

Modern Public Health

After the Boer War of 1899-1902 proved that people were unfit for military service, there was a massive change in government and the Liberal party won the election, promising to improve Public Health

The NHS continues today but with ever more strain on its finances.

Public Health Timeline

1906- Free School Meals Act. This allowed schools to provide meals to the most poor.

1908- Old Age Pensions Act. This gave provision for the poorest have some help after the age of 75.

1911 – National Insurance Act. This allowed mainly MEN in the important jobs (mining, shipbuilding, servants) access to health care if they fell ill. It also allowed for Labour Exchanges so they could find work. They paid from their wages, as did the rich and government,

1918 – Homes for Heroes This was a popular campaign to build new homes after the war to get soldiers out of the slums. It was not that successful however as slum clearances continued into the 1950s.

1946- National Health Service introduced. After the Beveridge report (1944) it was considered right that the state should help people from 'Cradle to Grave'. This led to the NHS which is 'Free at the point of delivery'. This included both men and women as well as children. At the beginning it included dentists and glasses but due to cost these were quickly dropped for adults.

Factors in improving Public Health

Government: National Government saw that people needed to have some help to get out of poverty.

War: Not having a strong army in the Boer War worried the government. 1/3 of recruits were unfit for military service. After WW2 the government needed to help ALL of the people affected by war, including the civilians injured as part of the Blitz.

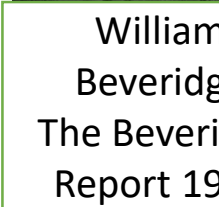
Individual Genius: David Lloyd George was vital to the Liberal reforms and the Bevan report by Beveridge called for people to be looked after from 'Cradle to Grave' to improve their standard of living and government funds.

The Liberal Reforms

These were brought in partly due to the Boer War. They were very popular and won the Liberal Party a landslide election. The 1909 People's Charter (which led to the National Insurance Bill), caused problems as the Conservative Lords refused to let it pass. This caused a political crisis, known as the constitutional crisis.



David Lloyd George
Liberal Reforms



William Beveridge
The Beveridge Report 1942



Aneurin Bevan
Creator of the NHS 1946

Opposition to the NHS

People believed it would make the poor lazy (especially the benefits) Doctors were worried they would lose money because of the loss of private patients (doctors can still work privately today because of this). People were worried by the cost