	..				—	3	3
All Other Accidents		..	..	..	—	1	1
Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries	..				1	—	1
					—	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	..	..	..	..	73	67	140

INFANTILE MORTALITY Causes of Death in Age Groups

	Under 1 week	1 to 2 Weeks	2 to 3 Weeks	3 to 4 Weeks	1 to 3 Months	3 to 6 Months	6 to 9 Months	9 to 12 Months	TOTAL
Atelectasis
Sudden Death in Infancy Syndrome
Hydrocephalus
Encephalocoele
Congenital heart disease
Intestinal Obstruction
Congenital anomalies
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
notified during the year 1971

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases Notified							
	At all Ages	According to Age						
		Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	Over 65
Small-pox
Food Poisoning	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria
Scarlet Fever	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Typhoid Fever
Acute Meningitis
Acute Poliomyelitis, paralytic
" " non-paralytic
Acute Encephalitis
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Pulmonary Tuberculosis
Other forms of Tuberculosis
Measles	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Tetanus
Whooping Cough
Dysentery
Encephalitis Lethargica
Infective Jaundice
Malaria
Totals	4	0	3	1	0	0	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases in 1971

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	0	0	0
Non-Pulmonary	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

Total Cases on Register

Pulmonary	11	10	21
Non-Pulmonary	2	2	4
Total	13	12	25

National Assistance Acts, 1948-51.

Two cases were dealt with under these Acts during 1971, and were removed to Part III Accommodation.

WEST RIDING COUNTY DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SELBY URBAN DISTRICT - 1971

1. HEALTH VISITING (Division No. 10 as a whole).

	First Visits
Children under 1	852
Children between 1 and 5	2277
Other cases	909
Total	4038

2. CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

Total number of children under 5 years of age who first attended all Clinics during the year:

(i) Born in 1971	474
(ii) Born 1966/70	82
Number of Sessions held:	
Selby	51
Total attendance	3504
Average per session	68

3. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.—Divisional figures.

Attendances at Clinics	269
Number attending Speech Therapy	52
Number inspected in School by School M.O.	1288
Number inspected in School by School Nurse	6838
Primary tests for Subnormality	30
Re-examinations for Subnormality	35
Recommended for Special Schools	12
Attending Special Schools	75
Reported for care and guidance	3
Audiometry tests by School Nurse	1075
Audiometry tests by School M.O.	106

County Occulist:

Number of cases seen	570
Number of spectacles prescribed	161

The following defects were found at medical inspections:

	Requiring treatment	For observation
Verminous heads	189	0
Skin	24	11
Vision	74	3
Other eye conditions	8	12
Hearing	31	24
Other ear defects	5	7
Nose and throat	31	42
Speech	10	3
Cervical glands	1	13
Heart and circulation	15	4
Lungs	14	4
Developmental	14	9
Orthopaedic	15	16
Nervous System	7	7
Psychological	13	15
Enuresis	46	13
Other conditions	6	1

Paediatric Clinic :

No. of individual patients seen :

Pre-school	44
School	66

Total attendances :

Pre-school	48
School	78

4. MATERNITY SERVICES.

A Mothercraft and Relaxation Exercise Class for expectant mothers is held weekly and 729 attendances were made.

Confined in Hospital :

Goole Maternity Hospital	218
Fulford Maternity Hospital	310
Wakefield—Manygates	171
Leeds Hospitals	4
Other Maternity Homes	14

Total 717

County Midwives :

There were 167 domiciliary confinements in the division.

The following summary of the work of the County Midwives is for Division 10 as a whole :—

Number of Midwives	..	..	7
Number of cases	..	..	167
Gas and air analgesia	..	..	0
Trilene analgesia	..	..	103

5. HOME NURSING (Division 10 as a whole).

Number of Nurses	..	..	7
Number of cases completed	..	..	625
Number of visits	..	..	16,095

6. IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION. This has now been placed on the computer and the figures given below are for the Division as a whole for the year 1971.

(a) Total Injections given

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough	..	984
Diphtheria and Tetanus	.. ..	321
Measles	.. ..	684
Polio	.. ..	1734
Rubella	.. ..	527
Tetanus	.. ..	1380

(b) Primary Doses

Diphtheria	.. ..	701
Measles	.. ..	684
Polio	.. ..	740
Rubella	.. ..	527
Tetanus	.. ..	702
Whooping Cough	.. ..	697

(c) Reinforcing Doses

Diphtheria	.. ..	514
Polio	.. ..	994
Tetanus	.. ..	578
Whooping Cough	.. ..	496

7. B.C.G. VACCINATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

(12 years of age).

Number of acceptances in 1971	..	776	
Pre-vaccination Tuberculin Tests :			
Positive (not requiring vaccination) ..	66	(8.96%)	
Negative (requiring vaccination) ..	671	(91.04%)	
Number vaccinated with B.C.G.	..	737	

8. MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY, 1971.

The Unit visits Selby and Goole twice per month,
383 were examined at Goole and 185 at Selby. A further
431 were examined in a Survey at Goole and 717 at Selby.

9. CHILD GUIDANCE.

No. of new cases	..	..	..	12
No. of cases discharged	..	..	..	20

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION No. 10

The County Districts forming Division No. 10 are:—

Goole Borough	(1,267 acres)	Selby Urban	(3,883 acres)
Goole Rural	(38,238 acres)	Selby Rural	(33,304 acres)
Area of the Division	.. ..		76,692 acres
Population (Estimated mid-1971)			49,320
	(Census 1971)	..	49,570

DIVISIONAL HEALTH OFFICE AND STAFF

6/7 Belgravia, Goole. Telephone Goole 4216 & 2923.

Divisional Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer:

MURIEL J. LOWE, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H., M.F.C.M.

Senior Clinical Departmental Medical Officer and School Medical Officer:

EILEEN M. R. BELL-SYER, M.B., B.S.

Departmental Medical Officer and School Medical Officer:

J. N. LAMBTON, M.B., Ch.B.

Area Dental Officers:

P. F. A. ELTOME, L.D.S. (Goole). J. R. CLAYTON, B.Ch.D., L.D.S. (Selby).

Divisional Nursing Officer: Miss C. J. BADCOCK.

Nursing Officers: Mrs. C. M. PARRY (Heath Visitors),
Miss H. ELLIS (Midwives), Mrs. P. Moulds (Home Nurses).

Health Visitors and School Nurses: Miss D. M. BUTLER, Mrs. M. DODSON,
Mrs M. D. GARDNER, Mrs. M. H. HARROLD, Miss M. MITCHELL,
Miss R. PENISTON, Miss D. M. ROBINSON, Mrs. K. M. TAIT (part-time).

Assistants: Mrs. E. M. HOWARD (part-time), Mrs. F. JARY,

Home Nursing Sisters: Mrs. M. B. BRAMLEY (part-time) Mrs. M.
CHAPMAN, Mrs. W. E. DUFFIN, Mrs. S. E. HERRON, Mrs. E.
HIGGINS, Mrs. D. L. HUTTON, Mrs. B. ROSS (part-time), Mrs. J. M.
SAWDON, Mrs. M. S. TWINEHAM.

Domiciliary Midwives: Mrs. M. M. APPLEBY, Miss I. CAMPBELL, Miss E.
CLAYTON, Mrs. J. COOK, Miss M. ELLIOTT, Mrs. D. FRANKLIN,
Mrs. A. G. HORSFIELD.

Divisional Administrative Officer: Mr. R. TOWELL, A.M.R.S.H.

Senior Clerk: Mr. G. N. NOWILL. Staff: Mrs. N. ALMOND, Miss C. L.
ALLOTT, Miss S. L. BRAMHAM, Mrs. M. E. BRYARS (part-time),
Miss S. H. MILEHAM, Mrs. M. READSHAW (part-time), Mrs. J. E.
TAYLOR.

CLINICS

(30.6.72)

The following Child Welfare, Maternity, School Health Services and Specialists' Clinics are held in the County Clinic, Raincliffe Street, Selby.

Monday 10-12: Child Guidance Clinic	Dr. E. M. R. Bell-Syer. Miss Phillips, P.S.W.
Monday 2-4: Cytology	Dr. E. M. R. Bell-Syer. Midwives.
Tuesday 9-12: Chiropody	Mrs. Farmery.
Wednesday 9-12: Chiropody ..	Mrs. Farmery.
Wednesday 2-4: Relaxation and Mothercraft	Midwives.
Friday 10-12: School Clinic	Dr. E. M. R. Bell-Syer. Health Visitors.
Friday 2-4: Child Welfare	Dr. E. M. R. Bell-Syer. Health Visitors

A Paediatrician, Dr. R. J. Pugh, holds sessions in Goole on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, which are available to the children of Selby.

FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

SELBY COUNTY CLINIC, RAINCLIFFE STREET, SELBY.
(Telephone: 3891)

Consultations : Thursdays 6.30 - 8.00 p.m.

Call or telephone during Sessions for appointment.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, 1971.

**To The Chairman and Members
of the Selby Urban District Council**

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. GANT AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my sixth Annual Report on Environmental Health in Selby. The year 1971 has seen further developments and improvements particularly in the housing field where it has been possible after several years to carry out a considerable part of the Council's unfit house clearance proposals first formulated in 1966.

No major legislation affecting environmental health was enacted during the year but it was pleasing to note that in the Government's proposals for the reform of local government that most matters affecting the environment were to be kept together and dealt with at the new District level — a policy long advocated by the Association of Public Health Inspectors to avoid fragmentation of the Health Inspectors duties and the loss of the expertise acquired over a period of well over a hundred years.

WATER SUPPLY

As reported in previous years an excellent supply of clean and wholesome water was available throughout the district supplied by the Pontefract, Goole and Selby Water Board. Five samples of water were obtained from various parts of the town during the year and all were reported as satisfactory. Three dwelling-houses served with stand-pipes were closed and the occupants re-housed.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The second phase of the Selby Sewerage Scheme was almost completed by the end of the year and allowed for all foul water to be conveyed to the Council's Sewage Treatment Works for treatment before disposal to the river.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The regular weekly collection of refuse, under the direction of the Council's Surveyor, was maintained throughout the year. In addition, bulky refuse was collected when requested and disposed of by the Council. Disposal of refuse was by tipping at the Selby Rural District Council's tip at Gateforth.

SWIMMING BATH

Bacteriological examinations were carried out on the waters of the public baths throughout the 1971 swimming season from March to October and of the 24 samples tested all were found to be satisfactory.

NUISANCES

Complaints continued in the early part of the year about noise and dust from a ready mixed concrete batching plant situated in Flaxley Road, Selby. The siting of the plant was the subject of a planning enquiry in the first week in January and by the time the Ministers decision had been given the firm were already actively preparing a new site on the outskirts of the town. Work commenced on this new site in November and production ceased in Flaxley Road.

A further improvement in 1971 was the clearance of derelict buildings in the Market Lane — New Lane area to be re-developed by new shops and offices and a new car park. The car park area was landscaped and should provide a useful and pleasant amenity in the years to come.

Other complaints received and investigated included smoke nuisances from garden bon-fires and burning other types of refuse, obstructed drainage, dust from the unloading of vessels at the wharfe, overgrown land and dilapidated houses.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Four complaints of noise nuisance were investigated. One was from a person living in a semi-detached dwelling and complaining of excessive noise from the adjoining house. He was advised that the provisions of the Act were not applicable and private action suggested. A complaint was received from the tenant of premises over a shop and this was resolved by informal notice to the owner.

Two industrial complaints were noise from a concrete batching plant and noise from a steam valve not operating correctly. The concrete plant was in the process of moving to a new site and although recorded noise levels were unsatisfactory no action was taken in view of the impending removal when the nuisance was abated. Informal representations to management resulted in the nuisance from the steam valve being remedied.

FOOD INSPECTION AND FOOD HYGIENE

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

One private slaughter-house is licenced at 66 Millgate, Selby, but is not in regular use. The number of carcasses inspected in 1971 was six, three sheep and three pigs.

Notification was received from an abattoir outside Selby that a bovine carcass affected with localised cysticercus bovis had been brought to a local shop. The carcass was inspected on arrival and on completion of the deep freeze treatment before being passed for sale.

Food inspection was regularly carried out at warehouse, food shops, cafes and other types of food preparing premises. The following foods were found to be unfit and destroyed:—

	Weight		
	Tons	Cwts	lbs
Meat at Wholesale Premises	1	5	2
Meat at Retail Premises			58
Canned Meats		1	32
Other canned foods	5	12	42
Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown		4	8
Other foods			35
Total	7	3	65

IMPORTED FOODS

The main food imported into Selby direct from overseas is bacon from Denmark. The bacon is placed, after production in the modern hygienic Danish abattoirs, on stainless steel racks in special temperature controlled containers and is kept at this chill temperature throughout its voyage and subsequent road journey to Selby. It thus arrives in perfect condition protected from any possibility of contamination.

Other food imported consisted of canned fruit from Mediterranean countries in containers. The number of this type of container examined was 46.

FOOD COMPLAINTS

The number of complaints about unsatisfactory food increased and ten foods were investigated — three being submitted to the Public Analyst for examination and report.

The foods investigated included a loaf of bread contaminated with iron, unsatisfactory bottle of milk, miscured bacon, canned peaches containing slime, green pickled onions, canned luncheon meat containing a piece of rope, unsatisfactory orange fruit drink, rancid margarine and chocolates containing moth larvae.

No prosecutions were instituted but several letters of censure were sent in appropriate cases.

FOOD HYGIENE

The hygienic requirements of food premises are detailed in the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970. These Regulations came into operation on the 1st March, 1971, and during the months that followed a detailed survey was carried out of all the 159 premises in the district where food is manufactured, stored or sold.

The number and type of premises dealing with food at the end of the year was:—159.

The following table shows the number and type of premises:—

Retail Butchers	18
Bacon and Ham Wholesale	3
Wholesale Meat Products	1
Bakehouses	7
Bread Sales	4
Hotels, Cafes, etc.	14
Fried Fish Shops	10
Wet Fish Shops	1
Food Supermarkets	4
Grocers	28
Fruit and Vegetable	11
Fruit and Vegetable Wholesale	1
Licensed Houses.. .. .	24
Licensed Clubs	6
Sweets and Tobacco	18
School Canteens.. .. .	4
Factory Canteens	5

159

A total of 152 visits were carried out and the general standards of the premises was found to be satisfactory.

Market stalls selling food and food delivery vehicles and mobile shops were also the subject of regular inspection to ensure that the appropriate Regulations were enforced. There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the district. The number of premises registered to store or sell ice-cream is 45. This commodity is also sold from 5 vans which regularly visit the town during the summer months. Samples of ice-cream were taken from one hotel, one restaurant, three shops and four vans — a total number of 12 samples being examined. Two were unsatisfactory and the necessary investigations were made to try to improve the conditions. In both cases further samples proved to be satisfactory.

Bacteriological examination of water, swimming bath samples and ice-cream were carried out by the Wakefield Public Health Laboratory and analysis of food samples by the West Riding Public Analyst. I would record my thanks to the Director and staff of the Public Health Laboratory and to Mr. Mallinder for their help and assistance.

Milk supplies were found to be satisfactory — all milk retailed coming from dairies outside the town.

HOUSING

HOUSING ACT, 1957 — UNFIT HOUSES

It is pleasing to be able to report that with the near completion of the first phase of the Cockrett Lane Housing Site named Dixon Gardens, it was possible to re-house and close sixteen houses several of which had been classed as unfit since 1966. Two of the families moved from unfit houses to other accommodation and one person died before being re-housed.

The following twenty-two houses were represented to the Housing Committee during the year:—

2 Couplands Yard, Millgate
98, 98a, 98b, 100, 128, 130 Gowthorpe
33, 38-40, 52, 77-77a Millgate
2, 4, 6 Shipyard Road
1, 2, 3, 7 Thornden Buildings, New Street
5-7 Wren Lane

As a result of these representations 8 Closing Orders and 12 Demolition Orders were made and the owner of 2 other houses gave an undertaking to carry out repairs to bring the houses up to standard.

Complaints were investigated from 7 houses requiring repairs and these were all remedied, 2 of them with the aid of Improvement Grants.

HOUSING ACTS 1964-69 — MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

The multiple occupation of houses in Selby by more than one family is not a serious problem. At the year end seven such houses were known and three had received informal notices to provide additional personal washing facilities and provide adequate means of escape in case of fire. Work was proceeding on two of these houses at the year end but the other had closed down owing to the death of the owner.

HOUSING ACT 1969 — IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

As a result of increased publicity the work of improving the older homes continued to take up a great deal of time in the Department. Owners were encouraged to carry out comprehensive schemes of improvement with the aid of (discretionary) Improvement Grants and these included not only the provision of sinks, bathroom, internal W.C.'s and hot water supplies but also the provision of damp proof courses, natural lighting improvements to attic bedrooms and also repairs where these were considered necessary to the work of improvement or would make the improvement fully effective.

Applications were received for 23 Standard Grants, 15 to provide a bathroom and 8 to provide an inside W.C. to an existing bathroom. A further 18 owners applied for full improvement grants making a total of 41 applications. In addition one application was made to convert a large house into 6 smaller units of accommodation.

Standard Grants

	1971	1970
1. Number of Applications Approved	23	36
2. Number of standard improvements completed	21	31
3. Total Amount paid in Grants	£3979	£4175

Improvement Grants

	1971	1970
1. Number of Applications Approved	15	3
2. Number of Applications Refused	1	0
3. Number of dwellings completed	9	4
4. Total Amount Paid in Grants	£3471	£748

Grants have now been given for the improvement of 292 houses in the district.

Condensation dampness has given rise to complaints both from Council and private housing and the tenants have been advised on this problem. One important rule is to maintain an adequate internal temperature but to avoid the use of paraffin heaters in doing this. Cold bedrooms are particularly prone to this problem.

In view of this and in the knowledge of the special risks from Hypothermia to which the elderly are prone it is pleasing to record that the new bungalows completed in Dixon Gardens all possessed warm air central heating. Furthermore the Trustees of the Selby United Charities had agreed in principle to provide central heating to the seventeen alms-houses in the Gowthorpe, Squares. Many authorities are now providing this amenity to their existing elderly persons bungalows and no doubt the Council will be giving consideration to this in due course.

HOUSING ACT 1969 — IMPROVEMENT AREAS

During the year an inspection was made of an area bounded by Brook Street, Gowthorpe and New Lane as to the possibility of declaring an Improvement Area in accordance with the provisions of the 1969 Act. It was found that about 50 per cent of the dwellings had not the basic standard amenities and preliminary discussions took place with the officials of the Department of the Environment and the County Planning Department. The County Planning Officer could see no objection to this in principle but as the area is affected to a great extent by the Town Centre Map proposals he suggested that the question be delayed until the detailed highway proposals in that area had been finalised.

HOUSING ACT 1969 — QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES

The Act permits owners of property to apply to the Council for a Qualification Certificate to submit to the Rent Officer for him to assess a "fair rent". The Council must consider if the house possesses the standard amenities and is in a satisfactory state of repair before the issue or refusal of such a certificate.

Two applications were received under Section 44 (1) (where a house already has the standard amenities) and one certificate was issued. One application was made under Section 44 (2) (where the owner intends to provide the standard amenities) and one certificate was issued.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

Regular visits were paid to the three licenced sites at:—

140 Millgate, Selby	15	caravans
Flaxley Road, Selby	33	"
Wistow Road, Selby	2	"

Action was taken to ensure that the conditions attached to the site licences were carried out. Towards the end of the year, following receipt of Circular 75/71 from the Department of the Environment asking authorities to review the licence conditions referring to fire prevention, a request was made to the County Fire Officer to advise and his report was available early in 1972. This recommended additional fire precautions at two of the sites and the owners agreed to implement these recommendations.

One occupied caravan was discovered on an unlicensed site and the owner of the site was requested to discontinue its use. No reports were received of itinerant travellers in the district.

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL, HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (INDUSTRIAL)

Observations of smoke were made from industrial plant but on no occasion was smoke which exceeded the limits of the Regulations recorded.

Complaints were received about an unsatisfactory steam effluent from a factory but as the management continued to make every effort to reduce the degree of nuisance it was agreed that the premises be kept under observation and regular reports be submitted to the Health Committee. The District Alkali Inspector kindly agreed to visit the premises with me and discuss with the management methods of reducing the problem although these particular works did not fall within the provisions of the Alkali, etc. Works Regulation Act, 1906.

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (DOMESTIC)

No action was taken to deal with this problem. Selby is not included as a "black" area but there is no doubt that smoke from domestic dwellings does contribute an appreciable amount of pollution to the air. The Council's new housing development at Cockrett Lane will be smokeless and this could become a promising start to a smoke control programme. Improvements to Council houses which are likely to be carried out in the Flaxley Road area will allow for central heating and it should be possible to allow for the eventual approval to the whole of this estate being approved for the use of smokeless fuels. In fact, quite a number of houses have already been fitted with gas or electric fires. The declaration of official Smoke Control Areas is very time-consuming and with the present staff and work-load is not possible.

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (MEASUREMENT)

The measurement of smoke concentration and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere which commenced in 1970 was continued throughout the year and a daily visit made to carry out the necessary maintenance. Average results are as follows:—

1971	Smoke concentration in microgrammes per cu.m.	Sulphur Dioxide concentration in microgrammes per cu.m.
JAN.	150	174
FEB.	155	172
MARCH	82	111
APRIL	44	69
MAY	32	52
JUNE	23	52
JULY	15	68
AUGUST	24	61
SEPT.	49	89
OCT.	65	109
NOV.	108	108
DEC.	105	121

The measurements undertaken are part of a country-wide National Survey of Atmospheric Pollution and not intended primarily to show the extent of local pollution. The figures do indicate, however, that pollution in Selby is comparable with similar urban areas of this situation i.e. semi-agricultural with no heavy concentration of industry and show to some extent that a great deal of the recorded pollution is from domestic premises.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The number of factories on the register showed a total of 66. The primary duty of the Health Department is to ensure that adequate sanitary accommodation is available for the employees. Almost all other aspects of health, welfare and safety are dealt with by the Factory Inspector.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	0	0	0	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	66	15	1	0
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excl. out-workers premises)	5	5	0	0
Total	71	20	1	0

PART 2 — Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases prosecutions instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temp. (S.3)	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences insufficient, unsuitable or defective (S.7)	6	6	0	1	0
Other offences	0	0	0	0	0
Total	6	6	0	1	0

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork						
Nature of work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out workers in Aug. list required by Sec. 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel-Making, etc. . .	2	0	0	0	0	0

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The total number of registered premises at the year end was 187 comprising 111 retail shops, 57 offices, 15 catering establishments and 4 warehouses. A total of 881 persons were employed and inspections were made of 63 premises. The number of contraventions discovered and remedied was 102. Three accidents were notified and investigated during the year.

OTHER PREMISES

The number of licences issued to pet shops remained at two and no contraventions were recorded. Eighteen hair dressing establishments are registered under the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, and the seven visited were satisfactory.

PEST CONTROL

Messrs. Rentokil Laboratories, Ltd, continued to carry out pest control work on behalf of the Council and this arrangement again proved to be entirely satisfactory. Complaints of rats and mice were investigated and dealt with without delay. In addition the whole of the towns sewers were test-baited and where necessary re-baiting carried out.

The number of separate premises found to be infested with rats was 76 and mice 35 and all were treated and cleared. No evidence of warfarin resistance was encountered in rats but all mice had resistance to anti-coagulants and were treated by other means such as narcotics.

A complaint was received about nuisance from feral pigeons in the New Lane—James Street area and the Divisional Pest Officer of the Ministry suggested a method of dealing with this problem. Difficulty was, however, experienced in getting the birds to feed and with the demolition of old buildings at the junction of New Lane and Market Lane it was found that many of the pigeons had moved on.

Ant infestations and wasps were also a source of nuisance particularly during the warmer weather and advice and treatments given where necessary.

HOUSING MANAGEMENT

The Health Department is responsible for the housing management duties relating to housing applications, transfers and exchanges of tenancies and supervision of the Elderly Persons Wardens.

The allocation of tenancies was made by the House-Letting Sub-Committee, the members being Cr. Mrs. Gant, J.P. (Chairman), Cr. Backhouse, Cr. Bainbridge and Cr. C. Coultish, J.P. and the Public Health Inspector.

Towards the end of the year the first of the new two-bedroom bungalows on Phase 1 of the Cockrett Lane Development began to become available and this necessitated a considerable amount of time in visiting and arranging the necessary exchanges.

The number and type of units becoming available for letting during the year was:—

4	Bedroom Type House	—	1
3	" " "	—	21
2	" " "	—	2
2	" " Bungalow	—	22
1	" " "	—	9

The total number of families re-housed from unfit houses was 15 and the number of families living in overcrowding conditions re-housed in Council accommodation was 17.

The Council appointed another Elderly Persons Warden who became resident in Dixon Gardens early in 1972 to look after the welfare of some of the elderly residents of the new bungalows and also of persons in the surrounding houses.

CONCLUSION

The work undertaken by your Health Department continued to increase during the year and this trend will continue particularly with town centre development, house improvement and further containerisation in the food industry.

It is a matter of some concern, for example, that the number of inspections of food premises was less than the number recorded in 1970 and averaged only one visit a year to some shops and it is obvious that the extra demands on time made by local government re-organisation will aggravate this situation. I feel that, wherever possible, priority will have to be given to the urgent problems as they arise and every effort will be made to ensure that there is no deterioration to the service given by my Department over the past few years. I do not consider that it is now possible to remedy this situation in view of the coming into being of the new District Council in 1974 but feel sure that members will agree that I should direct their attention to these difficulties in order to ensure that they are considered when staffing and management of the new authority is under consideration.

I would thank Miss Jackson and Mr. Dyson for their work and whole-hearted support; Dr. Lowe for her kind help, assistance and interest in the environmental problems dealt with and the Clerk and Chief Officers of the Council for their continued help and co-operation.

Finally I would again express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Health, Housing and Property Management Committee for their continuing support and understanding.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Gant and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

N. BUCKLE,

Public Health Inspector.

