

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Merton].

Contributors

Merton (London, England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

[1967?]

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/p7taw3vt>

License and attribution

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

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. 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>



MER20

London Borough of Merton

THE HEALTH OF MERTON

1966



1966

The Annual Report of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and the PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
P. J. DOODY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION:	
Preliminary Letter	7-8
Contributors	9
Staff	10-13

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES:

General Information	14
Summary of Vital Statistics	15-16
Comparative Statistics, 1966	17
Principal Causes of Death in Ontario	17
Causes of Death	18
Infant Deaths	19
Infant Mortality	19
Perinatal Mortality	19
Maternal Mortality	19
Control of Communicable Diseases:	
Notifiable Diseases	20
Food Poisoning	20
Tuberculosis	31-32
Prophylactic Measures	25-26
General Medical Services	26
National Assistance Acts	25
Notifications of Birth	26

THE HEALTH OF MERTON

by

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES:

P. J. DOODY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.	
Maternal and Child Health:	
General	27
Anti-natal and Post-natal Services	27
Relaxation Classes	27
Premature Infants	27-28
Child Welfare:	
General	28-29
Dental Care	30
Day Nurseries	30-31
Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children	31
Congenital Malformations	31
Well-baby Foods and Vitamins	31

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING AND ALLIED SERVICES:

Health Visiting:	
Staff	32
Health Visiting Duties	32-33

CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION:	
Introductory Letter	7-8
Committees	9
Staff	10-13
GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES:	
General Information	14
Summary of Vital Statistics... ..	15-16
Comparative Statistics, 1966	17
Principal Causes of Death in Order of Frequency	17
Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life	18
Infant Deaths	19
Infant Mortality	19
Perinatal Mortality	19
Maternal Mortality	19
Control of Communicable Diseases:	
Notifications received during 1966	20
Food Poisoning	20
Tuberculosis	21-22
Prophylactic Measures	23-24
General Medical Services	24
National Assistance Acts	25
Notifications of Birth	26
PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES:	
Maternal and Child Care:	
General	27
Ante-natal and Post-natal Services	27
Relaxation Classes	27
Premature Infants	27-28
Child Welfare:	
General	28-29
Dental Care	30
Day Nurseries	30-31
Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children	31
Congenital Malformations	31
Welfare Foods and Vitamins	31
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING AND ALLIED SERVICES:	
Health Visiting:	
Staff	32
Health Visitors' Duties	32-33

	Page
Summary of Work of Health Visitors	32
Training of Health Visitors	32
Health Education	32
Midwifery:	
Staff	34-35
Introductory	35
Organisation	35
Maternity Cases Attended	35
Inhalational Analgesia... ..	35
Puerperal Pyrexia	35
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	35
Maternity Outfits	36
Medical Aid	36
Early Discharges from Hospital	36
Midwifery Training	36
Post-Graduate Courses	36
Domiciliary Visiting	36
Attendances at Clinics	37
Transfers to Hospital	37
Home Nursing:	
Staff	37-38
Organisation	38
Training of District Nurses	39
Post Graduate Courses for District Nurses	39
Cases Attended	39
Visits Made	39-40
Incontinence Pads	40
Incontinent Laundry Service	40
Marie Curie Foundation Cancer Nursing Service	40
Domestic Help Service:	
Staff	40-41
Organisation	41
Statistics	41-42
Details of Sources of Application	41
Chiropody Service	42
Ripple Bed Service	43
Sick Room Equipment	43
Recuperative Holidays	43
Cervical Cytology	43-44
Mental Health Service:	
Introductory	45

	Page
Staff	45
Mental Health Establishments	45-46
The Casework Services	46
Subnormality	47
Other Forms of Mental Disorder	48
Patients in Hospital	49
Guardianship	49
Cases Boarded Out	50
Short-Term Care	50
Social Work Section	50-51

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA:

Services under the Public Health Acts:

Water Supply	52-54
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	54
Registered Common Lodging Houses	54
District Inspection	54-56

Services under the Food and Drugs Act:

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations	58
Milk (Special Designations) (Amendment) Regulations, 1965	58
Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1963	58-59
Brucella Abortus	59
Ice-cream	59
Meat and Other Foods... ..	59
Meat Inspection	60
Food Premises	60-61
Bacteriological Examination of Equipment	61
Food Inspection	61-63
Sampling of Food and Drugs	63-69

Services under Other Enactments:

Rent Act, 1957	69
Shops Acts, 1950-1965	69
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	70-71
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	72
Pet Animals Act, 1951	72
Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963	72
Riding Establishments Act, 1964	72
Diseases of Animals Act, 1950	72
Clean Air Act, 1956	72-75
Factories Act, 1961	57-58
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	75

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
London Borough of Merton.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of Merton for the year 1966. A study of the vital statistics shows that, in general, the health of the residents has been good during the year.

Although there was an increase of live births over deaths during 1966, the Registrar-General's estimated mid-1966 population of 184,190 shows a decrease of 940 on 1965, thus continuing the trend of a falling population to which I drew attention in my Annual Report for 1965.

The live births totalled 2,865, being 34 less than the previous year, giving a live birth rate of 15.55 compared with a live birth rate for England and Wales of 17.7. Merton's live birth rate thus showed a slight decline from 15.66 in 1965.

It is pleasing to record that the number of illegitimate live births showed a fall, from 228 to 218, with a consequent fall in their percentage of live births from 8.55 to 7.61.

Deaths from all causes numbered 1,995 compared with 2,106 in 1965, and this marked fall produced a death rate of 10.83 compared with 11.14 for 1965. This gives a favourable comparison with the rate for England and Wales of 11.7.

The infant mortality rate was 15.53, compared with 18.35 for 1965. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales was 18.9.

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths showed a marked fall from 14.62 in 1965 to 11.81 in 1966, although there was a corresponding increase in the neo-natal and early neo-natal mortality rates from 10.69 and 9.69 to 12.91 and 11.52 respectively.

The perinatal mortality rate was 22.4, compared with 21.83 for 1965. This compares favourably with the rate for England and Wales of 26.3.

There were no serious outbreaks of infectious disease during the year, the incidence of measles being low, following the 'measles' year of 1965, and I am pleased to be able to report that there was no case of typhoid fever or poliomyelitis during the year.

The demand on the Home Help Service throughout the year was very heavy, and in the early part of the year there was a serious shortage of Home Helps owing to difficulties of recruitment. The situation regarding recruitment, however, improved steadily from June onwards and the target figure of 111 equivalent whole-time Home Helps was reached, and this target was raised with the approval of the Establishment Committee to 120 equivalent whole-time Home Helps at the end of the year. This was a source of considerable satisfaction, not only as an indication of the success of the recruitment drive, but also because it became possible to provide a more satisfactory service by meeting more fully the increasing demands on the service. There is no doubt that the calls on this service will continue to increase and if the demand is to be met satisfactorily a higher target figure of whole-time Home Helps will be inevitable.

The general staffing position improved so that few key posts remained unfilled by the end of the year. On the whole the Department has been fortunate in recruiting, and retaining officers of a high quality. In some Sections, notably the Public Health Inspectorate, recruitment was unsatisfactory and at the end of the year four posts of District Public Health Inspector remained unfilled. It had not been found possible by the end of the year to fill the important post of Health Education Officer, nor had the Authority been able to recruit any Pyschiatric Social Workers.

The work of consolidating the services, and planning for expansion proceeded smoothly during the year. Staff co-operation within the Department, and with other Departments and other voluntary and statutory bodies was good.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the consideration and courtesy they have shown to me during the year.

My thanks are also due to all members of the Health Department staff for the loyal and efficient manner in which they have carried out their duties during the year. I would especially like to thank Mr. Cockell, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and Mr. Atkinson, my Chief Administrative Officer, for their contributions in connection with the preparation of this Report.

I am also indebted to my colleagues in other Departments for their ready help and co-operation on all occasions.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

P. J. DOODY,

Medical Officer of Health.

COMMITTEES AT 31st DECEMBER, 1966

HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Mayor, Councillor Sir Cyril Black, J.P. D.L., M.P.

Councillor (Miss) N. K. Watts (Chairman)

Councillor G. H. Raymond (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman T. H. Metcalf

Councillors:

J. T. Botten (Mrs.) E. M. Davis A. S. Hutchin (Miss) S. Knight

G. W. A. Pearce, J.P. J. T. Pyne, J.P. W. Reay G. Waller

J. Wemms

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman of the Health Committee, Councillor (Miss) N. K. Watts
(Chairman)

Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee, Councillor G. H. Raymond
(Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

J. T. Botten (Mrs.) E. M. Davis A. S. Hutchin

G. W. A. Pearce, J.P. W. Reay G. Waller

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman of the Health Committee, Councillor (Miss) N. K. Watts
(Chairman)

Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee, Councillor G. H. Raymond
(Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

A. S. Hutchin (Miss) S. Knight W. Reay G. Waller

Co-opted members:—

Representative of the Local Medical Committee (Dr. R. A. Arthur).

Representative of the S. W. Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board
(Dr. R. K. Freudenberg).

TOWN CLERK

Sydney Astin (Solicitor)

WHOLE-TIME STAFF

(As at 31st December, 1966)

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer	P. J. Doody, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Principal School Medical Officer ...	W. D. Swinney, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Senior Medical Officer ...	M. D. Susman, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officers and School Medical Officers ...	June P. Cooper, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.Obst. R.C.O.G., D.C.H., D.P.H. Maria J. Freeman, M.B., B.S., L.M.S.S.A. Ann E. R. Gonet, M.B., B.S. (commenced 15.8.66) W. James, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (commenced 4.4.66) J. F. Kelly, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H. L. W. McNamara, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. Elizabeth Pryce-Jones, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H. Joan P. Tom, M.B., B.S., D.C.H.
Chief Dental Officer ...	M. T. Gibb, L.D.S., R.C.S.
School Dental Officers ...	S. Adorjan, M.D. (U.Vienna), L.D.S., R.C.S. Elizabeth W. Beaver, B.Ch.D. (Leeds). Wanda T. Kojder, B.D.S. (Lond.), L.D.S., R.C.S. H. W. Freeth, L.D.S., R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Dental Auxiliary ...	Mrs. G. V. Gliddon
Chief Public Health Inspector ...	G. H. Cockell, F.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector ...	G. E. Hayne, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
Superintendent Health Visitor...	Miss P. M. Richards, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Superintendent of Midwifery and Home Nursing Service ...	Miss B. R. Lamberg, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., M.T.D.
Home Help Organiser ...	Miss M. J. Faraday
Chief Administrative Officer ...	W. Atkinson, D.P.A., Cert. S.I.B.
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer ...	J. R. Richardson, A.R.P.H.H.
Senior Mental Welfare Officer...	F. T. Rainer, Dip.Soc. Science.
Deputy Senior Mental Welfare Officer ...	F. J. Gerring
Mental Welfare Officers ...	F. C. Dorrington S. G. H. Worrall Mrs. H. Yates, S.R.N., Cert. in Applied Social Studies

Mental Health Social Worker ...	Mrs. F. M. Coleman, Dip.Soc. Studies & Soc. Admin.
Senior Social Worker ...	Mrs. M. A. Tripet, S.R.N., H.V. Cert.Dip. Soc.Studies (commenced 7.12.66)
Social Worker ...	Mrs. A. Martin, B.A. (Hons.), H.O. Training Certificate
Supervisor, Junior Training Centre ...	Mrs. M. Barlow, Dip.N.A.M.H.
Educational Psychologist ...	Miss D. Waldeck, B.A. (Liverpool), Dip. N.A.M.H. (Lond.)
Psychiatric Social Worker ...	Mrs. A. Litauer, Mental Health Diploma, London, Social Science Diploma, London
Speech Therapist ...	Miss G. M. Charles, L.C.S.T. (commenced 5.9.66)

PART-TIME STAFF

(As at 31st December, 1966)

Chest Physicians	...	J. M. Hill, M.D., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. E. Sanders, M.D., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. F. J. H. Walters, M.D., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Consultant Psychiatrist	...	R. K. Freudenberg, M.D., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.M.
Ophthalmic Surgeons	...	M. H. Malik, M.B., B.S., D.O. (Eng.), F.R.C.S. (commenced 22.11.66) M. C. Shah, L.M.S.S.A.
Orthopaedic Surgeon	...	G. Hadfield, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.R.C.S. (Eng.)
Child Psychiatrists	...	D. Rumney, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M. A. R. Wilson, M.A. (Oxon.), B.M., B.Ch., D.P.M.
Assistant Medical Officers and School Medical Officers	...	Cicily M. Clarke, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H. Dorothy S. Critchley, M.D., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H. Hilda C. Dean, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. E. G. Evans, M.A., M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., B.Chir. Joyce M. Havelock, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., C.P.H. Norah C. Johns, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Karen I. Parkes, M.D., M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Susan M. S. Turner, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
School Dental Officers	...	Cynthia A. Cesar, L.D.S., R.C.S., B.D.S. (commenced 27.9.66) Sheila McDonald, L.D.S. J. M. Sturman, L.D.S., R.C.S. M. G. Smith, L.D.S., R.C.S. P. Turnbull, B.D.S.
Dental Orthodontists	...	N. Upson, L.D.S., R.C.S., D.Orth. (com- menced 12.9.66) J. G. Whitelegg, L.D.S., R.C.S., B.D.S.
Dental Anaesthetists	...	W. Carpenter, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.A. Betty M. Margetts, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H. Iris I. Grant-Adams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. K. B. McKay, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. R. G. Smith, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.A., D.Obst.R.C.O.G.

Dental Auxiliary	...	Mrs. V. Hibbert
Speech Therapists	...	Mrs. S. J. Gold, L.C.S.T. Miss P. J. Lewis-Owen, L.C.S.T. (commenced 12.9.66)
Audiometrician	...	Mrs. M. Dean, S.R.N.
Physiotherapists	...	Mrs. A. G. Ockleshaw, M.C.S.P. Mrs. T. Puddifoot, M.C.S.P. Mrs. V. Kelly, M.C.S.P.
Social Workers	...	Mrs. M. C. Hudson, Dip. in Sociology Miss E. M. Smith, S.R.N., S.C.M., Dip.Nsg. Mrs. I. Boag, M.A., A.I.M.S.W.
Medical Social Worker	...	Mrs. S. N. Coles (commenced 13.1.66)

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

General Information

Area of Borough in acres	...	...	...	9,739
Number of private dwellings (1961)	...	...	...	59,482
Number of private households (1961)	...	...	...	64,219
Rateable value, at 1st April, 1966	...	...	...	£11,104,727

Actual product of a penny rate:—

1965-66	...	...	...	...	£44,204
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---------

Estimated product of a penny rate:—

1966-67	...	...	...	...	£44,675
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---------

Population:—

Census figure (1961)	...	...	...	...	186,647
----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---------

Registrar-General's Estimate of Population	1966	1965
at 30th June	184,190	185,130

Summary of Vital Statistics

					1966	1965
Live Births—						
Legitimate: Males					1368	1336
Females					1279	1335
					2647	2671
Illegitimate: Males					104	120
Females					114	108
					218	228
Totals					2865	2899
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population					15.55	15.66
Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population					16.17	16.29
Illegitimate live births—percentage of total live births					7.61	8.55
Still Births—						
Legitimate: Males					19	17
Females					9	23
					28	40
Illegitimate: Males					4	3
Females					—	—
					4	3
Totals					32	43
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 live and still-births					11.81	14.62
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 population					0.17	0.23
Total live and still-births					2897	2942
Infant Mortality (Deaths of infants under one year of age)—						
Legitimate: Males					27	29
Females					12	21
					39	50
Illegitimate: Males					5	3
Females					1	1
					6	4
Totals					45	54
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births					15.53	18.35
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births					14.73	18.73
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births					27.52	17.54
Neo-Natal Deaths (Deaths of infants in first 28 days of life)					37	31
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate					12.91	10.69
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants in first week of life per 1,000 live births)					11.52	9.69
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still-births plus deaths in first week of life per 1,000 live and still-births)					22.44	21.83
Total loss of infant life (Still-births plus infant deaths) per 1,000 live and still-births					26.58	24.22
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)					3	2
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still-births					1.04	0.68
Deaths					1995	2106
Death Rate per 1,000 population					10.83	11.14
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population					10.83	11.14

	1966	1965
Deaths from Bronchitis per 1,000 population ...	0.57	0.65
Deaths from Pneumonia per 1,000 population ...	0.57	0.65
Deaths from Cancer of lung and bronchus per 1,000 population ...	0.76	0.68
Deaths from other forms of Cancer per 1,000 population ...	1.69	1.81
Marriages ...	1481	1480
Marriage Rate per 1,000 population ...	8.0	8.0

1966 1965

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population
Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population
Illegitimate live births—percentage of total live births
Still Births—

Legitimate: Males
Legitimate: Females

Illegitimate: Males
Illegitimate: Females

1966 1965

Totals

Self-birth Rate per 1,000 live and still-births
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 population
Total live and still-births

1966 1965

Infant Mortality (Deaths of infants under one year of age)—

Legitimate: Males
Legitimate: Females

Illegitimate: Males
Illegitimate: Females

1966 1965

Totals

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births

1966 1965

Neo-Natal Deaths (Deaths of infants in first 28 days of life)

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants in first week of life per 1,000 live births)

1966 1965

Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still-births plus deaths in first week of life per 1,000 live and still-births)

1966 1965

Total loss of infant life (Still-births plus infant deaths) per 1,000 live and still-births

1966 1965

Maternal Deaths (including abortion)
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still-births
Deaths
Death Rate per 1,000 population
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population

Causes of Death at different Periods of Life in the London Borough of Merton during 1966

CAUSE OF DEATH	AGE GROUP AND SEX														TOTALS								
	Under 4 weeks		4 Wks. & under 1 year		1 to 5 years		5 to 15 years		15 to 25 years		25 to 35 years		35 to 45 years			45 to 55 years		55 to 65 years		65 to 75 years		75 years and over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Tuberculosis: Respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	4	1	-	-	7	1	
Tuberculosis: Other forms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	-	-	2	3	
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Malignant neoplasm: Stomach	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	9	1	10	8	4	8	-	-	26 17	
Malignant neoplasm: Lung, bronchus ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	1	35	9	41	11	26	7	-	-	-	114 28	
Malignant neoplasm: Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	5	-	18	-	11	-	6	-	-	-	43	
Malignant neoplasm: Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	7	
Other malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	3	10	11	23	21	38	31	30	37	-	103 105	
Leukaemia: Aleukaemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	6 5	
Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	4	2	3	-	-	-	-	7 4	
Vascular lesions of nervous system	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	-	4	8	13	16	26	35	38	91	-	85 150	
Coronary Diseases: Angina	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	23	8	73	19	87	58	74	103	-	-	266 188	
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	6	5	2	9	-	-	-	11 14	
Other Heart Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	6	7	14	13	38	87	-	-	60 112	
Other Circulatory Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	10	3	12	16	20	54	-	-	-	45 74	
Influenza	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	1 4	
Pneumonia	3	-	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	7	10	29	43	-	-	-	45 62	
Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	3	2	12	3	36	9	25	13	-	-	76 30	
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	1	2	6	-	-	-	6 8	
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	6 2	
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	2	3	1	3	-	-	7 8	
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	2	2	3	-	-	-	5 7	
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	9 -	
Pregnancy: Childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
Congenital Malformations	4	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	10 3	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	22	8	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	1	6	4	11	10	13	16	14	35	72 77	
Motor Vehicle accidents	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	8	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	1	1	2	2	1	-	18 4	
All other accidents	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	3	2	2	3	-	2	4	6	-	12 14	
Suicide	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	-	4	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	-	11 8	
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
ALL CAUSES	29	8	3	5	5	2	4	1	12	6	5	6	26	13	79	53	212	128	313	244	322	519	1010 985

Comparative Statistics, 1966

	Merton	England and Wales
<i>Rates per 1,000 Population :</i>		
Live births	15.55	17.7
Deaths (all causes)	10.83	11.7
Respiratory tuberculosis	0.04	0.04
Cancer of lung and bronchus	0.76	0.56
<i>Rates per 1,000 live and still births :</i>		
Still births	11.81	15.3
Maternal mortality	1.04	0.26
Perinatal mortality	22.44	26.3
<i>Rates per 1,000 live births :</i>		
Infant mortality—deaths of infants under 1 year	15.53	18.9
Neo-natal mortality—deaths of infants in first 28 days of life	12.91	12.9

Principal causes of Death in order of Frequency

Out of 1,995 deaths occurring during the year 1,821 were attributable to the undermentioned principal causes:—

	No. of Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths from all causes.
1. Heart Diseases	651	32.6
2. Cancer	454	22.7
3. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	235	11.7
4. Other defined and ill-defined causes	149	7.4
5. Other Circulatory Diseases ...	119	5.9
6. Pneumonia	107	5.3
7. Bronchitis	106	5.3

INFANT DEATHS (Under 1 year)

Principal certified causes of death	Age at Death									Total
	Under 24 hours	Days				Months				
		1- 7	8- 14	15- 21	22- 28	1- 3	3- 6	6- 9	9- 12	
Prematurity	12	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Congenital Malformations ...	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4
Bronchopneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	7
Birth Injuries	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Other causes	4	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	10
Totals	20	14	2	-	-	6	3	-	-	45

INFANT MORTALITY

Of the 45 infant deaths, 34 occurred in the first seven days of life. None of these was delivered at home.

The infant mortality rate of 15.53 and the neonatal mortality rate of 12.91 per 1,000 live births compare satisfactorily with the respective rates of 18.9 and 12.9 for England and Wales.

PERINATAL MORTALITY

The perinatal mortality rate for Merton was 22.44 per 1,000 live and still-births thus comparing favourably with that for England and Wales of 26.3.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were three maternal deaths during the year all of which occurred in hospital. Details of these deaths are given below:—

Age at death.	Cause of Death.	Remarks.
1. 20 yrs.	Toxaemia: Septic infection of uterus, following illegal instrument abortion.	Spinster: defendant convicted of manslaughter.
2. 26 yrs.	Amniotic fluid embolism.	Married woman: died after delivery of twins.
3. 37 yrs.	Gas gangrene infection due to septic abortion.	Spinster: insufficient evidence of circumstances. Open verdict.

CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Notifications received during 1966

(Corrected Notifications)

Disease	Age Groups of Cases Notified									Total
	Under 1	1- 2	3- 4	5- 9	10- 14	15- 24	25- 44	45- 64	65 & over	
Measles	33	208	262	323	15	5	5	—	—	851
Scarlet Fever	—	4	9	23	6	3	—	—	—	45
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	2	2	5	4	4	18
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	7
Whooping Cough	8	20	19	24	2	—	1	—	—	74
Dysentery	1	—	2	19	11	2	4	—	—	39
Tuberculosis (Resp.):										
Males	—	—	2	—	—	6	8	7	5	28
Females	—	1	1	3	—	3	8	3	1	20
Tuberculosis (Non-Resp.):										
Males	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Females	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	3
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	3	11
Food Poisoning	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	4
Totals	42	234	295	397	36	27	35	22	14	1102

An outbreak of sonné dysentery occurred at the Junior Training Centre in June in which 34 children and six members of the staff were found to be infected, and further cases were found among the families of the children concerned. The London Borough of Sutton assisted in the investigation of this outbreak and more than 400 specimens were taken. As a result of this outbreak, it was found necessary to close the Centre for a month.

An outbreak of diarrhoea occurred at 'Half Way House', 10 Church Path, providing temporary accommodation for families dealt with by the Welfare Services Department. An investigation was carried out which revealed that the organism was of non-specific type and there was no further infection.

Two cases of infective hepatitis occurred in a Mitcham school during the year and the opportunity was taken to assist the Epidemiological Research Laboratory in their investigation into the prophylactic effect of gamma globulin in infective hepatitis. Eleven children were given injections with the parents' consent, and 25 children acted as 'controls'. No further cases occurred.

FOOD POISONING

Four cases of food poisoning were confirmed during the year. These comprised two cases of salmonella typhimurium, one case of salmonella derby, and one case of salmonella oranienberg.

The one case of salmonella derby occurred in a schoolchild and proved most persistent. Specimens were taken over a period of nine months before the infection was cleared.

TUBERCULOSIS

There are three chest clinics serving the Borough. All are based at Cumberland Hospital, Mitcham. At these clinics the Tuberculosis Health Visitors assist the Chest Physicians, and help and advise the patients. They do Mantoux tests and follow-up contacts on patients who fail to attend. During 1966 the case load of Tuberculosis Health Visitors was as follows:—

Tuberculous cases	...	...	...	...	617
Lung carcinoma cases	...	...	...	...	37
Other cases (bronchitis, bronchiectasis, etc.)	...	...	...	...	42

The new cases examined at the Chest Clinics in 1966 are analysed in the table below:—

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Total
	M	F	Under 15 yrs.	M	F	Under 15 yrs.	
Diagnosed Tuberculous	20	11	5	1	—	—	37
Non Tuberculous	419	275	95	—	—	—	789

Domiciliary Visiting

Home visiting is very important. Chest patients have many queries and difficulties which the Tuberculosis Health Visitor helps to solve, and she also gives advice on matters of hygiene and the essential examination of contacts. The number of tuberculosis households visited during the year was 567.

Details of domiciliary visiting by Health Visitors are given below:—

Visits in connection with old cases	...	981
Visits in connection with new cases	...	34
Visits in connection with contacts	...	142
Total	...	1157

B.C.G. Vaccination

During the year B.C.G. inoculation of school children in the thirteen-year-old age group was carried out:—

Number of children skin tested	...	1774
Number found negative	...	1640
Number vaccinated with B.C.G.	...	1631

No children with positive skin tests were known to be contacts with notified cases of tuberculosis.

One hundred and eleven of the children with positive skin tests were X-rayed. No case of active disease was found.

Incidence and Death Rates per 1,000 Population

During the year the following notifications of Tuberculosis were received:—

		Males.	Females.
Respiratory	28	...	20
Non-respiratory	2	...	3

The death rates per 1,000 population were 0.04 respiratory and 0.005 non-respiratory, the same as those for England and Wales.

The death rates for 1965 were 0.07 respiratory and 0.000 non-respiratory.

Mass X-Ray

The Mass Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board, in addition to providing a regular service for general practitioners, carried out surveys on industrial sites, and sessions were held for the general public. The service is of great value in the early diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis and non-tuberculous abnormalities.

The results are tabulated below:—

	Number X-rayed		Pulmonary T.B. found		Primary Lung Cancer found	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
General Practitioner Service	979	742	5	1	10	4
Public and Industrial Sessions	6,211	5,645	4	7	8	2
Totals	7,190	6,387	9	8	18	6

Deaths

There were eight deaths from respiratory tuberculosis during the year. The table of causes of death on page 18 gives an analysis by age and sex.

After-Care of the Tuberculous

The Authority makes an annual grant of £100 to each of the three T.B. Care Committees working within the Borough, to aid them in the much appreciated work which they carry out in connection with the after-care of the tuberculous.

PROPHYLACTIC MEASURES

The table below gives details of initial protection given by the use of prophylactics against diphtheria, smallpox, whooping cough, poliomyelitis and tetanus:—

Disease against which protection given	Number of primary courses given						Total
	Year of Birth					Others under 16 years	
	1966	1965	1964	1963	1959/62		
Diphtheria ...	1,058	1,224	67	30	55	33	2,467
Whooping Cough...	1,058	1,225	67	30	35	12	2,427
Poliomyelitis (By injection) ...	2	14	2	2	3	1	24
Poliomyelitis (Oral)	346	1,637	178	81	121	36	2,399
Tetanus ...	1,058	1,224	67	30	163	110	2,652

The continuing need for immunisation and vaccination is brought home to the public at large by the use of leaflets, posters and displays, and by the teaching of the Health Visitors at the clinics and in the course of their district visits.

Reinforcement Measures

In addition to the above measures of primary protection the following numbers were given re-inforcement doses:—

Diphtheria ...	4721
Whooping Cough ...	1934
Poliomyelitis ...	1170
Tetanus ...	3781

Poliomyelitis

At the end of the year, 82,616 persons had completed a full course of immunisation since the scheme began in 1956. The age distribution of these completed cases is given below:—

Persons born 1943-66 ...	54,529
Persons born 1933-42 ...	15,791
Others ...	12,296
Total ...	82,616

Fourth Injection

At the end of the year 20,232 children, aged not less than five years and not more than 13 years, had received a fourth dose either by injection or by the oral method.

Smallpox

The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated against smallpox, in the various age groups during the year:—

	Age at Time of Vaccination							Total
	0-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9 months -1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-15 years	
Number vaccinated ...	11	12	10	35	1,575	280	107	2,030
Number re-vaccinated ...	—	—	—	—	—	11	230	241

Percentage Index as supplied by Ministry of Health on 19.6.67:—

	Children born in 1965			Smallpox (Children Under 2)
	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Poliomyelitis	
England and Wales ...	72	73	68	38
London Borough of Merton ...	78	78	70	56

Venereal Diseases

The table below is compiled from figures supplied by the clinics at St. Helier Hospital, Croydon General Hospital, the London Hospital and the Middlesex Hospital.

Number of patients resident in Merton and treated for the first time in 1966:—

	Male	Female	Total
Gonorrhoea ...	18	9	27
Syphilis ...	2	3	5
Other conditions ...	97	122	219
Totals ...	117	134	251

GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES

During the year the medical staff carried out 779 medical examinations of staff for superannuation purposes. Twenty-three examinations were also carried out on staff, absent from work owing to sickness, to ascertain their fitness to return to duty.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS

The Medical Officer of Health and his Deputy, are authorised by the Council to act under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, or, in conjunction with a general practitioner under Section 1 of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, in connection with the removal to hospital or other suitable accommodation of persons suffering from grave chronic disease, or persons who are aged and infirm and living in insanitary conditions, and who are not receiving proper care and attention.

During the year two applications were made for Orders for removal under Section 47 of the 1948 Act, and one application for an Order was made under Section 1 of the 1951 Amendment Act, for removal to hospital of the persons concerned.

In no case was it necessary to apply for an extension of the Order.

Notifications of Birth

The table below gives details of all births notified during the year occurring in the home, or in Institutions, and gives the total number of births finally attributable to Merton after outward transfer of births attributable to other Authorities. This figure of attributable notified births does not necessarily coincide with the number of attributable registered births supplied by the Registrar-General.

	Domiciliary Births						Institutional Births						Total Births					
	Live		Still		Total		Live		Still		Total		Live		Still		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Births notified as occurring in Merton	214	198	1	1	215	199	1242	1203	18	8	1260	1211	1456	1401	19	9	1475	1410
Births occurring outside Merton attributable to Merton (Inward Transfers)	1	4	—	—	1	4	745	682	14	8	759	690	746	686	14	8	760	694
Total of all births notified ...	215	202	1	1	216	203	1987	1885	32	16	2019	1901	2202	2087	33	17	2235	2104
Births occurring in Merton attributable to other Authorities (Outward Transfers)	3	1	—	—	3	1	685	679	11	7	696	686	688	680	11	7	699	687
Total births attributable to Merton	212	201	1	1	213	202	1302	1206	21	9	1323	1215	1514	1407	22	10	1536	1417

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

MATERNAL AND CHILD-CARE

General

Maternal and Child Care Services are operated in nine purpose-built Clinics, and five hired halls throughout the Borough.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Services

Six ante-natal Clinics are held each week at Clinics in the area, at which an Assistant Medical Officer and a Health Visitor are in attendance. At these ante-natal Clinics cases are booked for subsequent hospital confinement. Post-natal sessions are also held on these occasions.

In addition seven ante-natal sessions are held by midwives for patients booked for domiciliary confinement.

Relaxation and mothercraft classes are held throughout the Borough at which health education on a personal basis is carried out by health visitors and midwives.

Attendances at the ante-natal clinics during the year were as follows:—

Number of women who attended for ante-natal examination ...	427
Number of women who attended for post-natal examination ...	36

There were 334 midwives' clinic sessions at which 571 women attended. The total number of attendances was 2,999.

Relaxation Classes

Ante-natal relaxation classes are held weekly by health visitors and midwives at the following clinics: Amity Grove, Church Road, Grand Drive, Middleton Road, Morden Road, Russell Road, Wide Way. The numbers of women who attended were:—

(a) Booked for hospital confinement ...	353
(b) Booked for domiciliary confinement ...	65
Total ...	418

The total number of attendances was 2,107.

Premature Infants

The total number of premature infants born in the area during 1966 was 198.

Nineteen premature infants died during 1966. This means that 9.6% of the 198 premature infants born during the year died within a year. Only 1.0% of full-term babies died before reaching the age of one year.

Premature Infants Born at Home—

Weight at Birth	Born at home and nursed entirely at home			Born at home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Grand Total
	Total	Died within 24 hrs of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs of birth	Survived 28 days	
2 lb. 3 oz. or less	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 2 lb. 3 oz. up to and including 3 lb. 4 oz.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz.	3	—	3	1	—	1	4
Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz.	2	—	2	1	—	1	3
Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz.	18	—	18	2	—	2	20
Totals	23	—	23	4	—	4	27

CHILD WELFARE

General

The Local Authority holds Infant Welfare Centres at the fourteen premises listed below. Nine of these are purpose-built, the remainder are hired for the weekly clinic session.

The Toddlers' Clinics provide a service very similar to the School Health Service. The child receives a detailed medical examination and a full range of specialist services are available, including the special clinics provided by the Education Service. Children can be referred to the Child Guidance Clinic, and the visiting Consultant is available to discuss individual problems with medical and nursing staff. These Toddlers' Clinics are an important factor in establishing the means whereby the developmental progress of children may be carefully observed both prior to entry to school and later in their progress through school life.

Infant Welfare Centres being operated at the end of the year were as follows:—

Amity Grove Clinic West Wimbledon	Monday Friday	2-4 p.m. 10-12 a.m.
Cavendish Road Clinic Colliers Wood	Monday Friday	1.30-3.30 p.m. 9.30-11.30 a.m.
Church Road Clinic Mitcham	Wednesday Thursday	1.30-3.30 p.m. 1.30-3.30 p.m.
Churchill Hall* Effra Road, S.W.19	Tuesday	2-4 p.m.

Emmanuel Hall*	Thursday	2-4 p.m.
Lingfield Road, S.W.19		
Grand Drive Clinic	Monday	10-12 a.m. and
Raynes Park		2-4 p.m.
	Wednesday	10-12 a.m.
Meopham Road Clinic	Wednesday	1.30-3.30 p.m.
Mitcham		
Middleton Road Clinic	Tuesday	2-4 p.m.
Morden	Friday	2-4 p.m.
Morden Road Clinic	Tuesday	2-4 p.m.
Merton	Thursday	2-4 p.m.
Pelham Road Clinic	Tuesday	2-4 p.m.
Wimbledon	Friday	2-4 p.m.
St. Barnabas Hall*	Tuesday	1.30-3.30 p.m.
St. Barnabas Road, Mitcham		
St. John's Hall*	Thursday	9.45-11.45 a.m.
High Path, Merton		
St. Luke's Hall*	Friday	2-4 p.m.
Strathmore Road, S.W.19		
Wide Way Clinic	Monday	1.30-3.30 p.m.
Mitcham	Thursday	9.30-11.30 a.m.

Toddler sessions are held, by appointment, at Western Road School Clinic and at all of the above excepting Churchill Hall, Emmanuel Hall and St. John's Hall.

* Denotes hired premises.

Attendances at Infant Welfare Centres

Name of Centre	Total No. of Sessions	First Attendances				Total Attendances including Firsts
		Born In			Total 1961-66	
		1966	1965	1961-64		
Amity Grove ...	129	306	174	196	676	6,031
Cavendish Road	99	179	223	130	532	4,069
Church Road ...	104	299	238	236	773	4,497
Churchill Hall ...	52	127	114	168	409	4,031
Emmanuel Hall	49	112	91	100	303	2,027
Grand Drive ...	148	298	109	466	873	7,946
Meopham Road	52	81	68	98	247	2,082
Middleton Road	102	155	134	139	428	3,060
Morden Road ...	120	167	217	246	630	4,369
Pelham Road ...	101	289	213	265	767	5,921
St. Barnabas Hall	51	230	228	146	604	4,709
St. John's Hall ...	52	72	62	134	268	2,260
St. Luke's Hall...	51	148	91	138	377	3,002
Wide Way ...	100	188	226	143	557	3,718
Totals ...	1,210	2,651	2,188	2,605	7,444	57,722

A total of 7,444 children attended during the year.

Attendances at Toddlers' Clinics

First Attendances			Total Attendances	Total Sessions (All Clinics)
Born In		Total 1961-66		
1966	1965	1961-64		
—	10	544	554	80
			965	

Dental Care

The number of dental sessions devoted to inspection and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age has been doubled during 1966. The preventive nature of the treatment of the pre-school children is well illustrated by the fact that, although the number of fillings done for this group increased during the year from 557 to 998, the number of extractions fell slightly from 87 to 84.

The increased demand by parents for conservative treatment for these young children may be due, one likes to think, to increased efforts made in the field of dental health education.

	Examined	Commenced treatment	Completed course of treatment
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	60	48	51
Children under 5	567	276	345

	Scaling and gum treat- ment	Fil- lings	Silver Ni- trate treat- ment	Cr'ns and Inlays	Ex- trac- tions	Gen- eral Anaes- thet- ics	Dentures		X- Rays
							Full	Part	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	46	97	—	1	21	3	5	4	24
Children under 5 ...	238	998	168	—	84	46	—	—	—

Day Nurseries

The Authority had, at the end of the year, two Day Nurseries in operation providing accommodation for 85 children under the age of five years.

Admissions are made under the following categories of priority:

First Priority—Where the mother is the sole wage earner.

Second Priority—Where there is sickness in the family, or where home conditions exist which are likely seriously to prejudice the health of the child.

Third Priority—In exceptional cases, where, upon consideration of individual circumstances, it appears to the Council that admission is necessary in the best interests of the child.

The following table shows the places available and the average daily attendance at each nursery:—

Nursery	No. of places 0-2 years	No. of places 2-5 years	Total number of places	Average daily attendance
All Saints Day Nursery ...	12	34	46	43.35
Middleton Road Day Nursery ...	9	30	39	30.72

At the end of the year there were eighteen private day nurseries registered under the Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, with a total of 453 places. In addition there were 5 daily minders on the register.

Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children

Thirty-nine cases were admitted to various Homes during the year. Close co-operation is maintained between the various Homes and the Authority in order to secure the follow-up of the infants.

Congenital Malformations

The following malformations were notified during the year:—

Central nervous system	...	...	14
Eye, ear	...	...	3
Alimentary system	...	...	4
Respiratory system	...	...	1
Uro-genital system	...	...	9
Limbs	...	...	20
Other skeletal	...	...	4
Other malformations	...	...	1
Total	...	...	56

Welfare Foods and Vitamins

National Dried Milk and vitamins were available at all Infant Welfare Centres with the exception of Pelham Road Clinic, and also at Russell Road Clinic and the W.R.V.S. Centres in Merton and Mitcham.

Sales for the year 1966 are shown below:—

National Dried Milk	...	...	22,760 tins
Cod Liver Oil	...	...	3,490 bottles
Vitamins 'A' and 'D'	...	...	3,798 packets
Orange Juice	...	...	60,187 bottles

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING AND ALLIED SERVICES

HEALTH VISITING

Staff

At the end of the year, the staff position was:—

- 1 Superintendent Health Visitor.
- 1 Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor.
- 28 Whole-time Health Visitors/School Nurses.
- 2 Part-time Health Visitors/School Nurses.
- 1 Part-time Geriatric Health Visitor.
- 1 Whole-time Tuberculosis Health Visitor.
- 2 Part-time Tuberculosis Health Visitors.
- 1 Part-time Tuberculosis Visitor.
- 2 Student Health Visitors.

Two Health Visitors including the Deputy Superintendent were promoted to senior posts with other Authorities during the year. One Health Visitor left the Service to go abroad with her husband.

The new Deputy Superintendent was appointed from the Authority's own Health Visiting staff, and the vacancies which arose during the year, including one additional post on the establishment, were filled by the sponsored Student Health Visitors, all of whom had been successful in qualifying as Health Visitors.

Two Student Health Visitors were recruited during the year, who commenced training in September, 1966.

There were no staffing difficulties in the Health Visiting service during the year.

Health Visitor's Duties

During the year the emphasis by Health Visitors in their work was on consolidating their position as members of the Health Team in the new Borough, rather than on rapid expansion of their duties. As always, home visiting was of paramount importance, and increasingly it was found that the Health Visitor was able to introduce colleagues from other Sections and Departments into homes where difficulties were beginning to arise, and where help in time prevented irrevocable damage.

There was considerable increase in co-operation between workers in allied fields of work, which led to better help for families with problems, and to much less overlapping of effort. By the end of the year, the great mobility of the Borough's population and the increasing number of immigrants with language difficulties, made great demands on the skill and understanding of the Health Visitors in this area.

The attachment to general practitioners has gone forward smoothly, and by the end of the year there were two full-time attachments to general practitioners and one part-time one. The patients definitely benefited by the united approach to their needs and no disruption whatsoever was caused to the Local Authority's Services. Each of the

attachments was to a Group Practice. The three Health Visitors on attachments were based at their own clinics, and visited the general practitioners' patients, instead of visiting patients in a geographical area of the Borough. Each Health Visitor ran one Infant Welfare Centre weekly from the general practitioners' surgeries.

When visiting homes the Health Visitors encouraged mothers to make use of the Infant Welfare Centres of the Authority, and also to attend special sessions, such as Toddlers' Clinics and Parentcraft Classes, and especially to keep their appointments for Audiology, explaining how important it is to assess any hearing loss at a very early age.

In this Borough, all the local hospitals notify their ante-natal bookings to the Health Department, which gives the Health Visitors the opportunity of early visiting of expectant mothers and explaining the services to them and advising them on any difficulties they may have. During the year Mothercraft Classes were well attended and the film 'To Janet a Son' was shown several times in the evening to expectant mothers and fathers at Church Road Clinic. The film was followed by discussion and talks. This session was always well attended and similar ones were planned for another part of the Borough in the future.

It is the Health Visitor's duty to note at the first visit to a new baby, whether or not the child is 'at risk'. The children 'at risk' have special observation, both at home visits and at the time of attendances at a Clinic or Centre, and are offered regular check-ups to assess their progress. The number of children who attended Toddlers' Clinics increased during 1966, and it is hoped to extend this service in future.

The average case-load of each General Health Visitor is as follows:—

Under 1 year.	1 to 5 years.	Total under 5 years.	Number of families.
94	406	500	340

The number of old people visited in their homes by Health Visitors during the year was 367 compared with 369 in 1965. It was noted that many of those seen were in urgent need of practical help as well as friendly visiting, and these Health Visitors' visits were very valuable for assessment purposes. It is with this age group, above all, that good co-operation between Health Visitor, General Practitioner, District Nurse, Home Help and other statutory and voluntary departments is essential to ensure that the very best service is available for the patients' welfare.

The Geriatric Health Visitor works both in Merton and in Sutton. Her duties are mainly in connection with patients who have been in the Geriatric Unit at St. Helier Hospital, and with the patients who attend the Day Centre attached to that hospital. She does, however, pay any special geriatric visit that she is asked to do, and also visits some of the widows or widowers of patients who have died in St. Helier Hospital. Her case-load in Merton during the year was 160.

The details of work carried out by Tuberculosis Health Visitors and the Tuberculosis Visitor are shown under the heading 'Tuberculosis' on page 21.

Training of Health Visitors

Health Visitors in the Borough took many students for training or for observation purposes during the year. Some of these were Health Visitor Students attached for fieldwork from various centres of training but others were staff from nursing and allied services.

'In-Service' training of Health Visitors was continued during the year. Three Health Visitors had post-graduate refresher courses, three undertook training as Fieldwork Instructors, and three attended week-end courses in Psychoprophylaxis to enable them to take classes for ante-natal mothers on 'Preparation for Childbirth'.

In addition Health Visitors attended several one-day or half-day conferences on subjects of special interest.

Summary of Work of Health Visitors

The following table shows the number of cases in the various categories visited by the Health Visitors in 1966:—

Category.	Number of cases visited.
Children born in 1966	3,175
Children born in 1965	3,185
Children born in 1961/4	8,868
Total, 1961-1966	15,228
Persons aged 65 and over	367
Mentally disordered persons	276
Total	15,871

Attendances at Clinics and Centres—

No. of attendances at Welfare Centre Sessions	2,100
No. of attendances at Ante-natal and Post-natal clinic sessions	333

Health Education

This essential aspect of the Health Services was continued by Health Visitors during the year, principally by means of teaching groups which the Health Visitors hold in schools, talks which are given to outside organisations, and the use of leaflets, posters and displays in clinics and other public buildings.

In addition to Mothercraft Classes for ante-natal mothers, there were Parentcraft Classes for mothers and their children. This is a worthwhile service as there are many lonely young mothers in the Borough and it helps them to meet other mothers and children since many organisations do not welcome noisy children and the mothers are too shy to go. Parentcraft also helps the 'only children' and those who spend most of their days in flats. Health Visitors were often asked to speak or join in discussion groups with outside organisations.

MIDWIFERY

Staff

At 31st December, 1966, the staff consisted of:—

1 Non-medical Supervisor of Midwives.

10 Whole-time District Midwives.

The day-to-day supervision of the Midwifery Service is carried out by a Non-medical Supervisor of Midwives, who is also appointed as Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service, although the services are operated separately.

Introductory

On the whole, the national trend of falling domiciliary confinements, and an increase in planned early discharges from maternity hospitals, in particular 48 hours after confinement, was again apparent during 1966.

Organisation

It has been found practicable to retain as three midwifery areas the districts of Wimbledon, Merton and Morden, and Mitcham, and to have one group of midwives working in each area. A rota system is in operation which ensures sufficient sleep and rest for midwives between shifts, which is particularly important if a high standard of patient care is to be ensured.

Three midwives are housed at the Nurses' Home, Kings Road, Wimbledon, one is housed at 'The Croft', Commonsides East, Mitcham, one in a flat leased from the Greater London Council, and the remaining five live in their own homes.

All midwives, except one who uses a bicycle, use either their own cars or a car supplied by the Authority.

Maternity Cases Attended

There were 415 domiciliary confinements reported and 2,538 hospital confinements during the year. This shows a reduction of 41 on the figure for 1965. Midwives employed by the Authority attended 411 cases (409 where a doctor was booked and two where no doctor was booked) of the 415 domiciliary cases.

Inhalation Analgesia

All the Authority's midwives are qualified to administer inhalational analgesia (trilene, gas and oxygen, gas and air) in accordance with the rules of the Central Midwives Board.

During the year district midwives administered inhalational analgesics to mothers as follows:—

Gas and air—87. Gas and oxygen—148. Trilene—126.

By the end of the year all the remaining 'Minnit' nitrous oxide and air machines had been replaced by 'Entonox' nitrous oxide and oxygen machines.

Puerperal Pyrexia

Seven cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified, five of which were hospital cases.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

No case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified during the year.

Maternity Outfits

A free issue of maternity outfits is made in accordance with Ministry of Health instructions, namely, to those patients whose confinement will be conducted under the National Health Service arrangement. These are issued by midwives to their patients.

Medical Aid

Medical aid was summoned by midwives in 101 domiciliary cases including 92 cases where the general practitioner had arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service Act. The Authority was liable for the payment of the practitioners' fees in the other nine cases.

Early Discharges from Maternity Hospitals

The numbers of discharges from hospital before the tenth day of puerperium were as follows:—

48 hours after confinement	238
Other discharges before the tenth day ...	155
Total	393

This shows an overall increase of 42 on those for 1965.

Midwifery Training

During the year negotiations were concluded with St. Teresa's Maternity Hospital for Second Period Training of pupil midwives from that hospital on the Authority's district, and the approval of the Central Midwives' Board was obtained to these arrangements under which not more than four pupils may be accepted on the district at any one time. The first pupils from St. Teresa's Hospital commenced district training in December.

As a result of these arrangements with St. Teresa's Hospital the arrangement with Epsom District Hospital under which four pupils had previously been received on the district for training was varied to provide for not more than two pupils from Epsom.

At the beginning of the year, five midwives were approved as Teaching District Midwives by the Central Midwives' Board, and a further two of the Authority's midwives were so approved during the year.

Post-Graduate Courses

Three midwives attended post-graduate courses in accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board, and three midwives attended week-end seminars in Psychoprophylaxis.

Domiciliary Visits

The following visits were carried out by midwives to their patients, other than attendance at the actual confinement:—

Visits during the ante-natal period ...	2,965
Post-natal visits to home confinements ...	5,511
Post-natal visits to 48-hour and other early discharges from hospital	2,765
Total	11,241

Attendances at Clinics

Three hundred and thirty-four ante-natal clinic sessions were held by midwives during the year, and 571 women attended these clinics for the first time. The total number of attendances at midwives' ante-natal clinics was 2,999.

Transfers to Hospital

The undermentioned patients booked for domiciliary confinement were transferred to hospital:—

(a) During pregnancy	...	...	...	6
(b) During labour	...	...	...	11

Co-operation with General Practitioners

Discussions were held during the year on the desirability of general practitioners and district midwives seeing their mutual ante-natal patients at the same time. Due to the large number of general practitioner obstetricians in the area and the relatively small number of midwives, only a very limited scheme can be contemplated.

Maternity Liaison Committee

The Medical Officer of Health continued to act as Chairman of the St. Helier Group Maternity Liaison Committee which ensures co-operation of the hospital, general practitioner and local health authority maternity services.

HOME NURSING

Staff

On 31st December, 1966, the staff consisted of:—

- 1 Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service.
- 1 Deputy Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service.
- 33 Whole-time Home Nurses (female)—S.R.N. and District Trained.
- 1 Whole-time Home Nurse (male)—S.R.N. and District Trained.
- 2 Part-time Home Nurses (female)—1 S.R.N. and District Trained.
1 S.R.N. not District Trained.
- 3 Whole-time Home Nurses (female)—S.E.N. not District Trained.
- 3 Part-time Nursing Auxiliaries (female).

The overall picture in regard to the recruitment of Home Nurses during the year was satisfactory. Most vacancies were filled fairly soon after they occurred. It should be pointed out, however, that most Home Nurses employed by the Authority are married and have children. These nurses have either returned to nursing after bringing up a family, or they employ someone to look after their children whilst

they are at work. The familiar spinster nurse, who devoted her life to nursing is disappearing fast, and so is the traditional bicycle which carried her from patient to patient. In the interests of efficiency, a largely motorised transport service is the aim, and this, in effect, is operative in this Authority.

The only disadvantage to the Service, so far as the married nurse is concerned, which gave rise to considerable staff shortages throughout the year, is the frequency of requests for maternity leave which, when granted, is of a total duration of 18 weeks.

Since the amalgamation of the three former areas of Wimbledon, Merton and Morden, and Mitcham into this Borough, it has become clear that one male nurse would be required for each area if a satisfactory service were to be given. It is not generally realised that very heavy patients, whom female nurses are unable to lift, and where the introduction of a mechanical hoist for lifting purposes is not possible, are often able to remain in their own homes solely because they are attended by a male nurse. The recruitment of male nurses is difficult since they are often married with families and require living accommodation in the area where they work. The provision of accommodation for married male nurses is receiving the attention of the Authority.

Two additional part-time Nursing Auxiliaries were added to the establishment during the year, making a total of four part-time Nursing Auxiliaries on the establishment. In-service training is given to these Nursing Auxiliaries by an experienced Home Nurse and the Superintendent or Deputy Superintendent satisfies herself, in each case, that the Auxiliary is competent to carry out her work unsupervised before actually doing so.

The Superintendent was absent, due to illness, from June until the end of December, and until late in the year it had not been possible to fill the vacant post of Deputy Superintendent. A considerable burden of responsibility, therefore, fell on the shoulders of Miss Richards, the Superintendent Health Visitor, who, in addition to her own duties, had temporarily to assume responsibility for the supervision of the Midwifery and Home Nursing Service.

Organisation

The Borough is divided into eight areas of differing population and size, and each area is staffed by a group of Home Nurses. Requests for the services of a Home Nurse are principally referred by general practitioners. These are taken mainly by telephone at the Health Department and are passed to the nurse concerned on the same day.

Gradual changes are taking place in the type of nursing required in the patient's own home, as well as in the type of nurse supplying the service.

Home Nursing centres more and more around the elderly, infirm and chronically sick patient, very often living alone. Sixty-seven per cent of all patients receiving home nursing are over the age of 65 years.

There is an increasing demand for attention to personal hygiene of the elderly no longer able to carry out this for themselves. Skilled nursing care is not required in the majority of these cases. In order to meet this increasing demand, a Nursing Auxiliary Service was established within the Borough last year. So far, the Nursing Auxiliaries employed are female and work on a part-time basis. They have no nursing qualifications as such, but are chosen for this work because they have a genuine desire to help people, and are judged to be acceptable persons to enter patients' homes as well as being capable of carrying out the work required. Transport to and from patients' homes is either by bicycle or public transport. This service is much appreciated by the patients; the Auxiliaries themselves appear to have job satisfaction and the Home Nursing Service can devote its time and skill to its proper function of caring for the sick in their own homes, rehabilitation, supporting patients' relatives, advising them and teaching them simple procedures they can carry out in the nurse's absence.

Training of District Nurses

This Authority is approved as a training area for the practical part of the District Nurse training, leading to the Queen's Institute District Nursing Certificate. Students attend the Queen's Institute Headquarters in London for their theoretical instruction.

Three nurses were seconded for training during 1966 and all passed their examinations.

Post-Graduate Courses for District Nurses

Nine nurses attended Refresher Courses during the year. Six were residential courses of one week's duration, and three were non-resident courses of one day's duration.

Cases Attended

The table below gives details of the number of cases on the books at the beginning and end of the year, the cases added and disposed of during the period and the age groups into which they fall:—

Age group	Cases on books at 1.1.66	Cases added	Cases removed	Cases on books at end of period
0-5 years	3	26	27	2
5-64 years	165	732	762	135
65 years and over ...	620	1,237	1,218	639
Totals	788	1,995	2,007	776

The total number of cases attended during the year was 2,783.

Visits Made

The following table shows the total number of visits made each month:—

January	...	...	7,867
February	...	...	7,318
March	...	...	8,201
April	...	...	7,578
May	...	...	7,728
June	...	...	7,666
July	...	...	7,486
August	...	...	7,715
September	...	...	8,098
October	...	...	8,047
November	...	...	8,464
December	...	...	8,027
Total			94,195

Marie Curie Foundation Cancer Nursing Service

This Authority acts as agents for the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation who bear all the costs of the Day and Night Sitting Service supplied locally to any cancer patient being nursed at home and in need of additional care, especially night attendance. This service is staffed by qualified nursing staff and unqualified staff, and the appropriate person is sent to each case. The service is run locally through the Home Nursing Service.

The aim of this service is mainly to relieve relatives from night nursing duties to enable them to get sufficient sleep and rest in order to continue the often strenuous task of looking after a really sick patient, particularly when he or his family wish the relative to remain at home until the end.

The Authority also operate the Foundation's Area Welfare Grant Scheme under which extra comforts may be supplied to a cancer patient at the expense of the Marie Curie Foundation.

Incontinence Pads

The Authority continued the practice of issuing incontinence pads at the request of the general practitioner or nurse in attendance.

Those patients who use these pads are provided with tarred paper containers for disposal of the soiled pads through the refuse collection service.

Incontinent Laundry Service

In conjunction with a neighbouring Authority, a collection and delivery service of draw sheets is arranged, twice weekly, to patients who have been recommended by a District Nurse.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

Staff

At 31st December, 1966, the staff consisted of:—

- 1 Home Help Organiser.
- 1 Senior Assistant Home Help Organiser.
- 2 Assistant Home Help Organisers.

- 2 Clerks.
- 1 Full-time Home Help.
- 197 Part-time Home Helps.

Organisation

Recruitment was more successful than during the previous year and 34 part-time Home Helps were engaged. At the same time the demands on the service also increased, but it was, of course, easier to help the applicants. There is still, however, a shortage of Home Helps.

Little progress was made under the Neighbourly Help Scheme, as most neighbours in a Borough where there is plenty of industry are already working.

Statistics

The following table gives details of the numbers and types of cases attended by Home Helps during the year:—

Categories of Cases.

	Cases on books at 31st Dec., 1965	Cases on books at 31st Dec., 1966	Total cases dealt with during 1966
Chronic Sick and Aged	819	966	1,237
Tuberculosis	9	16	17
Acute Illness	35	19	128
Maternity	4	2	101
Totals	867	1,003	1,483

As in previous years the demands of the aged category have absorbed the greatest proportion of the increased help available, the number of current cases in this category on 31st December, 1966, being 966.

Details of Sources of Applications in 1966

General Practitioners	481
Hospitals	254
Health Visitors	15
Home Nurses	1
Welfare Services	5
Blind Welfare	2
Maternity Bookings	152
Others	11
	921

The Organiser and the three Assistant Organisers have paid 815 first visits and 2,423 re-visits to homes in connection with the service.

HOURS WORKED BY HOME HELPS

	Chronic Sick and Aged	T.B.	Acute	Maternity	Payments under Neighbourly Help Scheme £ s. d.	Total hours worked
January ...	14,605	172	465	395	41 5 0	15,637
February ...	12,463	179	314	771	31 0 0	13,727
March ...	12,972	170	317	655	34 0 0	14,114
April ...	15,631	194	283	704	41 10 0	16,812
May ...	14,172	252	366	245	33 0 0	15,035
June ...	12,952	196	403	199	33 0 0	13,750
July ...	15,468	290	751	363	37 5 0	16,872
August ...	12,409	222	549	286	30 0 0	13,466
September ...	12,985	196	370	248	33 0 0	13,799
October ...	19,407	310	517	441	41 5 0	20,675
November ...	16,295	258	429	428	33 2 0	17,410
December ...	17,878	289	662	261	47 15 0	19,090
Totals ...	177,237	2,728	5,426	4,996	436 2 0	190,387

CHIROPODY SERVICE

The Council's chiropody service caters for the elderly, the registered blind or partially sighted, the physically handicapped and expectant and nursing mothers. It comprises two separate schemes:—

(a) The Direct Scheme whereby application is made to the Medical Officer of Health and authority is given, to those eligible, to have a fixed number of treatments carried out by any chiropodist on the Council's panel.

(b) The Indirect Scheme whereby treatment is arranged by Voluntary Organisations. A number of old people are taken for treatment by members of these voluntary organisations whose work is greatly appreciated.

Under either scheme, treatment can be given in the patient's home if a doctor certifies that the patient is unable to travel.

The number of people receiving treatment under the service is increasing steadily and is likely to continue to do so. In the twelve months ended 31st December, 1966, 967 new applications for treatment were received.

The following table gives figures for the Direct Scheme:—

Category	Persons treated in 1966	Number of treatments given	Number on books at 31.12.66
Elderly	2,725	16,008	2,502
Registered Blind or Partially Sighted ...	38	123	19
Physically Handicapped	66	421	63
Expectant Mothers	3	2	1
Totals	2,832	16,554	2,585

RIPPLE BED SERVICE

Ripple beds (air beds having a mechanically induced rhythmic undulation designed to prevent bed sores), are available on loan to patients of the Home Nursing Service at the request of a doctor or Home Nurse. The beds are hired from the suppliers and 62 such loans were made in the year.

SICK ROOM EQUIPMENT

There are three Medical Loan Depots, one each in Merton, Mitcham and Wimbledon. Loans of medical equipment are made to residents in the Borough on request from the family doctor or from a Home Nurse. Owing to the heavy demand loans are reviewed every three months.

The depots are staffed on a voluntary basis by members of the British Red Cross Society.

The Society have supplied the details given in the table below of issues of sick room equipment during the year:—

Item	Total loans	Item	Total loans
Air rings	95	Cradles	44
Bed rests	107	Crutches	24
Bed pans	162	Feeding cups	16
Bed tables	14	Waterproof sheets	109
Invalid chairs	145	Urinals	69
Commodore	155		

RECUPERATIVE HOLIDAYS

Under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act 1946, the Authority is empowered to provide a recuperative holiday for persons needing it to complete or assist in their recovery to normal health, but who do not need organised medical or nursing care.

A recommendation from a medical practitioner is necessary. A number of Homes in Surrey and on the south-east coast are used, the holiday being usually for two weeks. Sixty-three such holidays were arranged in the year.

Cervical Cytology

With effect from 4th July in conjunction with the St. Helier Hospital Pathology Department a screening service for the taking of smears from well women commenced in the Borough. The number of smears to be dealt with at the inception of the scheme for the Borough was ten per week, and the service will expand as the Pathology Department of the Hospital is able to provide increased facilities for the examination of these smears.

This service was made available to women of all ages and in most cases the Pathologist requested a repeat smear after one year. In October of this year a memorandum was sent by the Ministry of

Health to Local Health Authorities, Regional Hospital Boards, and Local Executive Councils, expressing the hope that Local Health Authorities, hospital and general practitioner services would co-operate in developing screening services for cancer of the cervix. In this memorandum the Minister indicated that the service should be confined to persons of 35 years and over, and that repeat smears should be taken at five-yearly intervals.

SICK ROOM EQUIPMENT

The Society have supplied the details given in the table below of issues of sick room equipment during the year:—

Item	Issues	Total Issues
As above	44	44
Bed room	24	24
Bed room	100	100
Bed room	20	20

RECREATIVE HOLIDAYS

Under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act 1946, the Authority is empowered to provide a recreational holiday for persons needing it in connection with their recovery from mental illness. The following details are given of the number of persons to whom such holidays have been granted during the year:—

Item	Issues	Total Issues
As above	44	44
Bed room	24	24
Bed room	100	100
Bed room	20	20

The following details are given of the number of persons to whom such holidays have been granted during the year:—

Under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act 1946, the Authority is empowered to provide a recreational holiday for persons needing it in connection with their recovery from mental illness. The following details are given of the number of persons to whom such holidays have been granted during the year:—

Cervical Cytology

This service was made available to women of all ages and in 1964 the Pathology Department requested a report under the year. In October of this year a memorandum was sent by the Ministry of Health to Local Health Authorities, Regional Hospital Boards, and Local Executive Councils, expressing the hope that Local Health Authorities, hospital and general practitioner services would co-operate in developing screening services for cancer of the cervix. In this memorandum the Minister indicated that the service should be confined to persons of 35 years and over, and that repeat smears should be taken at five-yearly intervals.

Item	Issues	Total Issues
As above	44	44
Bed room	24	24
Bed room	100	100
Bed room	20	20

MENTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

Introductory

The daily supervision of these services is delegated to a Senior Medical Officer, who is assisted on the mental health aspects by a Senior Mental Welfare Officer and on the other social work aspects by a Senior Social Worker.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Staff

At 31st December, 1966, the staff position was:—

- 1 Senior Medical Officer.
- 1 Senior Mental Welfare Officer.
- 1 Deputy Senior Mental Welfare Officer.
- 3 Mental Welfare Officers.
- 1 Mental Health Social Worker.

Dr. R. K. Freudenberg, the Physician-Superintendent of Netherne Hospital, acts as part-time Consultant Psychiatrist to advise the Authority on aspects of the Mental Health Services.

Training of Staff

One Assistant Supervisor from the Junior Training Centre was sponsored for the one-year course beginning in September leading to the Diploma for Teachers of the Mentally Handicapped of the National Association for Mental Health.

A period of in-service training over a period of eight weeks was organised by the Mental Health and Social Work Section of the Department. One afternoon each week was devoted to talks and seminars. This was well attended, not merely by the social work staff of the Department, but by social workers from other Departments of this Authority, and by social workers employed by neighbouring Authorities.

Mental Health Establishments

During the year, the 20-place Special Care Unit built by the Mitcham Round Table in the grounds of the Junior Training Centre, Bordesley Road, Morden, was officially opened. This unit has made it possible to provide day care for physically handicapped subnormal children, and the twelve places in the Junior Training Centre reserved for special care cases are now released for normal Training Centre places, bringing the total number of places for Junior Care to 95—Special Care Unit 20, and Junior Training Centre 75.

From June, arrangements were made for the Authority's sub-normal persons over the age of 16 years to be transferred from Surrey County Council's Adult Training Centre, 'Bentley', Banstead, to a Training Centre in the grounds of the Manor Hospital, Epsom. This was rendered necessary since Surrey County Council had a large waiting list of their own cases awaiting admission.

By arrangement with Surrey County Council the transfer was to be a phased process to avoid upheaval. This necessitated the coaches, for some time, visiting both the Manor Hospital and Bentley Adult Training Centre.

By the end of the year 13 trainees had been transferred to the Centre at the Manor Hospital.

THE CASEWORK SERVICES

These Services are operated by both Mental Welfare Officers, and Mental Health Social Workers, with the general aim of the prevention, care and after-care of mental illness.

During the year, 486 cases were referred to the Mental Health Section for their attention and 381 were in the category requiring community care at the end of the year.

Progressively, a larger proportion of the subnormal and severely subnormal have been transferred from the care of Health Visitors to the Mental Health Section, but in no case has this been automatic. The best interests of the subnormal person and his or her family have been the first consideration.

SUBNORMALITY

1. Cases in Community Care

At the end of the year 204 patients, as shown below, were in the community care of the Authority:—

Category of patient	Under 16 years		16 years and over		Total		Grand Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Subnormal patients receiving routine home visits	11	7	20	22	31	29	60
Severely subnormal patients receiving routine home visits	33	24	51	36	84	60	144
Totals	44	31	71	58	115	89	204
Patients included in above figures who are attending Junior or Adult Training Centres	28	18	29	17	57	35	92

2. Special Care Unit

The table below gives details of the number of attendances at the Special Care Unit during the year:—

	Merton	Sutton	Wands'th	Total
No. of children attending on 1.1.66	8	5	—	13
No. of children attending on 31.12.66	9	6	2	16
No. of attendances made during year	953	517	50	1,520

3. Junior Training Centre

In May of this year 14 Merton children in the age group 9-16 years were withdrawn from the Intermediate Training Centre at Sutton, and 14 Sutton children in this age group were transferred from the Merton Junior Training Centre to their own Centre at Sutton. This will ensure that all Merton children have continuity of observation and training up to the age of 16 years, in Merton's own Centre.

The table below gives details of the attendances at the Junior Training Centre during the year:—

	Merton	Sutton	Total
No. of children in attendance on 1.1.66	24	38	62
No. of children in attendance on 31.12.66	40	17	57
No. of attendances made ...	3,681	3,851	7,532

The attendances at the Special Care Unit and the Junior Training Centre fell, compared with 1965. This was accounted for by the fact that the premises were closed for one month on account of an outbreak of sonne dysentery.

4. Adult Training Centre

At the end of the year 26 males and 20 females were receiving training either at Surrey County Council's Centre at Banstead or at the Manor Hospital Day Centre at the Manor Hospital, Epsom. Details are given below:—

	Males	Females	Total
No. attending Banstead Centre	22	11	33
No. attending Manor Hospital	4	9	13
Total No. receiving training	26	20	46

The process of transfer from the Banstead Centre to the Manor Hospital Centre is to be completed during the early part of 1967.

OTHER FORMS OF MENTAL DISORDER

1. Cases dealt with by Mental Welfare Officers

During the year 292 cases were referred to Mental Welfare Officers for attention.

One hundred and ninety-one patients were admitted to Mental Hospitals through the Mental Health Service. Details of these admissions are given below:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted informally	26	40	66
Admitted under Section 25 (for observation)	13	9	22
Admitted under Section 26 (for treatment)	1	7	8
Admitted under Section 29 (for observation in case of emergency)...	32	43	75
Admitted under Section 60 (by the Courts)	—	1	1
Admitted under Section 136 (in conjunction with Police) ...	9	10	19
Totals	81	110	191

These figures do not include a large number of informal admissions arranged directly by general practitioners, or admitted informally through Psychiatric Out-patient Clinics. The informal cases listed above are only those where the Department has rendered assistance, and are probably but a fraction of the total number of informal admissions from the Borough.

Whilst the total number of admissions to hospital has increased, it is worth noting that the number of informal admissions has also increased. Every effort is made to ensure that patients are admitted informally, and where this is not possible, under Section 25 or 26 of the Mental Health Act. However, the emergency admissions for observation are not always within the control of Mental Welfare Officers who are sometimes merely in a position of being called upon to arrange transport to hospital, since the application for emergency admission is made by relatives. There are cases clearly where the doctor might take more advantage of the domiciliary visits by hospital consultants or approved doctors to ensure that no patient is deprived of his or her liberty merely on one medical recommendation. It must be appreciated, however, that the admissions under Section 29 of the Mental Health Act sometimes take place at night or at week-ends, and there are occasions when it is difficult, if not impossible, for a consultant to be available, and the number would not appear to be unduly high. The need for reducing the number of emergency admissions is borne in mind. It is encouraging to see the steady increase of informal admissions indicating that the Mental Health staff have had the opportunity of dealing with calls for help in the early stages.

Mental Welfare Officers continue to receive ready co-operation from other Sections of the Department, particularly Health Visitors, District Nurses and Public Health Inspectors, the School Health Service and the Home Help Service. Close contact is also fostered between

the Mental Health Service and the Education, Welfare Services, and Children's Departments.

Especial thanks are due to the Metropolitan Police, who make an after hours emergency service possible. Doctors requiring the duty Mental Welfare Officer out of office hours telephone the Police who refer them to the appropriate Mental Welfare Officer.

2. Patients receiving Community Care

Fifty-five male and 122 female patients were being provided with community care by the Authority, at the end of the year.

The supervision of mentally ill persons within the community is carried out by Mental Welfare Officers and Social Workers and covers a very wide range of activities. This may be to assist patients with their material problems, or in supporting them through bouts of depression, or periods of more serious illness where admission to hospital is being avoided. Some of these are chronic cases and could not survive in the community otherwise. It is in this sphere that the Mental Welfare Officer often has the care of elderly people and the chronically ill.

In all activities associated with community care a close liaison is maintained with the general practitioner and with hospital staff, wherever possible.

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL

It is known from records maintained by the Mental Health Section, that 238 Merton patients are in long-term care in hospitals for the subnormal and severely subnormal.

It is hoped that the actual number of long-term cases in hospitals for subnormal and severely subnormal patients will in fact decrease progressively over the years, but this decrease will be dependent upon alternative facilities being available outside the hospital service. The Ministry of Health are of opinion that no child who does not need nursing care should be admitted to a hospital for the subnormal. It is appreciated that in many cases there is acute hardship and there are also social reasons why a child who is handicapped may have to be cared for away from his own home, for a while at least. The question of educating the community, including many of those closely associated with the care of subnormal children, is necessary to enable them to realise that a child's needs may be met outside the hospital setting in some cases. The challenging work of providing care in the community may only be carried out when supported by suitable facilities. There is also a need for vacancies to be made available for short-term care and ample opportunities for parents to avail themselves of the opportunities. Many parents, although anxious and willing to care for their child in their own homes are subject to many stresses and strains, and should be given opportunities to re-charge their energies, both mental and physical.

GUARDIANSHIP

There are no cases under guardianship in the Borough.

CASES BOARDED OUT

The Authority, at the end of the year, was making financial provision for the boarding-out of eight patients. A particularly close liaison is maintained with the two Cheshire Foundation Homes in the district, and in addition to giving supervision to the Merton cases in residence there, the Authority has undertaken supervision of patients from other Authorities accommodated there, when requested to do so.

SHORT-TERM CARE

During the year, the Authority provided periods of short-term care in 15 cases, compared with eight cases in 1965. This is an illustration of the increased demand made for facilities when their availability is known to those families in need.

SOCIAL WORK SECTION

At the end of the year the staff position was:—

- 1 Senior Social Worker.
- 1 Whole-time Social Worker.
- 3 Part-time Social Workers.
- 1 Part-time Social Worker (joint appointment with St. Helier Hospital Management Committee).

The Section continued in its role of rendering social work assistance to the Chest Physicians of the Chest Clinics at Cumberland Hospital.

During the year, the work connected with prevention of break-up of family life expanded. In addition to work originating from Health Visitors and the Co-ordinating Committee for the Prevention of Break-up of Families, the social casework for families in the Borough's Homeless Family accommodation was, to an increasing extent, being carried out by the Section. Notification of people under threat of eviction is now made to this Section by the Chief Welfare Officer in order that early casework may begin with the object of preventing homelessness. This side of the work will be greatly enhanced by the appointment, in the latter part of the year, of a Senior Social Worker with considerable experience in this field.

In general, it is found that this Section's caseworkers, by reason of their not being involved in emergency statutory duties, are particularly suitable for casework on families with problems. In all aspects of work, a close liaison is maintained with the Children's, Welfare Services, and Housing Departments, as well as with other interested organisations. The Senior Medical Officer acts on behalf of the Medical Officer of Health as Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee for the Prevention of Break-up of Families, on which all appropriate bodies, statutory and voluntary, are represented.

During the year, the Mental Health and Social Work Section of the Department moved to new premises in the grounds of Mitcham Court which has rendered an effective merger of these two social work sections possible. This has led to a greater degree of co-operation than had been possible in the past, to the benefit of all concerned.

Social Casework

During the year, 135 families with problems were referred to the Section from the various statutory and voluntary bodies.

There was a certain amount of movement during the year, and various cases were closed, or referred to other Departments, leaving, at the end of the year, a case load of 81 families with problems.

Throughout the year, patients attending the Chest Clinics at Cumberland Hospital were referred by the Chest Physicians for domiciliary visits to help with social and financial problems. The case loads in this category were fairly consistent, and at the end of the year the case load was 122.

The average number of cases carried throughout the year was 203.

SERVICES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Water Supply

The Metropolitan Water Board and the Sutton District Water Company are responsible for the supply of water to the Borough and regular periodic examinations are made by their Engineering Departments on examinations are also exchanged with adjoining Local Authorities who are supplied by the Sutton District Water Company.

With a few exceptions all the dwelling-houses within the Borough are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses but the actual number of houses is not available. A number of industrial premises have an additional supply of water from their own deep wells. There are seven caravan yards within the Borough, each with a stand-pipe supplying mains water.

I am indebted to the Director of Water Supply, Metropolitan Water Supply Board for the following information regarding the supply from that authority is concerned:—

(a) The supply was satisfactory both as to quality and quantity throughout 1966.

(b) The supply was derived from the River Thames through the Southern Group of pumping stations and no new supplies of supply were initiated.

1,815 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and 156 samples for chemical analysis. The results were satisfactory and where fluoride content occurred it was found to be naturally occurring fluoride in the water.

(c) The supply being hard in character is more likely to be

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

The surroundings in which we live can have a profound effect upon our health and development. The elimination of unhealthy conditions is what is known today as Environmental Health. Fundamentally the function of the Public Health Inspector is to secure compliance with legislation designed to protect and promote the health of the community. Environmental Health closely concerns the day-to-day life of the people, and it is a service which must be provided by the local authority and its officers who are in touch with the problems and needs of the people living in or visiting the Borough.

This part of the Annual Report deals therefore with this Environmental Health Service, and shows the efforts made to maintain an efficient service, despite continued staff shortages and staff changes.

In reviewing the work of the Public Health Inspectorate during 1966, regard has been had to Ministry of Health Circular 1/67 dated January, 1967. The statistics cover the year ended 31st December, 1966, being the first complete calendar year of the London Borough of Merton.

SERVICES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Water Supply

The Metropolitan Water Board and the Sutton District Water Company are responsible for the supply of water to the Borough and regular periodic examinations are made by these undertakings. Reports on examinations are also exchanged with adjoining Local Authorities who are supplied by the Sutton District Water Company.

With a few exceptions all the dwelling houses within the Borough are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses but the actual number of houses is not available. A number of industrial premises have an additional supply of water from their own deep wells. There are seven caravan yards within the Borough, each with a stand-pipe supplying mains water.

I am indebted to the Director of Water Examination, Metropolitan Water Board for the following information so far as the supply from that authority is concerned:—

- (a) The supply was satisfactory both as to quality and quantity throughout 1966.
- (b) The supply was derived from the River Thames through the Southern Group of pumping stations, and no new sources of supply were instituted.
1,825 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and 156 samples for chemical analysis. No fluoride was added, and where fluoride content occurred it represented the naturally occurring fluoride in the water.
- (c) The supply being hard in character is not liable to be plumbo-solvent.

- (d) All new and repaired mains are disinfected with chlorine, after a predetermined period of contact the pipes are flushed out and refilled. Samples of water are then collected from these treated mains and the mains are returned to service only after the results are found to be satisfactory. The quality control from the laboratories is carried out by means of daily sampling from sources of supply, through the treatment works and well stations, from the distribution system and through to the consumer. Any sign of contamination or any other abnormality is immediately investigated.
- (e) The Board has no record of the number of structurally separate dwellings in the area, but the population supplied direct according to the Registrar-General's estimates at 30th June, 1966, was 153,875. No houses were permanently supplied by standpipe.
- (f) There were no changes to the general scheme of supply to the Borough during 1966.
- (g) The following additions to the mains took place during 1966—trunk mains 400 yards; other mains 336 yards.

During the year 1966, samples of water were taken for bacteriological and chemical examination by the Public Health Inspectors as follows:—

Bacteriological—

Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	153
Paddling Pools	...	...	...	...	23
Dwelling houses:—					
Metropolitan Water Board	...	...	...	...	6
Well water	...	...	...	...	8
				—	14
Other premises:—					
Metropolitan Water Board	...	...	...	...	3
Sutton District Water Co.	...	...	...	...	4
Well water	...	...	...	...	3
				—	10
					200

Unsatisfactory Results—

Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	14
Paddling Pools	...	...	...	...	16
				—	30

Immediate action was taken in respect of the unsatisfactory swimming bath water and subsequent samples proved satisfactory.

Chemical—

Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	8
Dwelling houses:—					
Metropolitan Water Board	...	...	...	...	1
Well water	...	...	...	...	1
				—	2

Other premises:—

Metropolitan Water Board	...	...	1
Sutton District Water Co.	...	...	1
Well water	...	...	2
			4
			14

The chemical samples were satisfactory.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

I am advised that the arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal are adequate. There are a number of cesspools in the Borough and arrangements to empty them at intervals are made by the respective owners.

Registered Common Lodging Houses

There are no registered common lodging houses in the Borough.

District Inspection

The following is a summary of the complaints received and the visits made during the year 1966:—

Complaints received—

General disrepair and insanitary conditions	...	343
Dampness	...	304
Overcrowding	...	27
Defective drainage systems	...	46
Blocked drainage systems	...	665
Defective drainage fittings	...	42
Defective sanitary accommodation	...	84
Defective service water pipes	...	34
Absence of or defective dustbins	...	7
Accumulation of refuse, etc.	...	220
Rats and mice	...	1,309
Pigeons	...	63
Insect pests	...	379
Smoke nuisances	...	131
Noise	...	95
Smells and odours	...	178
Unsound food	...	258
Water supply	...	60
Miscellaneous	...	157
		4,402

Visits made—

General.

P.H. Act (Nuisances)	...	1,753
P.H. Act (Dwelling houses)	...	2,192
Storage of refuse	...	185
Drain testing	...	95
Choked drains	...	2,032
Other drainage work	...	901
Radioactivity	...	2
		7,160

Housing.

Housing Act (Dwelling houses)	1,579
Overcrowding	73
P. No. measurements	31
Rent Act, 1957	49
Underground rooms	7
Houses in multiple occupation	353
Improvement grants	259
Caravans	22
—	2,373

Food and Food Premises.

Milk processing dairies	94
Milk vendors	127
Ice-cream premises	348
Food factories	8
Food vehicles	362
School kitchens	61
Restaurant kitchens	639
Licensed premises	157
Bakehouses	90
Butchers	258
Wet and fried fish shops	155
Other food shops	1,136
Meat inspection	390
Unsound food	647
Sampling: Food and Drugs	217
Sampling: Milk	196
Sampling: Ice-cream	122
Sampling: Water	231
Food hygiene swabs	116
—	5,354

Clean Air Act, 1956.

Smoke control areas	10,639
Other Clean Air Act visits	478
Smoke observations	352
Air pollution recording apparatus	1,516
—	12,985

Factories Act, 1961.

Factories (powered)	233
Factories (non-powered)	17
Factories (building sites)	7
Outworkers	27
Workplaces	25
—	309

Infectious Diseases.

I.D. enquiries	272
I.D. contacts	22
Food poisoning	26
Specimens	33
Disinfection	24
—	377

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

O.S.R. general inspection offices	...	...	422
O.S.R. general inspection shops	...	...	217
O.S.R. general inspection wholesale/warehouses			13
O.S.R. general inspection catering	...	...	17
O.S.R. general inspection canteens	...	...	2
O.S.R. general inspection fuel stores	...	...	2
O.S.R. all other visits	...	...	3,613
			4,286

Insects, Pests, Rodents.

Rats and mice control	...	...	14,692
Insect control	...	...	432
Pigeon control	...	...	108
Verminous premises	...	...	37
			15,269

Animals.

Stables	...	...	24
Piggeries	...	...	4
Slaughterhouse (hygiene)	...	...	80
			108

Miscellaneous.

Hairdressers and barbers	...	...	75
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926	...	...	3
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	...	...	279
Places of public entertainment	...	...	2
Schools	...	...	9
Court proceedings	...	...	16
Public conveniences	...	...	7
Water courses	...	...	33
Shops Act, 1950	...	...	87
Pet shops	...	...	25
Miscellaneous	...	...	980
			1,516
			49,737

Result of Service of Notices

(1) Legal Proceedings.

Proceedings were instituted against the owner of a dwelling house let in mutiple occupation for failing to comply with notices served under Sections 15 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1961. The defendant, who pleaded guilty, was fined £50 on each of two summonses, and £10 10s. costs were granted.

(2) Nuisances abated and Defects remedied.

As the result of the service of verbal, written and Statutory Notices, 3,499 defects were remedied. 1,334 were in connection with the drainage of buildings; 1,049 in and around dwelling houses; 940 in connection with food premises and 176 were of a miscellaneous nature.

Factories Act, 1961—Part I

(1) Inspection for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories without mechanical power	44	17	1	—
Factories with mechanical power ...	937	233	36	1
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ...	43	32	1	—
Totals ...	1,024	282	38	1

(2) Defects found.

Particulars	Number of Defects				Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	11	12	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—					
Insufficient ...	30	16	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	63	32	—	2	—
Not separate for sexes ...	11	10	—	—	1
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork) ...	1	5	—	—	—
Totals ...	119	79	—	2	1

Factories Act, 1961—Part VIII

Outwork—Sections 133 and 134.

Nature of work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failing to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel ...	65	—	—	—	—	—
—making ...	42	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	107	—	—	—	—	—

Number of addresses received from other Councils ...	110
Number of addresses forwarded to other Councils ...	61
Number of premises where outwork was carried on at the end of 1966	158
Underground bakehouses in use at the end of the year	1

Cleansing Station

One of the occasional but important duties of a local authority is to ensure the disinfection of verminous persons and their clothing. To this end, the former Merton and Morden U.D.C. maintained a Cleansing Station at Aston Road, S.W.20. The premises formed part of a building containing slipper baths for public use, and the Cleansing Station section contained two slipper baths, and incidental rooms. A Dodwell and Dunning electric disinfector for clothing had been installed, and the whole of the premises are maintained and staffed by the Baths Manager. Although the use of the facilities may be infrequent, when the need arises in an area which does not possess these facilities, the attendant difficulties can be hard to overcome.

During the year 1966, 36 local residents and five persons from other districts received treatment for scabies or lice infestation. A fee of 30s. is payable by outside authorities for persons sent by them for treatment.

It will be necessary during the coming year to transfer staffing arrangements to the Health Department, and it is hoped to install an independent hot water supply and space heating unit.

SERVICES UNDER FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

The number of Distributors of milk in the Borough as shown by the Register kept in accordance with these Regulations is 141.

There are four dairies handling milk in bottles or sealed churns, and two pasteurising establishments, one of which also processes milk by ultra high temperature treatment.

Milk (Special Designation) (Amendment) Regulations, 1965.

Schedule 1 of the Regulations which refers to the special conditions subject to which licences to use the special designation 'Ultra Heat Treated' may be granted, were applied to the dairy processing this milk. Many enquiries were received during the year from other Councils to whom applications had been made for licences in respect of the sale of U.H.T. milk, and a number of Health Certificates were issued to the company concerned for the export of U.H.T. milk.

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963, as amended.

The following licences, which will remain in force until 31st December, 1970, have been issued under these Regulations:—

Dealers' (Pasteuriser's) Licences	...	...	2
Dealers' (Ultra Heat Treated) Licence	...	...	1
Dealers' (Pre-packed Milk) Licences:—			
Untreated milk	...	...	61
Pasteurised milk	...	...	145
Sterilised milk	...	...	116
Ultra Heat Treated milk	...	...	27

During the year 247 samples of designated milk were submitted for statutory tests. The results were as follows:—

Designation.	Satisfactory.	Void.	Unsatisfactory.
Pasteurised ...	213	—	—
Sterilised ...	27	—	—
Untreated ...	3	2	1
Ultra Heat Treated	1	—	—

The unsatisfactory sample of untreated milk failed the Methylene Blue Test. An investigation was made and a further sample taken from the same source was satisfactory.

Brucella Abortus.

No positive samples of milk were found.

Ice-Cream.

During the year 120 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:—

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	68
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	10
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	25
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	17

The Grade 4 samples were mainly of soft ice-cream. Investigations invariably proved incomplete sterilisation of apparatus or careless handling. Appropriate action was taken in each case until satisfactory samples were obtained.

Bacteriological Examination of Other Foods.

Samples of sausages, sliced cooked meat, soup powder, egg albumen (10), and jellied eels, were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for special bacteriological examination. None of the samples showed the presence of pathogenic organisms, and they were reported upon as being satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the Borough which is in private ownership. These premises which have been in use for a number of years, are old and there are many inherent defects. The layout of the premises is poor and facilities for meat inspection are inadequate. In February, 1965, the (then) Mitcham Borough Council renewed the licence for the year ending 31st March, 1966. In February, 1966, the new London Borough Council renewed the licence for the year ending 31st March, 1967, but asked other Committees who were concerned in negotiations with the licensee to expedite their completion, in order that a proposed new slaughterhouse might be constructed, and the existing premises closed. In the meantime slaughtering continued throughout 1966 daily each week (with the exception of Saturdays) and from 6 a.m. to 12 noon each Sunday. A 100 per cent meat inspection service was maintained during 1966, but it was found necessary to employ two Inspectors on Sundays towards the end of the year, to the prejudice of work on the District during the week.

During the year 14 slaughtermen's licences were issued under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958, one being a licence to slaughter under supervision.

Meat Inspection.

Carcasses inspected and condemned where necessary	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & lambs	Pigs
Animals slaughtered	296	96	300	20,680
<i>Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	1	Nil	39
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	60	Nil	47	3,335
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>				
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	Nil	Nil	406
<i>Cysticerci</i>				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to refrigeration	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The total weight of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption was 8 tons 14 cwts. 18 lbs.

Three hundred and ninety visits were made to the slaughterhouse for the purpose of meat inspection during the year.

Food Premises.

All food which is intended for sale is subject to inspection from the point of production until final sale to the consumer. Closely related to food inspection is the control of the conditions under which food is stored, handled, transported and exposed for sale, and the enforcement of satisfactory standards of hygiene. The inspection of food premises has formed an important part of the work of the Public Health Inspectors during the past year. 4,761 visits were made to premises in which foodstuffs intended for human consumption were prepared, stored or sold. A considerable amount of work was done under the provisions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, and in general it has been found that food traders are co-operative. I believe that the advice and assistance given by the Inspectors is generally well received and appreciated.

The provisional register of food premises includes the following:

Greengrocers	160
Confectioners	273
Ice-Cream premises	477
Bakers	61
Grocers and Provision Dealers	328
Butchers	104
Fishmongers/Fish Fryers	59
Milk Distributors	141
Chemists	51
Licensed premises	84

Carried forward ... 1,738

	Brought forward	...	1,738
Clubs	...	...	79
Restaurants and cafes	...	...	140
Works canteens	...	...	54
School canteens and kitchens	...	...	100
Food stalls/vehicles	...	...	33
Places of public entertainment	...	...	84
			2,228

The information required by Circular 1/67 in connection with the provision of ablution facilities, sinks and hot and cold water supplies has not yet been compiled.

The number of food premises registered in accordance with Section 16 of the Act is as follows:—

Registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream	...	470
Registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream	...	6
Registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages	...	72
Registered for the preparation or manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	...	157

The number of inspections of registered food premises during 1966 was 874.

Bacteriological Examination of Equipment.

During the year 397 swabbings of articles of equipment used in food premises and catering establishments were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:—

Article.	No. of swabs		Result.	
	taken.		Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Beer mugs and glasses	...	37	...	—
Wine and spirit glasses	...	17	...	—
Plates	...	94	...	4
Cups and beakers	...	72	...	9
Saucers	...	2	...	—
Knives	...	50	...	4
Forks	...	66	...	4
Spoons	...	58	...	5
Vending machine nozzle	...	1	...	—

In addition 17 samples of ice-cream server water were submitted for bacteriological examination, six of which were unsatisfactory.

Special visits were made to premises from which unsatisfactory swabs were taken, and the occupiers were advised upon principles of hygiene to effect an improvement.

Food Inspection.

Unsound food which is surrendered to the Health Department is destroyed at the refuse disposal works by arrangement with the Greater London Council.

Excluding meat condemned at the slaughterhouse, the following is a list of the unsound food surrendered during 1966:—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Lbs.
Canned meat	1	19	101
Canned soup	—	6	31
Canned fish	—	—	98
Canned vegetables	—	16	15
Canned fruit	1	3	7
Canned pies and puddings	—	3	82
Canned milk and cream	—	3	43
Canned spaghetti	—	—	31
Miscellaneous canned foods	—	1	87
Meat, bacon and poultry	3	3	24
Sausages	—	—	1
Fish	—	—	54
Spaghetti	—	—	15
Puddings and pastry	—	—	5
Butter, fat and cheese	—	3	76
Flour, bread and cereals	—	4	30
Pie fillings	—	3	5
Sugar, jam and syrup	—	3	105
Sage, salt and salad cream	—	1	35
Fruit and vegetable juices	—	2	67
Dried Fruit	—	3	64
Frozen foods	—	17	21
Beverages	—	1	4
Confectionery	—	5	43
Fruit and vegetables	—	2	21
Miscellaneous foods	—	1	62
	10	9	7

The number of complaints received during the year regarding unsound food was 258. These included references to extraneous matter in food and a detailed investigation was made in each case. Informal action was taken in the majority of cases, but certain of the items marked * in the following list were the subject of legal proceedings.

Foreign bodies found in loaves of bread—mould growth on wrapped bread (5); insects (2); carbon and grease (3); plastic material; wire; dirty and stale dough; flour bag labels*; foreign matter.

Biscuits infested with insects (2)*.

Milk stone in milk.

Stones and glass in bottle of milk.

Metal in bottle of milk.

Dirty milk bottles (16)*. See note below.

Mould growth in prepacked bacon*.

Slug in fried chipped potatoes*.

Mould growth on cooked chicken*.

Maggots in rolled roast lamb.

Black matter in canned braised beef.

Discolouration of canned corned beef.

Wire in smoked luncheon meat.

Rust in canned ham.

Black substance in canned luncheon meat.
 Mould growth on sliced tongue.
 Metal, fat and flour in jam tart.
 Electric cable in congress tart.
 Mould growth on custard tarts.
 Mould growth on wrapped chocolate cake.
 Maggots in packet of oat cakes.
 Mould growth in packet of puff pastry.
 Wasp in doughnut.
 Insect in pastry confection.
 Silverfish in pie.
 Coke in canned beans.
 Bandage in canned tomatoes.
 White particles in canned grapefruit.
 Fly in canned raspberries.
 Snail in blackcurrant jam.
 Bone in sausage.
 Hide and hair in sausage.
 Mould growth in packet of skinless sausages.
 Crystals in canned tuna fish.
 Paper in frozen fish finger.
 Cyst in liver.
 Mould growth in prepacked cheese.
 Metal in bar of chocolate.
 Maggot and frass in box of chocolates.
 Cigarette end in packet of roasted peanuts.
 Mould growth in packet of beef dripping.
 Mould growth in pot of relish.
 Charred paper in bottle of wine.

The number of dirty milk bottles listed above might appear to be excessive. By arrangement with other local authorities, complaints of this nature which are received by them are referred to me when the bottle has been found to have been filled at one of the establishments within the London Borough of Merton. After investigation (and after report has been made to the Health Committee when necessary) the facts are notified to the local authority concerned.

Sampling of Food and Drugs.

Samples of food and drugs are sent to the Public Analyst, Messrs. Moir & Palgrave, 16 Southwark Street, S.E.1, for examination and report. During the year 1966, 286 samples were submitted of which 236 were formal samples and 50 informal. The Public Analyst reported that of these samples, 277 were found to be genuine, and to comply with the relevant Acts, Orders and Regulations, and that nine did not so comply.

Particulars of genuine samples.

Almonds, salted	...	...	1
Anadin	...	...	1
Avomine	...	...	1
Beans, butter	...	...	1
Beef—dinner	...	...	1
minced	...	...	3
Beer, ginger	...	...	1

Brandy	...	...	...	1
Bread and butter	...	...	...	4
Breakfast food	...	...	...	1
Bronchial mixture	...	...	...	1
Butter	...	...	...	3
peanut	...	...	...	1
Cabbage, stuffed	...	...	...	1
Capriton	...	...	...	1
Carrots, canned whole	...	...	...	3
Cheese—English Cheddar	...	...	...	1
Port Salut	...	...	...	1
Caerphilly	...	...	...	1
Cherries, black canned	...	...	...	1
Chicken croquettes	...	...	...	1
Chutney, cranberry	...	...	...	1
Cinnamon, ground	...	...	...	1
Cockles in vinegar	...	...	...	1
Cocoa powder	...	...	...	1
Coffee, instant	...	...	...	1
Condiment, non-brewed	...	...	...	1
Cordial—lime and lager	...	...	...	1
raisin flavour	...	...	...	1
Crabmeat, fancy	...	...	...	1
Cream	...	...	...	1
Crispbread, rye	...	...	...	1
Crystals, orangeade	...	...	...	1
Curry powder	...	...	...	1
Custard powder	...	...	...	2
Drink—bitter lemon	...	...	...	1
blackcurrant	...	...	...	3
lemon	...	...	...	1
orange	...	...	...	5
Dripping	...	...	...	2
Ex-Lax	...	...	...	1
Flavour, almond	...	...	...	1
Fling	...	...	...	1
Flour confectionery	...	...	...	4
Fruit salad in syrup	...	...	...	1
Fruit filling, apple and blackberry	...	...	...	1
Galantine, nut meat	...	...	...	1
Gin—Booths	...	...	...	1
dry	...	...	...	1
Grapefruit in syrup	...	...	...	1
Ginger Ale	...	...	...	1
Haddock, smoked	...	...	...	1
Herbs, prepared	...	...	...	1
Honey, orange blossom	...	...	...	1
Honeycomb mould mix	...	...	...	1
Horlicks, chocolate flavour	...	...	...	1
Horseradish, creamed	...	...	...	1
Ice cream—coffee	...	...	...	1
Pineapple Royal	...	...	...	1
soft	...	...	...	10
powder	...	...	...	2

Iron and Yeast Tonic Tablets	...	1
Jam—blackcurrant	...	2
strawberry	...	2
tarts	...	1
Ketchup—tomato	...	1
tomato, salt-free	...	1
Kippers	...	1
Malt loaf, fruit and honey	...	1
Margarine	...	1
Marmalade—orange (jar)	...	1
orange (tin)...	...	1
Marzipan, Golden almond	...	1
Meat, pork luncheon	...	1
Mince meat	...	1
Mousse, lemon	...	2
Mycardol	...	1
Milk—Unspecified	...	7
Channel Island	...	7
Pasteurised	...	10
Untreated	...	3
Nite-cup	...	1
Oranges	...	1
Oil—sunflower seed	...	1
olive	...	1
Papaya nectar	...	1
Peach slices	...	2
Peas, processed	...	1
Pectin, liquid fruit	...	1
Peel, cut mixed	...	2
Piccalilli	...	1
Pineapple—canned	...	1
cubes	...	1
Poppadums	...	1
Pork pie	...	1
Potato, instant powder	...	1
Quickset	...	1
Raspberry powder	...	1
Raspberry Splice	...	1
Rennies Indigestion Tablets	...	1
Rhubarb, canned	...	1
Rice, long grain	...	1
Rum	...	2
Old Navy	...	1
Saccharine Tablets	...	1
Salad cream	...	1
Sauce—bread	...	1
parsley	...	1
Worcestershire	...	1
Sauerkraut	...	1
Sausage meat, pork	...	1
Sausage—rolls	...	5
Pork	...	7
Beef (Chipolatas)	...	1
Saveloys	...	1

Shandy, lemon	...	...	1
Slippery Elm Food	...	...	1
Soup—carton (vending machine)			1
cream of chicken	...	...	1
cock-a-leekie	...	...	1
mix	...	...	2
Spice, ground mixed	...	...	1
Sponge, butter	...	...	1
Spread—chocolate	...	...	1
sandwich	...	...	1
smoked meat	...	...	1
Squash—orange	...	...	1
pineapple	...	...	1
Steak—frying	...	...	1
minced	...	...	1
stewed	...	...	1
Sugar confectionery	...	...	52
Sulphur tablets	...	...	1
Tart—apple	...	...	1
custard	...	...	1
egg custard	...	...	1
mince	...	...	1
Thyme	...	...	1
Tomatoes, canned	...	...	1
Trimmets, Bourbon Creams	...	...	1
Trout, pate of smoked Rainbow	...	...	1
Veal, jellied	...	...	1
Vegetable and Turkey Dinner	...	...	1
Vinegar	...	...	1
Vitamin C Tablets, Sparkling	...	...	1
Vodka	...	...	1
Whisky	...	...	5
Wine—apricot	...	...	1
ginger	...	...	1
peach	...	...	1
sweet white	...	...	1
tonic	...	...	1

Particulars of non-genuine samples and action taken.

Minced beef.

Sample consisted of minced beef containing proportion of 38.8 per cent. fat to total meat, whereas proportion should not, in the opinion of the Public Analyst, exceed 25 per cent. Informal action taken to ensure improvement.

Canned Black Cherries.

Cherries in syrup and containing two ingredients. Contravention of Labelling of Food Order, 1953. Label amended.

Ice-Cream.

Sample contained 4.2 per cent. fat. Contravention of Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Regulations, 1959, which require not less than 5 per cent. fat content. Legal proceedings instituted against vendor who was fined £5 with £5 5s. costs.

Marzipan.

This contained 500 parts per million by weight of Sorbic Acid, which was not described on the label, contrary to the Labelling of Food Order 1953. Label amended.

Milk.

Sample consisted of a glass of milk purchased in a cafe. It was deficient in milk solids other than milk fat to the extent of 1 per cent., contrary to the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939. Informal action taken.

Prunes in Syrup.

This article was canned in a mixture of cane syrup and glucose syrup, and no distinction was indicated on the label, contrary to the Labelling of Food Order, 1953. Label amended.

Pork Sausages (Preserved).

The sample contained 58 per cent. meat and 8 per cent. excess rind. In the opinion of the Public Analyst pork sausages should not contain more than 4 per cent. rind, and he considered that the meat content should be at least 65 per cent. The sausages were not intended for sale to the public, and informal action was taken.

Sparkling Muscatel.

A non-alcoholic aerated mineral water, coloured and flavoured, and containing no fruit. The wording of the label was contrary to the Labelling of Food Order, 1953. Informal action taken and production discontinued.

Vinegar.

Although sold as 'vinegar', this was in fact 'non-brewed condiment' containing 2.3 per cent. Acetic Acid. The Acetic Acid content should have been 4 per cent. Appeared to be old stock, and informal action taken which stopped further sales.

The following samples were submitted for special examination:—

- Apples—1. Genuine—1.
- Bread—2. Non-genuine—2.
- Cheese cake—1. Non-genuine—1.
- Fried chipped potatoes—1. Non-genuine—1.
- Jam tart—1. Non-genuine—1.
- Luncheon meat—1. Non-genuine—1.
- Milk—8. Genuine—1; non-genuine—7.
- Roasted peanuts—1. Non-genuine—1.
- Parboiled rice—1. Genuine—1.
- Peeled tomatoes—1. Non-genuine—1.
- Wine—1. Non-genuine—1.

Further particulars regarding the 16 non-genuine samples are given below:—

Bread (1).

Complaint by purchaser; foreign matter in bread found to be stale dough, dirt and oil. Informal action taken.

Bread (2).

Complaint by purchaser; red fibres in bread found to be cord and label. Vendor prosecuted; pleaded guilty; given conditional discharge on payment of £5 5s. costs.

Cheese cake.

Complaint by purchaser; contained shreds of tobacco. Informal action taken.

Fried potato chips.

Complaint by purchaser; slug found in chips. Vendor prosecuted; fined £5.

Jam tart.

Complaint by purchaser; grey streaks in tart found to be a mixture of wheat flour, fat, and metal particles baked in pastry. Informal action taken.

Luncheon meat.

Complaint by purchaser; small piece of insulated wire found in can of imported meat. Referred to Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Milk (6).

Complaints by purchasers; dried milk solids in bottles (2); 'milk stone' derived from processing, in bottle; lime-mortar residue in bottle; mould growth in bottle; leaf tissues in bottle. Informal action taken.

Milk (1).

Complaint by purchaser; dark deposits adhering to inside of bottle found to consist of mixture of dried milk solids, vegetable debris, dirt, and mould growth. Vendor prosecuted; pleaded guilty; fined £20 with £6 6s. costs.

Roasted peanuts.

Complaint by purchaser; cigarette end alleged to have been found in packet of peanuts. Informal action taken.

Peeled tomatoes.

Complaint by purchaser; strip of cloth similar to bandage found in can; free from massive residue of tomato juice. Informal action taken.

Wine.

Complaint by purchaser; partially filled bottle of wine containing black flakes found to consist of charred paper. Informal action taken.

All food complaints are thoroughly investigated, and this includes interviews with the complainants, and with vendors; visits to places of sale, storage and manufacture or processing, and consultations with the Public Analyst and with other persons concerned. Informal action is taken when it appears impracticable to recommend legal proceedings, or when the complainant is unwilling to give evidence as to purchase. Investigation of these matters has one end in view—the prevention of a recurrence of the incident.

Other Legal Proceedings.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959—Article 27.

Three cases involving dirty milk bottles being used for delivery of milk. Defendants pleaded guilty; fined £10 with £3 3s. costs on each of three counts.

One case involving dirty one-third pint milk bottle being used for delivery of milk to a school. Defendants pleaded guilty; fined £50 with £10 10s. costs.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955—Section 2.

Loaf of bread containing label from flour sack. Defendants pleaded guilty; fined £20 with £6 6s. costs.

Portion of chicken affected with mould growth. Defendants pleaded guilty; fined £5 with £5 5s. costs.

Prepacked sliced bacon affected with mould growth. Defendants pleaded guilty; fined £10 with £5 5s. costs.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Bakehouse premises in insanitary condition, and other matters. Defendants pleaded guilty; fined £150 with £15 15s. costs.

Cafe premises in insanitary condition, and other matters. Defendants pleaded not guilty to 11 summonses; one case dismissed; ten cases proved and defendants fined £85 with £10 10s. costs.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955—Sections 2 and 8.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Food premises; two summonses relating to sale of biscuits containing insects; twelve summonses in relation to unsound food; premises in insanitary condition and other matters; quantity of food seized and taken before Magistrate. Defendant pleaded guilty; one case dismissed; fined total of £82 with £21 costs.

SERVICES UNDER OTHER ENACTMENTS

Rent Act, 1957—Certificates of Disrepair.

The following is a summary of applications dealt with during 1966:—

Applications received (Form I)	...	...	...	7
Decisions not to issue Certificates	...	...	...	1
Certificates issued (Form L)	...	...	...	1
Undertakings given (Form K)	...	...	...	5
Number of visits made	...	...	...	49

Shops Acts, 1950-65.

Shops in the Borough have been kept under observation and contraventions have been remedied. Excellent relations exist between the three Chambers of Commerce and the Department, and advice has been given both to the Chambers and to shopkeepers. Action has also been taken in respect of general closing hours, half-day closing and Sunday trading.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Work under this legislation was continued during 1966, with the specialist staff appointed for the purpose. The majority of owners and occupiers of premises which require to be registered have submitted Form OSR 1. It has been found necessary to maintain a record of unoccupied premises in order that observation may be made to ensure registration when they are reoccupied.

During cold spells in November and December, a temperature check was made of 105 premises, of which 78 were found to be above the minimum standard. Nineteen shops were slightly below the standard, and in three cases the temperature was well below. Appropriate action was taken in these cases. No office premises were found to be below the standard required.

The co-operation of employers has been most encouraging and no serious objection has been raised as to the manner in which the enforcement of the Act is being carried out.

Registrations and General Inspections.

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Registered During Year	Number of Registered Premises at end of Year	Number of Registered Premises Receiving a General Inspection During the Year
Offices	146	657	422
Retail Shops	73	1,168	217
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses ...	8	35	13
Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens	16	141	19
Fuel Storage Depots	1	8	2
Totals	244	2,009	673

Contraventions rectified.

Cleanliness	322
Overcrowding	2
Temperature	304
Ventilation	32
Lighting	23
Sanitary conveniences	268
Washing facilities	183
Supply of drinking water	3
Clothing accommodation	21
Sitting facilities	2
Floors, passages, stairs	83
Dangerous machinery guarded	42
First aid provisions	234
Abstract of Act posted... ..	339
Not registered	29
Other contraventions	16

Exemption.

One exemption (Section 46) granted for a period of two years in connection with the provision of a sanitary convenience will expire in January, 1967.

Accidents Reported and Investigated.

In offices	...	...	...	...	...	3
In retail shops	...	...	...	...	...	31
In wholesale shops and warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	6
In catering establishments open to public; in canteens, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3

The total number of visits of all kinds made by the specialist staff and by the Public Health Inspectors during 1966 was 4,304.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The following table summarises surface rodent control work which was carried out during 1966.

The inspection and treatment of sewers was undertaken in collaboration with the Borough Surveyor. Ten per cent. of the total manholes in the whole sewer system were test baited, and maintenance treatment was carried out in these, and other manholes known to be infested four times during the year. During 1966, 562 manholes were baited and only 42 showed evidence of rodent infestation.

The Department continued to deal with rodent treatment and disinfestation work in Council-owned property within the Borough.

Number of Properties inspected as a result of			Number of Properties found to be infested by		Number of premises treated including retreatments	Visits made including reinspections
Notification	Survey under Act	Total	Rats	Mice		
1,299	1,249	2,548	1,041	258	1,289	14,692

Other Pest Control Work.

During the year 1966, 379 complaints were received concerning insect pests and the following is a list of the infestations dealt with:—

Ants	...	...	...	26
Beetles	...	...	...	36
Bedbugs	...	...	...	20
Cockroaches	...	...	...	21
Fleas	...	...	...	16
Flies	...	...	...	20
Mosquitoes	...	...	...	20
Maggots	...	...	...	2
Silverfish	...	...	...	3
Spiders	...	...	...	3
Woodworm	...	...	...	1
Wasps	...	...	...	211

Where possible practical help is given by the carrying out of disinfestation work, but in certain cases reference is made to contractors who specialise in control work.

The incidence of wasps was again generalised during 1966. No charge is made for the destruction of nests, but this work can only be undertaken when the nest is readily accessible. If the number of

requests for assistance exceeds our capabilities, householders are advised as to the best, and safest, methods of destruction.

Ponds, ditches and other mosquito breeding grounds were sprayed with insecticide as found necessary, with satisfactory results.

Sixty-three complaints of nuisance or damage caused by feral pigeons were received. Pigeon traps were placed on suitable sites, giving effect to a reduction in the number of birds. The situation regarding the positive reduction in the number of pigeons is still very unsatisfactory, and it is to be hoped that a definite policy might be adopted by either London Borough Authorities collectively, or by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Twelve licences to keep Pet Shops were issued during 1966. Twenty-five visits were made to these premises to ensure compliance with the conditions attached to the licences.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.

There is one licensed animal boarding establishment in the Borough. Only cats are boarded and cared for, and the premises were inspected several times during the year.

The Riding Establishments Act, 1964.

Four applications for licences were received during the year, three of which were granted. The fourth application in respect of premises in Mitcham was not granted, the refusal being based upon the report of the Council's Veterinary Officer. The applicant did not appeal against the refusal.

Diseases of Animals Act, 1950.

No outbreaks of disease occurred within the Borough during 1966. Copies of Orders made by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in respect of outbreaks elsewhere of foot and mouth disease, swine fever and fowl pest were received. Numerous Movement Licences authorising the transfer of pigs from areas covered by Swine Fever Orders to the slaughterhouse at Mitcham, were received during the year.

Clean Air Act, 1956.

During 1966, 131 complaints were received with regard to smoke or grit emission, and the necessary observations were made and remedial action taken.

Legal proceedings were instituted against the occupier of a dwelling house situated in the area covered by the Wimbledon (No. 3) Smoke Control Order, 1963, for permitting smoke to be emitted from a chimney, caused by the burning of unauthorised fuel. The defendant, who pleaded guilty, was fined £5 with £3 3s. costs.

During 1966 also, the London Borough of Croydon appealed against the refusal of the London Borough of Merton to allow the continued burning of rubbish on a site near Hundred Acre Bridge, Mitcham Common. An Inquiry was held by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, and I was instructed to give evidence. The appeal was dismissed.

Twenty-two notices of proposal to install a furnace to which Section 3 (1) of the Act applied were received, and the installations were inspected and recorded.

In nine instances plans which were deposited for building byelaw approval showed in each case the proposed construction of a chimney. After examination of the plans, followed by discussions with the applicants, opinions upon the height of the chimneys in relation to Section 10 of the Act were sent to the Borough Surveyor.

National Survey of Atmospheric Pollution.

The Health Department maintains six single port (daily) instruments and two eight port (weekly) instruments which are sited in approved positions in the Borough. These instruments, which record smoke density and sulphur dioxide content in the atmosphere, are visited daily in the case of single port instruments and weekly in the case of eight port instruments. Recordings are standardised and the results are sent monthly to the Ministry of Technology. The two standard deposit gauges referred to in my last Report were taken out of use during the year. The average monthly results are indicated in the following tables:—

AVERAGE DAILY SMOKE CONCENTRATION
(MICROGRAMS PER CU. METRE) 1966

Site	Town Hall	Atkinson Morley Hospital	Public Baths	Sewage Works	Leopold Road School	Lombard Road	Grand Drive	Morden Primary School
Number	Wimble-don 3	Wimble-don 4	Wimble-don 5	Wimble-don 6	Wimble-don 7	Merton & Morden 2	Merton & Morden 3	Merton & Morden 6
Jan.	N	123	171	121	N	125	119	N
Feb.	N	36	75	56	N	71	54	38
Mar.	N	38	55	50	37	N	38	49
Apr.	N	19	60	63	38	N	34	38
May	50	16	26	32	29	N	27	19
Jun.	27	15	22	27	15	22	13	20
Jul.	23	11	20	24	11	19	8	18
Aug.	26	15	20	25	18	23	10	22
Sep.	50	37	48	49	40	46	26	42
Oct.	54	32	56	58	36	52	26	48
Nov.	59	51	86	87	49	77	46	58
Dec.	72	43	94	54	41	63	42	54

N indicates No Recording

AVERAGE DAILY SULPHUR DIOXIDE CONCENTRATION
(MICROGRAMS PER CU. METRE) 1966

Site	Town Hall	Atkinson Morley Hospital	Public Baths	Sewage Works	Leopold Road School	Lombard Road	Grand Drive	Morden Primary School
Number	Wimble-don 3	Wimble-don 4	Wimble-don 5	Wimble-don 6	Wimble-don 7	Merton & Morden 2	Merton & Morden 3	Merton & Morden 6
Jan.	N	236	263	254	N	139	197	N
Feb.	N	N	141	133	N	86	105	92
Mar.	N	132	143	157	123	N	127	76
Apr.	N	148	166	174	152	N	133	113
May	72	68	74	91	67	N	63	64
Jun.	68	66	74	84	65	81	57	49
Jul.	59	44	60	69	50	65	40	47
Aug.	60	60	70	77	65	82	48	58
Sep.	129	134	147	144	134	131	89	104
Oct.	114	96	129	135	111	69	76	86
Nov.	164	160	204	206	165	122	141	123
Dec.	136	120	155	102	109	83	103	91

N indicates No Recording

Smoke Control Areas.

The Clean Air Act, 1956, embodies provisions designed to reduce pollution from both industrial and domestic sources, including the creation of smoke control areas. Air pollution has an intimate effect upon people's lives and its control is, in my opinion, essential. I consider the prohibition of the use of bituminous coal, and of other smoke producing fuels, and their replacement by smokeless fuels in the form of manufactured solid fuel, gas and electricity, and, under certain approved conditions, oil fuel, to be one of the greatest environmental improvements of our time. The Council has already approved a scheme to cover the Borough with Smoke Control Orders by 1975, and this work is proceeding steadily. The position on 31st December, 1966, was as follows:—

Wimbledon Smoke Control Orders—

- No. 1 1962 Operative date 1.12.63.
- No. 2 1962 Operative date 1.6.64.
- No. 3 1963 Operative date 1.10.64.
- No. 4 1963 Operative date 1.7.65.

Merton and Morden Smoke Control Orders—

- No. 1 1961 Operative date 1.10.62.
- No. 2 1961 Operative date 1.10.62
- No. 3 1962 Operative date 1.10.63.
- No. 4 1963 Operative date 1.10.64.
- No. 5 1963 Operative date 1.10.64.
- No. 6 1964 Operative date 1.10.65.
- No. 7 1965 Operative date 1.10.66.

Mitcham Smoke Control Orders—

- No. 1 1963 Operative date 1.12.63.
- No. 2 1963 Operative date 1.11.64.
- No. 3a 1964 Operative date 1.11.65.

L.B. of Merton Smoke Control Orders—

No. 1 1965	Operative date 1.10.66.
No. 2 1965	Operative date 1.11.66.
No. 3 1966	Operative date 1.10.67.
No. 4 1967	Operative date 1.10.67.
No. 5 1966	Order made 19.10.66 and awaiting confirmation.
Area No. 6	Under survey.
Area No. 7	Under survey.

The area of the Borough covered by Orders either in operation, confirmed but not operative, or awaiting confirmation is 4,888 acres. The total number of houses involved in these areas is 25,780. Comparable figures at the commencement of the year were 4,335 acres and 22,514 houses.

The two Smoke Control Areas under survey at the end of the year will cover an additional 511 acres with 2,566 houses.

The total number of visits made during 1966 in connection with the Clean Air Act, 1956, for all purposes, was 12,985.

After the operative date of any Order, observations are made from time to time by Public Health Inspectors and Technical Assistants to ensure compliance.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960.

Excessive and unwanted noise is one of the great problems of modern life, and is often the cause of much suffering. Local authorities have the power to deal with noise nuisances in certain circumstances, and this work often involves Public Health Inspectors in technical problems.

During 1966, 95 complaints regarding noise were received, and these entailed the making of 279 visits. Many of the complaints referred to alleged noise nuisance during the night-time, and consequently the majority of the visits were made outside normal office hours, in order to make observations and to record Noise Level Meter readings. All these incidents were dealt with informally, and no legal proceedings were necessary.

The Pharmacy and Poisons Acts, 1933-1941

One hundred and thirty-seven applications were received for Certificates of Entry, Retention or Alteration from persons who wished to sell poisons included in Part II of the Prescribed Poisons List.

The Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

Four samples, consisting of basic slag, bone meal, sulphate of potash and superphosphate, were submitted to the Agricultural Analyst. The sample of basic slag was found to be unsatisfactory, but the origin of this substance could not be established. After consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food further investigation was abandoned.

Housing Acts, 1957-1964.

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 17/55, details of housing matters are omitted from this Report, but I think that some reference should be made to the work carried out in this field. Public Health Inspectors are concerned with Slum Clearance, the repair and

reconditioning of houses, the control of houses in multiple occupation and the improvement of houses.

The implementation of the Council's slum clearance programme was continued, and a number of houses were inspected for repair, or for Closing Order or Demolition procedure. The total number of visits made to premises of all kinds for the purposes of the Housing Acts was 2,373.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

One licence authorising land to be used as a site for a caravan for a limited period of time was issued during 1966.

The number of site licences operating at 31st December, 1966, was six, and the permitted number of caravans, including those kept on two sites occupied by members of the Showmen's Guild, was 42. Twenty-two visits were made to all sites during the year.

CONCLUSION

The administrative difficulties occasioned by amalgamation have been largely overcome, and this Report reflects the good standard and variety of work which has been maintained by the Public Health Inspectors, Technical Assistants and clerical staff.

On 1st January, 1966, there were three vacancies for Public Health Inspectors. During the year one post was filled, but another became vacant, leaving a shortage of three Inspectors at the end of the year. During the year also one pupil Public Health Inspector left, leaving three others in training, and this was the position at 31st December, 1966. My thanks are due to the technical staff for the extra effort required of them in maintaining coverage of those Districts in the Borough where there was no Inspector, and at the same time ensuring a 100 per cent. meat inspection service at the slaughterhouse.

It is to be hoped that the staff situation may be improved during 1967, so that more time may be devoted to other aspects of environmental work.

G. H. COCKELL

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Introductory Letter by Principal School Medical Officer	79-80
Special Services (Continued)	81-82
December, 1966	83

School Clinics provided by the Local Education Authority	83-84
The Service	85
Medical Inspections	86
Audiometry and Radiology	87

Speech Therapy	88
The Work of the	89
Psychological Clinic	90-91
Gifted Children Service	92
Handicapped Pupils	93

The School Dental Service	94
Intermittent Discharge and Physiotherapy	95
Physiotherapy	96
Physiotherapy and Physiotherapy	97

Physiotherapy and Physiotherapy	98
Physiotherapy and Physiotherapy	99
Physiotherapy and Physiotherapy	100
Physiotherapy and Physiotherapy	101

Appendix A: Notes on the Service	102
Appendix B: Notes on the Service	103
Appendix C: Notes on the Service	104
Appendix D: Notes on the Service	105

Appendix E: Notes on the Service	106
Appendix F: Notes on the Service	107
Appendix G: Notes on the Service	108
Appendix H: Notes on the Service	109

Appendix I: Notes on the Service	110
Appendix J: Notes on the Service	111
Appendix K: Notes on the Service	112
Appendix L: Notes on the Service	113

Appendix M: Notes on the Service	114
Appendix N: Notes on the Service	115
Appendix O: Notes on the Service	116
Appendix P: Notes on the Service	117

CONTENTS

	Page
Introductory Letter by Principal School Medical Officer ...	79-80
Special Services (Education) Sub-Committee as at 31st December, 1966	81
School Clinics provided by the Local Education Authority ...	82-83
The Service	84
Medical Inspections	84
Audiometry and Audiology	84
Speech Therapy	85
The Work of the School Nurses	85
Psychological Clinic	85-86
Child Guidance Service	86-90
Handicapped Pupils	90
The School Dental Service:	
Report by Chief Dental Officer	91-92
Statistics on School Dental Service	92-93
Infectious Disease and Prophylactic Measures:	
Infectious Diseases	94
Prophylactic Measures	94
Epidemiological Surveys	95-96
Ancillary Services:	
Nursery Schools and Classes	96
Provision of Milk and Meals	96
Appendix 'A':	
Routine Medical Inspections	97
Other Medical Inspections	97
Return of Defects Found at Medical Inspections ...	98
Children Found to Require Treatment	99
Classification of General Condition of Pupils ...	99
Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions	99
Diseases of the Skin	100
Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint	100
Diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat	100
Orthopaedic and Postural Defects	100
Other Treatment Given	101
Appendix 'B':	
Attendances at Clinics	101
Other Medical Examinations by School Medical Officer	101
Recuperative Holidays	101

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the School Health Service of the London Borough of Merton for the year 1966.

In this second year of operation of this Service, since assuming responsibility as a London Borough, many of the administrative problems present during the initial year had been eliminated; the administration was working more smoothly, and effective liaison had been made, both with schools, and other agencies. This improved administration was reflected in the increased number of school medical inspections—14,078 in 1966 compared with 12,116 in 1965. There was a similar improvement in school dental inspections which numbered 20,024 compared with 16,620 in 1965. Defects found at medical inspections totalled 6,490, an increase of 343 on 1965, being a natural result of an increase in inspections.

There were some staff changes during the year. Two School Medical Officers left the Service, Dr. V. Feldman proceeding on normal retirement and being replaced by Dr. W. B. James, and Dr. Alison M. Batten returning to Surrey County Council being replaced by Dr. A. R. Gonet. One Speech Therapist, appointed in the latter part of 1965 resigned in February, but the Authority was fortunate in being able to replace her. The additional post of Speech Therapist provided on the establishment had been filled by the end of the year, although the Speech Therapist appointed was unable to commence duty until early 1967. In the Child Guidance Service, although it was found possible to appoint a second Pyschiatric Social Worker, a third post is still vacant. One Psychotherapist was also recruited during the year.

As a result of a measure of reorganisation of School Departments, their number has been reduced from 83 to 74, but the school population increased by 121. The percentage of school children whose general condition was found to be satisfactory was 99.91 compared with 99.98 in 1965, thus reflecting the continuing high standard of the health of school children in the Borough: 19.35 of the 1966 school population were found at routine medical inspections to require treatment for various defects, mostly minor in character, compared with 14.95 during 1965.

As a result of notifications received of two cases of tuberculosis, one of a pupil, and subsequently one of a teacher, two epidemiological surveys were carried out during the year.

Regular hygiene inspections of schools had, in the past, only been conducted in the Wimbledon area, but in order to provide a periodic medical check on conditions in schools, and to enable suggestions for improvements made by the school staff or visiting medical staff, to be brought to the notice of the Education Authority, I instructed the School Medical Officers to make these a regular feature of their service to all schools.

I am grateful for the help and co-operation received from Mr. R. Greenwood, Chief Education Officer, and his staff, from Head Teachers, and from Secretaries of the many schools in the Borough.

My thanks and appreciation are also due to the medical, dental, health visiting and other staff of the School Health Service for the satisfactory and efficient manner in which their respective duties were carried out during the year. I should especially like to thank Mr. W. Atkinson, my Chief Administrative Officer and Mr. E. A. Ayling, the Senior Clerk of the School Health Service Section for their contributions in connection with the preparation of this Report. I am also grateful for the support and encouragement so kindly extended to me at all times by the Chairman and Members of the Special Services (Education) Sub-Committee.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

P. J. DOODY,

Principal School Medical Officer.

SPECIAL SERVICES (EDUCATION) SUB-COMMITTEE

(As at 31st December, 1966)

Chairman : : Councillor A. Leivers, J.P., F.I.D., M.N.I.H.

Councillor (Mrs.) W. R. Castle (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman N. S. Clarke

Councillors :

E. H. Ceci P. Corbishley D. J. Hempstead G. N. Smith

R. A. Spalding W. G. Terrett (Mrs.) J. E. Vowles

Co-opted Member : The Rev. C. H. Smith, M.A.

Ex-Officio :

Alderman V. Talbot, J.P.

(Chairman of the Education Committee)

Councillor A. M. Anderson, M.A.

(Vice-Chairman of the Education Committee)

Chief Education Officer : R. Greenwood, M.A.

SCHOOL CLINICS PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

General Medical Clinics

Amity Grove, West Wimbledon:	Thursday mornings.	Examination of cases referred by Teachers, Education Department, Health Visitors, etc.: Treatment of minor ailments.
Grand Drive, Raynes Park:	Tuesday mornings.	
Middleton Road, Morden:	Monday afternoons.	
Morden Road, Merton:	Monday mornings.	
Pelham Road, Wimbledon:	Monday and Wednesday mornings. Thursday and Friday 9-10 a.m. (Health Visitors only).	
Western Road, Mitcham:	Monday and Friday mornings. Wednesday 9-10 a.m. (Health Visitors only)	
Wide Way, Mitcham:	Wednesday mornings.	

Child Guidance Clinics

All Saints Road, Wimbledon:	Monday to Friday all day.
Sherwood House, Commonside East, Mitcham:	

(Cases seen by appointment by Psychiatrist or Educational Psychologist, with the assistance of Psychiatric Social Workers)

Ophthalmic Clinics

Amity Grove, West Wimbledon:	Tuesday mornings.	Examination and treatment of errors of refraction and squint.
Grand Drive, Raynes Park:	Monday and Friday	
Morden Road, Merton:	Wednesday afternoons.	
Pelham Road, Wimbledon:	Friday mornings.	
Western Road, Mitcham:	Wednesday afternoons.	
Wide Way, Mitcham:	Tuesday mornings.	

Orthopaedic Clinic

Pelham Road, Wimbledon:	Every fourth Wednesday afternoon.	Examination of referred cases by an Orthopaedic Surgeon.
----------------------------	-----------------------------------	--

Audiology Clinic

Russell Road, Wimbledon:	Alternate Friday mornings.	Detailed investigation of cases referred.
-----------------------------	----------------------------	---

Psychological Clinic

Pelham Road, Wimbledon:	Every third Monday morning.	Cases referred for special attention.
----------------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------------

Remedial Exercises

Amity Grove, West Wimbledon:	Tuesday mornings.	Remedial and breathing exercises as recommended by School Medical Officers.
Pelham Road, Wimbledon:	Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.	
Wide Way, Mitcham:	Tuesday afternoons.	

Speech Therapy Clinics

Amity Grove, West Wimbledon:	Thursday afternoons.	Treatment of speech defects.
Grand Drive, Raynes Park:	Wednesday all day.	
Middleton Road, Morden:	Tuesday mornings and Wednesday afternoons.	
Morden Road, Merton:	Thursday mornings.	
Russell Road, Wimbledon:	Monday all day and Tuesday afternoons.	
Western Road, Mitcham:	Tuesday mornings and afternoons.	
Wide Way, Mitcham:	Friday mornings and afternoons.	

Dental Clinics

Amity Grove, West Wimbledon:	Monday to Friday all day.
Church Road, Mitcham:	Monday and Wednesday all day.
Grand Drive, Raynes Park:	Monday to Thursday all day.
Meopham Road, Mitcham:	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, all day.
Middleton Road, Morden:	Monday to Friday all day.
Morden Road, Merton:	Monday, Wednesday Friday, all day.
Pelham Road, Wimbledon:	Monday to Friday all day.
Western Road, Mitcham:	Monday to Friday all day.

THE SERVICE

The Service provides for periodic inspections of all children:

- (a) for whom primary, secondary or further education is provided by the Local Education Authority at any school or college maintained by them, and
- (b) receiving primary or secondary education under special arrangements made by the Local Education Authority otherwise than at school.

The treatment of minor ailments, eye, dental, speech, postural and breathing defects, and of children with behaviour problems, is provided at Clinics in the area. Attendance of children is normally by appointment. Most other forms of treatment are provided by general practitioners or the hospital services. There is close co-operation between the School Health Service and general practitioners and the hospitals.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Medical inspections are carried out as follows:—

1. On entry to school for the first time (including a vision test).
2. During the year in which eight years of age is reached.
3. On entry to Grammar, Technical and Secondary Schools.
4. During the year in which 15 years of age is reached.
5. During the last year in school if not inspected in the previous twelve months.

In addition, special inspections are carried out at the request of teachers, school nurses, parents or other bodies when children are thought to be requiring medical or other educational treatment, and also on children to ascertain their fitness for part-time employment.

The statistics of medical inspection and treatment together with other statistics are contained in the Tables in Appendices 'A' and 'B'.

AUDIOMETRY AND AUDIOLOGY

A sweep audiometric test is carried out by the Audiometrician on six-year-old children attending primary schools. All children who fail this test are referred to the school clinic for aural examination by the school medical officers. If the hearing failure remains unexplained, a second audiometric test is carried out by the audiometrician, and, if necessary, the case is referred to the audiologist for further investigation and possible referral to a specialist hospital department if required.

Details are given below of audiometric primary testing carried out during the year:—

Number of schools visited	...	...	...	39
Number of children tested	...	...	...	2,129
Number of primary failures	...	...	...	240

Since it was felt that some of the older children had not had the opportunity of having a hearing test, to ascertain the number of children who might be so affected, the audiometrician visited six secondary schools during the year. 1,694 school children in the six

secondary schools visited were tested, 57 of whom failed the audiometric test.

SPEECH THERAPY

Number of sessions held (a) for treatment	...	1,038
(b) for consultation	...	160
Number of cases on register at beginning of year	...	190
Number of cases added during year	...	126
Number of cases discharged during year	...	135
Number of cases on register at end of year	...	181

Cases discharged during the year who:—

Achieved normal speech	...	54
Were greatly improved	...	39
Showed some improvement	...	23
Showed little or no improvement	...	19

Analysis of cases treated during year:—

Stammering	...	...	24
Dyslalia	...	...	166
Cleft palate	...	...	7
Dysarthria	...	...	3
Cluttering	...	...	2
Aphasia	...	...	3
Defects of voice	...	...	3
Defective speech due to deafness	...	...	6
Retarded speech	...	...	39

THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL NURSES

Talks in schools on preparation for adult life, have been given for the first time to a mixed group of children. This experiment has been initiated in Western Road Secondary School, under which groups of 16 school leavers are given four talks each by the Senior Medical Officer and a Health Visitor. Two talks are given to eight girls and boys separately, and the first and last talks are given to mixed groups.

First-aid talks have also been given to mixed groups by a Health Visitor in Alpea Secondary School.

Results, so far, are encouraging, and it is hoped to extend the experiment gradually in 1967. In other respects, the work of the Health Visitor/School Nurse continued on similar lines to 1965.

PSYCHOLOGICAL CLINIC

Dr. Cicily Clarke, the Assistant Medical Officer in charge of this Clinic has contributed the following comments on the Psychological Clinic held at Pelham Road Clinic every Monday morning each month:—

‘In my opinion, this clinic for special cases has provided a much-needed service—a sort of “half-way house” between the routine “toddlers” or “school” clinics, and the Child Guidance Service.

'Children of all ages have been seen, and time has been available to ascertain the reasons behind their difficulties. Parents and children have been interviewed separately and together, as required. Recall appointments have been made according to individual need.

'Often there has been a failure in communication between parent and child, or else unfortunate attitudes have been adopted. Either or both of these can often be modified by an outsider.

'Some children with special problems and behaviour difficulties are substantially helped and discharged, others can be partially helped, yet others, for a variety of reasons are sent into the Child Guidance Clinic.

'I submit that the special cases clinic, if adequately used, can be an ideal way to decrease the load on the Child Guidance Service.'

CHILD GUIDANCE SERVICE

I am indebted to the Chief Education Officer for the following report on the work of the Child Guidance Clinics during the year:—

1. General

During 1966 the staffing position in the Child Guidance Service fluctuated, but by September, when the second educational psychologist was appointed, both the Wimbledon and Mitcham Clinics were fully staffed, with the exception of the third post of psychiatric social worker. This has greatly facilitated the work of the service in the Borough.

2. Establishment

The combined establishment of professional staff for the two Child Guidance Clinics as at 31st December, 1966, was as follows:—

- 2 Psychiatrists—six half-day sessions per week each.
- 2 educational psychologists—full-time.
- 3 psychiatric social workers—full-time (one post vacant).
- 1 psychotherapist—full-time (0.2 vacant).

The appointment of an additional psychotherapist is under consideration.

3. Remedial Classes

Since the last report a third remedial class has been opened at Lonesome Junior School, Mitcham, for children who for one reason or another have fallen behind with their school work.

4. Visits to Schools

- (a) The further development of Cambridge House as a school for primary maladjusted children has been most advantageous and co-operation has developed between the Head Teacher and the Child Guidance Service. This is proving most beneficial to all concerned.
- (b) The Assistant Education Officer (Special Services), the educational psychologists and psychiatric social workers have

visited a number of independent special schools outside the Borough where Merton pupils are placed to ensure that both the educational and living facilities are satisfactory.

In conclusion it should be mentioned that there has been the fullest co-operation between the Child Guidance Service and the Medical Officers especially in the cases of children ascertained as educationally sub-normal but who in addition have symptoms of mal-adjustment or emotional disturbance. This co-operation ensures that children are placed in the most suitable educational environment.

The work of the Merton Child Guidance Service is given in statistical form as follows:—

(A) The General Work of the Child Guidance Clinics

1. *New Referrals.*

			M.	F.	Total.
(a) Referring agencies:—					
Courts or probation officers	...	...	8	—	8
School Health Service	...	...	45	24	69
Hospitals or specialists	...	...	3	1	4
General practitioners	...	...	8	4	12
Schools	...	...	36	29	65
Parents	...	...	7	4	11
Others	...	...	11	6	17
Total			118	68	186

(b) Predominant reasons for referral:—					
Nervous disorders	...	...	18	14	32
Behaviour problems	...	...	55	25	80
Habit disorders	...	...	9	6	15
Educational problems	...	...	36	20	56
Psychosomatic disorders	...	...	—	3	3
Others	...	...	—	—	—
Total			118	68	186

(c) Number of cases on diagnostic waiting list	...	...	16	15	31
--	-----	-----	----	----	----

(d) Reasons why no diagnostic interview undertaken:—					
Transferred to other areas	...	...	3	—	3
Failed to attend appointments	...	...	3	3	6
Improved	...	...	—	1	1
Total			6	4	10

(e) Ages of children when referred:—					
Under 5 years	...	...	11	3	14
5 - 6 years	...	...	21	9	30
7 - 8 years	...	...	33	12	45
9 - 10 years	...	...	18	16	34
11 - 12 years	...	...	17	11	28
13 - 14 years	...	...	15	13	28
Over 14 years	...	...	3	4	7
Total			118	68	186

2. New Cases Seen.

				M.	F.	Total.
(a) Referring agencies:—						
Courts or probation officers	...	...	...	7	—	7
School Health Service	...	...	...	38	20	58
Hospitals or specialists	...	...	...	2	—	2
General practitioners	...	...	...	8	5	13
Schools	...	...	...	34	23	57
Parents	...	...	...	6	2	8
Others	...	...	...	10	6	16
Total				105	56	161

(b) Range of intelligence quotients of cases:—						
Inferior I.Q. below 71	...	...	...	2	2	4
Limited I.Q. 71 - 85	...	...	...	11	6	17
Low average I.Q. 86 - 95	...	...	...	16	11	27
Average I.Q. 96 - 105	...	...	...	32	14	46
Good average I.Q. 106 - 115	...	...	...	15	8	23
Above average I.Q. 116 - 130	...	...	...	14	11	25
Superior I.Q. 131 - 150	...	...	...	1	—	1
Exceptional I.Q. 151 +	...	...	...	1	—	1
Not tested	...	...	...	10	4	14
Untestable	...	...	...	3	—	3
Total				105	56	161

(c) Action taken:—						
Consultation and advice	...	...	...	19	12	31
Psychotherapy	...	...	...	12	7	19
Placed on waiting list for psychotherapy...	...	...	...	19	13	32
Remedial tuition	...	...	...	4	1	5
Case work with parents only	...	...	...	17	4	21
Placement in special schools, etc.	...	...	...	8	5	13
Placement in special schools, etc., being sought	...	...	...	3	—	3
Periodic supervision	...	...	...	18	14	32
Other action	...	...	...	5	—	5
Total				105	56	161

(d) Results of action taken, insofar as it is possible to judge at present:—						
Improved	...	...	...	14	14	28
Slightly improved	...	...	...	23	10	33
Not yet improved	...	...	...	17	10	27
Doubtful	...	...	...	32	9	41
Not applicable	...	...	...	19	13	32
Total				105	56	161

3. Current case-load on 31st December, 1966.

Cases under treatment	...	...	...	32	11	43
Cases under supervision	...	...	...	158	70	228
Cases awaiting treatment	...	...	...	31	22	53
Total				221	103	324

4. Summary of Work Involved.

(a) Psychiatrists:—

Interviews for diagnosis or assessment	...	...	...	257
Interviews for treatment	...	...	...	745
Interviews with parents or guardians	...	...	...	94
Interviews with social workers or other officials	...	...	...	46
Other interviews	...	...	...	10
Visits, meetings, etc., outside the Clinic	...	...	...	31
Appointments arranged but not attended	...	...	...	174
Total				1,357

(b) Psychotherapists:—

Interviews for treatment	...	...	...	630
Interviews with parents or guardians	...	...	...	3
Interviews with social workers or other officials	...	...	...	12
Other interviews	...	...	...	—
Visits, meetings, etc., outside the Clinic	...	...	...	8
Appointments arranged but not attended	...	...	...	33
Total				686

(c) Educational Psychologists:—

Interviews with children for examination	...	...	...	105
Interviews with children for remedial tuition	...	...	...	115
Interviews with parents or guardians	...	...	...	5
Interviews with other officials	...	...	...	30
Visits outside Clinic (not schools)	...	...	...	21
Appointments arranged but not attended	...	...	...	6
Total				282

(d) Psychiatric Social Workers:—

Interviews with parents or guardians at Clinic	...	...	...	1,557
Interviews with parents or guardians at home	...	...	...	108
Interviews with children	...	...	...	17
Interviews with other social workers or officials	...	...	...	82
Visits to schools, hostels, etc.	...	...	...	24
Other visits	...	...	...	35
Appointments arranged but not attended	...	...	...	135
Total				1,958

(B) The work of the Educational Psychologist in the Schools

1. Referring agencies:—

		M.	F.	Total.
(a) Chief Education Officer	...	19	10	29
(b) School	...	74	55	129
(c) Parent	...	8	5	13
(d) School Medical Officer	...	6	3	9
(e) Other	...	4	2	6
Total		111	75	186

2. Types of Schools attended:—

	M.	F.	Total.
(a) Nursery	1	—	1
(b) Infant	18	13	31
(c) Junior	65	39	104
(d) Secondary	11	8	19
(e) Grammar	1	—	1
(f) Private	1	5	6
(g) To be placed	14	10	24
Total ...	111	75	186

3. Main Problem :—

(a) Learning	79	52	131
(b) Behaviour	16	12	28
(c) Other	16	11	27
Total ...	111	75	186

4. Disposal :—

(a) Remedial class	24	5	29
(b) Remedial tuition at the Clinic ...	3	1	4
(c) Child Guidance Clinic (general) ...	14	13	27
(d) Supervision	45	41	86
(e) Recommendation for special school	7	2	9
(f) Recommendation to Chief Education Officer	16	10	26
(g) Recommendation to Principal School Medical Officer	—	2	2
(h) Others	2	1	3
Total ...	111	75	186

5. Supervision from previous years ...	99	31	130
Supervision from 1966	37	32	69
Total under supervision ...	136	63	199

Total discharged from supervision, end of 1966 33 12 45

6. Parents of children seen	25	14	39
------------------------------------	----	----	----

7. Schools—Group Testing for Remedial Classes :—

16 schools. Number of children 8+ tested 494

8. Total number of school visits	...	...	322
---	-----	-----	-----

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

Numbers of Handicapped Pupils

The following table gives the numbers of pupils on the Handicapped Pupils' Register on 31st December, 1966, together with the numbers ascertained during the year:—

Classification	Total ascertained during year	Total ascertained at 31.12.66
Blind	2	9
Partially-sighted	1	8
Deaf	1	13
Partially-hearing	—	6
Educationally subnormal	46	197
Epileptic	—	2
Maladjusted	27	69
Physically-handicapped	6	32
Delicate	10	30
Totals	93	366

Provision of Special Education

The table below gives details of the numbers of pupils for whom special educational facilities have been provided by the Authority:—

Classification	Attending special school as		Receiving education under arrangements made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944		Total
	Day Pupils	Boarders	In Hospital	At home	
Blind	3	5	—	—	8
Partially-sighted	7	1	—	—	8
Deaf	5	7	—	—	12
Partially-hearing	6	—	—	—	6
Educationally-subnormal	164	9	—	—	173
Epileptic	—	2	—	—	2
Maladjusted	22	42	—	4	68
Physically-handicapped	22	8	—	1	31
Delicate	21	9	—	4	34
Totals	250	83	—	9	342

Children unsuitable for Education in Ordinary Schools

During the year 13 children were reported as suffering from a disability of mind of such nature and to such extent as to make them unsuitable for education at school.

THE SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

Mr. M. T. Gibb, the Chief Dental Officer, has contributed the following report on the operation of the School Dental Service during the year:—

‘At 31st December, 1966, the Dental Staff consisted of the Chief Dental Officer, four full-time Dental Officers, seven part-time Dental Officers, and two part-time Orthodontists, giving a whole-time equivalent of 7.9 Dental Officers. The Authority also employs two Dental Auxiliaries (whole-time equivalent 1.6). Five sessions per week are devoted to orthodontic treatment.

'There were no changes in the full-time staff during the year, but there were many changes among the sessionally employed Dental Officers and Orthodontists.

'Improvements in equipment and amenities have been carried out in most of the Dental Clinics and approval has been obtained for the installation of two new units in the second surgeries at Amity Grove and Pelham Road Clinics next year.

'In accordance with Ministry of Health requirements regarding the use of X-rays, tests of our four X-ray machines have been carried out by the Radiological Protection Service and all staffs using the machine have undergone a six-month monitoring test with satisfactory results.

'In spite of a slight reduction in staff in 1966, some 3,400 more children were inspected at schools and 69 sessions were devoted to Dental Health Education compared with only one in 1965.

'It would appear that more of the older children are receiving their dental treatment in the General Dental Service and we in the School Service are getting a higher proportion of the younger children. The amount of work carried out for pre-school children has nearly doubled in the last year. This early regular treatment, coupled with advice to the parents on diet and oral hygiene, greatly reduces the risk of a child requiring extensive dental treatment later on.

'A sustained campaign of Dental Health Education has been carried on during the year with talks and films at Parent-craft Classes by the Chief Dental Officer and by speakers from the Oral Hygiene Service. Extensive use has been made of posters and pamphlets. This campaign is carried into the schools with the co-operation of Head Teachers and their staffs by the Dental Auxiliaries who give suitable talks and demonstrations to children in different age groups. Health Visitors are also co-operating with us in this field.'

Statistics for Year 1966

Number of pupils on the register of maintained primary and secondary schools including nursery and special schools in January, 1967, as in Forms 7, 7m, and 11 schools—24,522.

Attendances and Treatment.

	Ages 5 to 9	Ages 10 to 14	Ages 15 and over	Total
First Visit	2,295	2,047	654	4,996
Subsequent Visits	4,255	5,275	2,049	11,579
Total Visits	6,550	7,322	2,703	16,575
Additional courses of treatment commenced	541	438	165	1,144
Fillings in permanent teeth	1,845	3,812	1,411	7,068
Fillings in deciduous teeth	3,733	331		4,064
Permanent teeth filled	1,571	3,339	1,247	6,157
Deciduous teeth filled	3,368	302		3,670
Permanent teeth extracted	63	382	81	526
Deciduous teeth extracted	1,152	460		1,612
General anaesthetics	570	303	31	904
Emergencies	157	61	19	237

Number of pupils X-rayed ...	...	...	515
Prophylaxis ...	...	...	2,325
Teeth otherwise conserved ...	...	...	1,880
Number of teeth root filled ...	...	...	38
Inlays ...	...	...	—
Crowns ...	...	...	6
Courses of treatment completed ...	...	...	5,130

Orthodontics.

Cases remaining from previous year ...	...	65
New cases commenced during year ...	...	197
Cases completed during year ...	...	117
Cases discontinued during year ...	...	27
Number of removable appliances fitted ...	...	276
Number of fixed appliances fitted ...	...	1
Pupils referred to Hospital Consultant ...	...	2

Prosthetics.

	5 to 9.	10 to 14.	15 and over.	Total.
Pupils supplied with F.U. or F.L. (first time) ...	—	—	—	—
Pupils supplied with other dentures (first time) ...	3	1	—	4
Number of dentures supplied	3	1	—	4

Anaesthetics.

General Anaesthetics administered by Dental Officers—Nil.

Inspections.

(a) First inspection at school: number of pupils ...	20,024
(b) First inspection at clinic: number of pupils ...	2,193
Number of (a)+(b) found to require treatment	8,161
Number of (a)+(b) offered treatment ...	7,201
(c) Pupils re-inspected at school clinic ...	5,473
Number of (c) found to require treatment ...	2,992

Sessions.

Sessions devoted to treatment ...	3,208
Sessions devoted to inspection ...	215
Sessions devoted to Dental Health Education ...	69

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PROPHYLACTIC MEASURES

1. Infectious Diseases

Infectious Diseases notified by Schools.

Disease	Suffering	Excluded on suspicion	Infection at home	Total exclusions
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	22	1	5	28
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—
Measles	167	—	1	168
Whooping Cough	22	1	—	23
German Measles	82	2	—	84
Chicken Pox	198	—	—	198
Mumps	255	2	4	261
Jaundice	—	—	—	—
Influenza	20	—	—	20
Other	41	2	—	43
Totals	807	8	10	825

Contagious Diseases notified by Schools.

Disease	Suffering	Excluded on suspicion	Total exclusions
Ringworm	—	—	—
Impetigo	6	—	6
Scabies	—	—	—
Other	6	—	6
Totals	12	—	12

Compared with 1965 there were 662 fewer cases of communicable disease notified and 700 fewer children excluded from schools.

2. Prophylactic Measures

1. *Poliomyelitis Vaccination.*

Vaccination of school children against Poliomyelitis continued during the year. The actual number vaccinated or receiving re-inforcing doses during 1966 was as follows:—

Number of children vaccinated 161

Number of children given re-inforcing doses ... 1,108

I am pleased to say that no case of Poliomyelitis occurred in the area in 1966.

2. *Diphtheria/Tetanus Immunisation.*

Number of children given immunisation ... 273

Number of children given re-inforcing doses ... 3,018

I have much pleasure in being able to report again that there was no case of Diphtheria among school children or otherwise in this area, but the importance of immunisation for all children is in no way diminished.

3. Protection of School Children against Tuberculosis. B.C.G. Vaccination.

			Percentage.
Number in age group	...	2,105	...
Number of consents	...	1,807	85.84%
Number skin tested	...	1,740	82.66%
Number Mantoux positive	...	126	5.98%
Number B.C.G. Vaccinated	...	1,614	76.70%

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEYS

During the year, two epidemiological surveys were carried out, details of which are given below:—

1. Survey at Secondary Boys' School

A survey was conducted in June, 1965, on the admission of a pupil to hospital suffering from tuberculosis. With the notification of a member of the teaching staff in September, 1965, as suffering from infectious tuberculosis, a second limited survey became necessary. On the advice of the Chest Physician arrangements were made in February, 1966, with parental consent for all pupils in attendance who were not known positive reactors to a tuberculin skin test to be so tested, and subsequently in March, 1966, for positive reactors from these tests to be chest X-rayed together with those already known to be positive reactors and members of the teaching and ancillary staffs.

Three hundred and twenty-nine pupils were skin tested and 35 proved positive. Six were already under chest clinic supervision and were not included in the survey.

In March, 1966, the Surrey Mass X-ray Unit attended the school and 419 boys were chest X-rayed including the 35 positive reactors from the skin tests. Six boys were referred to the chest clinic for further investigation but none subsequently showed evidence of tuberculosis.

There were 76 teaching and ancillary staff of whom 54 were X-rayed, all with satisfactory results.

The parents of all pupils who were absent or who failed to reply to the survey notice or who sent refusals were advised of the importance of chest X-ray examinations and were sent details of public mass X-ray sessions for their children to attend.

No further cases of tuberculosis were discovered at the school following the above measures.

2. Survey at Primary School

In December, 1965, a teacher employed on the staff of a primary school was notified as a case of pulmonary tuberculosis and the Chest Physician advised that an epidemiological survey should be conducted to establish whether any other cases existed at the school and the spread (if any) of infection.

The parents of all children attending the school were notified of the proposal to conduct a survey and the opportunity for children to be included was extended to those who had been transferred to other schools in the area since the teacher commenced at this primary school.

The survey was carried out in February, 1966, at which time there were 257 children on the nominal roll of the school. 245 children were skin tested of whom eight were regarded as definite positive reactors to the test. Refusals were received in four cases only and, finally, only two children were absentees for the skin test and these two children later received a skin test. Nine children who had already received B.C.G. vaccination were under the supervision of a chest clinic and were not included in the survey.

Two children had moved outside the area of the authority and in these cases the appropriate school health authority was notified of the circumstances necessitating the survey.

All positive reactors to the skin tests were referred to the chest clinic for chest X-rays and in addition 20 members of the teaching and ancillary staff obtained chest X-ray examinations. All the X-rays were satisfactory.

No further case of tuberculosis was discovered as a result of this survey.

ANCILLARY SERVICES

1. Nursery Schools/Classes

There were 570 children attending the nursery schools and nursery classes at the infants' schools during the year.

2. Provision of Milk and Meals

The following table gives details of milk and meals supplied together with the percentage of pupils partaking; compared with 1965:—

Year	Numbers in attendance	Taking Milk		Taking Meals			
		Number	Percentage	Free	Paid	Total	Percentage
September, 1965 ...	22,494	18,578	82.5	343	15,673	16,016	71.2
September, 1966 ...	22,544	18,475	81.9	506	15,864	16,370	72.6

Appendix 'A'

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

(Excluding Dental Inspection and Treatment)

Return for the year ended 31st December, 1966

Number of pupils on registers of maintained, primary, secondary, special and nursery schools in January, 1967:—

(a) Ordinary schools	23,782
(b) Special schools	170
(c) Nursery Schools and Classes	570
Total ...	24,522

SECTION A.

Routine Medical Inspections.

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth)	Number of Children Inspected
1962 and later	605
1961	1,841
1960	397
1959	189
1958	1,739
1957	188
1956	140
1955	1,160
1954	1,958
1953	674
1952	263
1951 and earlier	2,051
Total	11,205

Other Medical Inspections.

Type of Inspection	Number of Children Inspected
Special Inspections	1,857
Re-Inspections	1,016
Total	2,873

Return of Defects found in the course of Medical Inspections.

Defects or Disease	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
	No. referred for Treatment	No. referred for Observation	No. referred for Treatment	No. referred for Observation
Skin	115	169	204	32
Eyes				
(a) Vision ...	1,053	713	859	53
(b) Squint ...	97	40	16	—
(c) Other ...	33	46	16	4
Ears				
(a) Hearing ...	42	95	41	111
(b) Otitis Media	12	62	—	2
(c) Other ...	6	23	3	3
Nose and Throat	80	371	28	23
Speech	68	82	42	9
Lymphatic Glands	7	89	3	2
Heart and Circulation	24	76	2	4
Lungs	71	151	4	12
Development				
(a) Hernia ...	6	18	—	—
(b) Other ...	31	129	4	16
Orthopaedic				
(a) Posture ...	22	60	3	9
(b) Flat Foot ...	50	117	10	14
(c) Other ...	60	159	26	35
Nervous System				
(a) Epilepsy ...	9	7	—	—
(b) Other ...	4	29	—	2
Psychological				
(a) Development	8	38	2	—
(b) Stability ...	31	81	8	13
Abdomen ...	10	45	3	7
Other defects and diseases ...	48	247	31	100
Totals ...	1,887	2,847	1,305	451

Four thousand seven hundred and thirty-four defects were found in children at routine medical inspections of which 1,887 were referred for treatment and 2,847 for observation, 1,756 defects were found at special inspections, 1,305 being referred for treatment and 451 for observation. The total number of defects referred for treatment and observation in 1966 was 6,490.

*Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspections
to require treatment (excluding uncleanness and dental disease)*

Group	Number of children inspected	Number of children requiring treatment	Percentage requiring treatment
1962 and later	605	32	% 5.29
1961	1,841	274	14.88
1960	397	60	15.11
1959	189	33	17.41
1958	1,739	273	15.70
1957	188	32	17.02
1956	140	18	12.86
1955	1,160	231	19.91
1954	1,958	295	15.07
1953	674	93	13.80
1952	263	38	14.45
1951 and earlier	2,051	351	17.11
Totals	11,205	1,730	15.44

Classification of General Condition of pupils inspected during 1966

Group	Number of children inspected	Percentage found satisfactory	Percentage found unsatisfactory
1962 and later	605	% 99.84	% 0.16
1961	1,841	99.84	0.16
1960	397	99.75	0.25
1959	189	100	—
1958	1,739	99.94	0.06
1957	188	100	—
1956	140	100	—
1955	1,160	99.91	0.09
1954	1,958	99.95	0.05
1953	674	99.85	0.15
1952	263	100	—
1951 and earlier	2,051	99.95	0.05
Totals	11,205	99.91	0.09

SECTION B.

Treatment

Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

- Total number of individual examinations of pupils by Health Visitors in Schools ... 10,519
- Number of individual pupils found to be infested ... 97
- Number of exclusions:—

First time	...	...	...	12
Second time	...	...	...	8
				— 20
- Number of pupils cleansed ... 26

Diseases of the Skin (excluding uncleanness)

Diseases of the Skin.				Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year.
Ringworm—scalp	...	...	...	—
Ringworm—body	...	...	...	—
Scabies	...	...	...	1
Impetigo	...	...	...	1
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	314
Total				316

Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint.

Eye Diseases and Defects.				Number of cases known to have been dealt with.
External or other, excluding errors of refraction or squint	...	...	...	37
Errors of refraction (including squint)	...	...	...	3,495
Total				3,532

Number of pupils for whom spectacles
were prescribed ... 934

Diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat.

Diseases and Defects.				Number of cases known to have been treated.
Received operative treatment:—				
(a) for diseases of the ear	...	...	...	—
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsil- litis	...	...	...	7
(c) for other nose and throat con- ditions	...	...	...	—
Received other forms of treatment	...	...	...	85
Total				92

Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

Number of cases known to have been
treated in Clinics or Out-Patient
Departments ... 246

83 sessions were held at Pelham Road Remedial Exercises Clinic during 1966.

35 new cases were admitted and 22 old cases discharged.

42 sessions were held at Amity Grove Remedial Exercises Clinic during 1966.

13 new cases were admitted and 10 old cases discharged.

38 sessions were held at Wide Way Remedial Exercises Clinic during 1966.

25 new cases were admitted and 14 old cases discharged.

71 sessions were held at St. Christopher's Special School and Eagle House Annexe Remedial Exercises Clinic during 1966.

27 new cases were admitted and 36 old cases discharged.

Other Treatment Given.

Ailments.	Number of cases treated.
Miscellaneous minor ailments ...	410
Lymphatic Glands ...	7
Heart and Circulation ...	25
Lungs ...	66
Development (Hernia and Other) ...	35
Nervous System ...	12
Total ...	555

Appendix ' B '

1. General Medical/Minor Ailment Clinics.

Attendances made by children at General Medical/Minor Ailment Clinics ...	3,843
---	-------

2. Other Medical Examinations undertaken by School Medical Officers.

(a) Children examined for part-time employment ...	523
(b) Children examined for Entertainment Licences ...	7

In addition to medical examinations specified as above, School Medical Officers in their capacity as Assistant Medical Officers of Health also carried out 845 medical examinations of Teachers, Teacher Trainees, School Cooks, School Caretakers, and other staff for superannuation purposes. Arrangements are also made for Chest X-ray where this is necessary.

3. Recuperative Holidays.

Children sent for recuperative holidays on the recommendation of School Medical Officers ...	44
--	----

All these children had seaside holidays and when examined on their return were all found to have benefited.

