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ABINGDON AND FARINGDON DISTRICTS
JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH



FOR
THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY



Abingdon and Faringdon Districts Joint Public Health Committee

Members 1960-61

ABINGDON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mr. J. S. Candy, "The Gate House," Picklers Hill, Abingdon.

Mr. C. G. Barber, 16 Conduit Road, Abingdon.

ABINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

Lt. Col. S. T. Austin, O.B.E., The White House, Shippon, Nr. Abingdon
(Chairman).

Mr. D. L. Barnes, Woodside Farm, Fyfield, Nr. Abingdon.

Mr. W. Evans, 1 High Street, Drayton, Nr. Abingdon.

Mr. W. T. Palmer, 47 West Way, Botley, Nr. Oxford

Mr. W. H. Webb, Fox Inn, Steventon, Nr. Abingdon.

FARINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

Mr. G. A. Lockwood, 13 Watchfield Road, Watchfield, Nr. Swindon.

Capt. R. A. Prioleau, The Grove, Kingston Lisle, Nr. Wantage.

Mrs. F. G. Walker, Winslow Coombe, Ashbury, Nr. Swindon.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. D. W. Lansdown, Hatford House, Faringdon.

Mr. O. A. Tunnicliffe, M.C., Church Farm House, Faringdon.

Clerk: Mr. G. V. Spooner, Council Offices, 60 Bath Street, Abingdon.

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ABINGDON BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Additional Public Health Inspector: D. M. Faulkner, M.A.P.H.I.

ABINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

Chief Public Health Inspector: T. G. Evans, M.A.P.H.I.,
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Additional Public Health Inspectors:
B. R. McHugh, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,
D. H. Ratcliff, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

FARINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

H. E. Tolman, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Council Offices, Faringdon. (Telephone 2296).

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ABINGDON AND FARINGDON DISTRICTS
JOINT HEALTH COMMITTEE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my annual report for 1960.

May I start by expressing my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Councillors who have been so friendly and helpful, to the General Practitioners and Nurses of the area for their support and co-operation, to my colleagues on the staffs of the Councils and especially to the Public Health Inspectors for their loyalty, industry and efficiency in their conduct of the great volume and variety of tasks referred to in this report.

Once again, the general state of the Public Health can be said to have continued to be good. The birth rate and death rate were better than the national figures; the incidence of notifiable disease was exceptionally low (196 as against the average for the past 5 years of 704). There was no case notified of Diphtheria, Food poisoning or Polio, nor any death attributable to childbirth — this for the eighth year in succession.

The exception was in the Infant Mortality rate, which for so many years has been constantly and often markedly below the national average. This year, it was 1.8 above the national figure of 23.5 (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births). This rise in the rate was due to 13 deaths from the Faringdon Rural District. A study of these 13 shows that every death occurred in a maternity hospital. Nine were due to prematurity and lived less than 3 days, three were foredoomed by congenital disease or deformity for which there is no prevention or cure and only one was due to difficult labour which could perhaps have been prevented.

The Miniature Mass Radiography units visited the area during October, and in addition to static units in Abingdon and Faringdon sent mobile units for two days to each of eleven and seven sites respectively in the Abingdon and Faringdon Rural Districts. In spite of widespread distribution of leaflets and much door-to-door canvassing the turnout was disappointing. This was partly due to too short notice, partly to atrocious weather for the latter part of the time, but mostly to human inertia and general lack of interest in health in the absence of some stimulus such as disability or pain.

Yours truly,

NORMAN PARFIT,
Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

In this first section are collected the various tables which summarize the vital statistics of the three Authorities grouped together. It is followed by sections which deal separately with matters affecting the health of each Authority. All figures in brackets refer to 1959.

AREA AND POPULATION

The following table gives the area of each district with the estimated population at the middle of 1960. It shows that the population densities of the Abingdon Borough and Faringdon Rural District are very close to the national averages for England and Wales. Abingdon Rural District, however, has a density over three times that of the average Rural District, only one-third of this excess being due to the parishes which are on the outskirts of Oxford, namely, Cumnor, North Hinksey and Kennington.

District	Area in Acres	Est. Mid-1960 Pop.	Increase on 1959	Persons per acre
Abingdon Borough	1,754	13,910	280	7.90
Abingdon Rural District	41,185	31,520	1,370	0.76
Faringdon Rural District	55,726	13,850	320	0.25
Totals	98,665	59,280	1,970	0.60

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

The following table shows the totals of Births and Deaths and the 'corrected' rates per 1,000 of Population. 'Corrected' rates are those which take due account of the actual age and sex composition of each area by being multiplied by the 'comparability factor' supplied by the Registrar General. They may then be fairly compared with those of the nation as a whole, or with the corrected rates of any other area. The factors for Births and Deaths are as follows: Abingdon Borough 0.91: 1.24; Abingdon Rural District 0.98: 1.33; and Faringdon Rural District 1.03: 1.11.

District	Births	Birth rate per 1000 of Pop.	Deaths	Death rate per 1000 of Pop.
Abingdon Borough	276 (282)	18.1	123 (121)	11.0
Abingdon Rural District	663 (657)	20.6	244 (220)	10.3
Faringdon Rural District	319 (265)	23.7	121 (125)	9.7
Totals	1258(1204)	20.8(20.5)	488 (466)	10.3(10.3)
England and Wales		17.1(16.5)		11.5(11.6)

INFANT MORTALITY

District	Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Live Births	Infant Mortality per 1000 live births
Abingdon Borough	3	273	11.0
Abingdon Rural District	13	651	19.8
Faringdon Rural District	13	311	41.5
Totals	29 (25)	1235 (1175)	23.5 (21.2)
England and Wales			21.7 (22.0)

STILL BIRTHS

District	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total	Per 1000 total births
Abingdon Borough	3	—	3	10.9
Abingdon Rural District	10	2	12	18.1
Faringdon Rural District	8	—	8	25.1
Totals	21	2	23	18.3
England and Wales				19.7

MATERNAL MORTALITY

For the eighth year there were no deaths attributed to childbirth.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The 488 deaths in the area were accounted for as follows:—

Cause	Abingdon Borough	Abingdon Rural	Faringdon Rural	Total 1960	Total 1959
Coronary Disease, Angina	24	36	20	80	(58)
Hypertension with Heart Disease	4	4	3	11	(9)
Other Heart Disease	12	20	20	52	(74)
Total Heart Disease	40	60	43	143	(141)
Vascular Disease of the Nervous System (Stroke)	13	47	13	73	(61)
Other Circulatory Disease	6	13	6	25	(18)
Cancer of Lung	5	11	5	21	(17)
Other Cancers	21	26	13	60	(60)
Pneumonia	6	17	4	27	(31)
Bronchitis	8	15	5	28	(24)
Influenza	1	2	—	3	(15)
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	1	1	3	5	(4)
Road Accidents	2	5	2	9	(5)
All other Accidents	4	7	1	12	(20)
Suicide	—	2	1	3	(6)
Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	1	1	2	(1)
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	—	—	1	(1)
Non-Pul. Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	(—)
Ulcer of Stomach	—	—	—	—	(4)
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	2	1	3	(4)
Nephritis	1	3	—	4	(1)
Congenital Malformations	1	3	1	5	(6)
Diabetes	2	1	1	4	(2)
Gastritis, Enteritis, etc.	3	3	1	7	(3)
Syphilitic Disease	1	1	—	2	(—)
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	1	2	(—)
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	(—)
All other Causes	7	23	19	49	(43)
Total all Causes	123	244	121	488	(466)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious disease (other than tuberculosis) notified during 1960 (with the 1959 figures in brackets). The 4 cases of malaria were, of course, all contracted abroad.

Disease	Abingdon Borough	Abingdon Rural	Faringdon Rural	Total all Districts
Measles	—(533)	33(716)	2 (91)	35(1340)
Whooping Cough	33 (3)	24 (31)	5 (2)	62 (36)
Pneumonia	2 (23)	8 (29)	— (—)	10 (52)
Scarlet Fever	17(106)	28 (85)	1 (5)	46 (196)
Dysentery	21 (3)	10 (5)	— (—)	31 (8)
Erysipelas	1 (2)	4 (—)	— (—)	5 (2)
Puerperal Pyrexia	1 (—)	1 (—)	— (1)	2 (1)
Malaria	— (—)	4 (—)	— (—)	4 (—)
Meningococcal Infection	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Paratyphoid Fever	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Encephalitis	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Totals	76(670)	112(866)	8(100)	196(1636)

TUBERCULOSIS (New Cases)

The following table shows the number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year. It distinguishes between the more serious cases affecting the lungs (Pulmonary) and those affecting other parts of the body.

Age Periods	Abingdon Borough		Abingdon Rural		Faringdon Rural		Total (All Districts)	
	Pul.	Non- Pul.	Pul.	Non- Pul.	Pul.	Non- Pul.	Pul.	Non- Pul.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
20—25	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
25—35	2	—	2	1	—	—	4	1
35—45	4	—	1	1	1	—	6	1
45—55	3	—	1	—	2	2	6	2
55—65	2	—	1	—	1	—	4	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Totals	14	—	6	2	8	2	28	4
1959 Figures	2	1	15	3	4	1	21	5

ABINGDON BOROUGH

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

The number of new houses completed during the year was 90, consisting of 22 Council Houses, 48 built for the A.E.R.E., and 20 built by private persons. A further 119 houses were under construction, of which 90 were Council houses and 29 were private. Four flats were formed by the conversion of a large house.

The above additional Council houses brought the number erected since the war to 1,206, and with the 570 pre-war houses makes a total of 1,776.

The rents of pre-war houses ranged from £1.0s.8d. to £1.15s.10d. with an approximate average of £1.10s.0d. per week including rates. Rents for post-war houses ranged from £1.0s.0d. to £3.13s.6d., the average being approximately £2.5s.0d. per week. The number of applicants for Council houses at 31st December, 1960, was 363.

CARAVANS

The introduction of new legislation with the requirements for improved site conditions, together with the emphasis on the larger balanced sites capable of being provided with all amenities foreshadows a reduction in the number of caravans in the Borough. The existing Council caravan site is being run down and it is intended to build houses on the vacated land. It seems unlikely that the Council will provide an alternative site due to their other commitments, although there is a demand for caravan accommodation in the area from people who cannot obtain suitable housing accommodation.

There were 40 caravans in the Borough on 31st December, 1960, as follows:—

The Council's own site	8 Caravans
One private site	8 Caravans
Individual private sites	24 Caravans

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse is collected weekly from the kerbside, although arrangements are made for this to be done from the rear of houses where the occupants are elderly or infirm. Trade refuse is collected under agreements with commercial and industrial establishments.

The staffing position has been a little easier although the turnover rate, particularly of the younger employees, is far too high.

During the current year the existing tip at Wick Hall will be completed, and arrangements have been made to fill a section of a disused canal lying to the south west of the Borough. There are only limited facilities here, however, and negotiations are in hand for a more permanent tip.

SALVAGE

The market for rags and metal continued to be satisfactory. Receipts were as follows:—

Rags	...	...	...	£88	6s.	10d.
Micellaneous and Metal	...	...	...	£46	3s.	6d.
				£134	10s.	4d.

MORTUARY

The Mortuary was used on 133 occasions, including 97 post-mortem examinations. The Council has approved the provision of a refrigerated cabinet capable of holding three bodies. This will have the effect of improving the existing facilities.

MEAT AND FOOD

There are two slaughterhouses in the area and it is anticipated that the larger, Caldecott Abattoir, will comply with the Construction Regulations by the 30th June, 1962. The smaller slaughterhouse attached to a bacon factory could be brought up to the required standard, but it appears likely that slaughtering will be transferred to Caldecott Abattoir and the premises put to other use early in 1962.

Post-mortem inspection was carried out on all animals slaughtered for human consumption and where practicable anti-mortem inspection in the lairages. The following tables show the number of carcasses and offal found to be affected with tuberculosis and other conditions.

	No. Inspected	No. found to be affected				Whole carcasses	
		T.B.	% of total	Other Conditions	% of total	T.B.	Other Conditions
<i>Caldecott Abattoir</i>							
Steers & Heifers	2726	1	.03	812	29.18	—	5
Cows/Bulls	350	2	.57	108	30.85	1	9
Calves	501	—	—	17	3.39	—	19
Sheep	9989	—	—	192	1.92	—	62
Pigs	21823	488*	2.23	3715	17.02	1	110
Total	35389	491	1.38	4844	13.68	2	205
<i>Bacon Factory</i>							
Pigs	857	24*	2.80	75	8.75	—	—
Grand Total	36240	515*	1.42	4919	13.57	2	205

Weight of diseased and unsound meat and offal condemned:—

Meat	...	...	24,965 lbs.
Offal	...	...	23,611 lbs.

*Note: As far as possible by macroscopic inspection *Corynebacterium* Equi infection have been differentiated from tuberculosis. It is, however, likely that these figures marked with an asterisk include a number of the former.

Analysis of Principal Causes of Condemnation of Carcasses

Disease	Steers & Heifers	Cows & Bulls	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Oedema & Emaciation	1	2	2	28	13	46
Pleurisy/Pneumonia						
Acute/Septic	—	—	2	6	16	24
Pyæmia	—	1	5	3	10	19
Injuries Multiple/Septic	1	1	1	5	8	16
Peritonitis Acute/Septic	—	—	—	1	14	15
Oedema General	—	—	—	3	10	13
Septicaemia	2	1	2	1	7	13
Emaciation	—	—	—	4	8	12
Pleurisy & Peritonitis						
Acute/Septic	—	1	—	—	10	11
Congestion	—	—	2	2	3	7
Metritis Acute/Septic	—	—	—	5	1	6
Immaturity	—	—	5	—	—	5
Mastitis Acute/Septic	—	2	—	1	1	4
All other causes	1	2	—	3	10	16
Totals	5	10	19	62	111	207

(a) Routine examination of all cattle for *Cysticercus Bovis* was carried out and in 21 cases (0.682%) cysts were found. The affected carcasses and offal were subjected to cold store treatment at East Hagbourne or Abingdon.

(b) The bulk of condemned meat and offal at the Caldecott Abattoir is disposed of in a digester and processing plant adjoining the premises. A certain amount of condemned meat was sent to other areas for animal feeding. In the case of Messrs. Cottrell's Bacon Factory all condemned meat and offal is disposed of by burial on the Corporation tip.

FOOD OTHER THAN FRESH MEAT

The following foodstuffs were condemned:—

Tinned Food

725 lbs. Meat
141 lbs. Fruit
8 lbs. Vegetables

Frozen Food

188½ lbs. Fish
38 lbs. Meat
4 lbs. Poultry
14½ lbs. Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous Food

20 lbs. Fish
18½ lbs. Poultry
56 lbs. Milk Powder

FOOD PREMISES

The number of various types of premises and the number of visits paid to them in the course of food inspection duties were as follows:—

<i>Type</i>	<i>No. Visits</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>No. Visits</i>
Abattoir	2 568	Sale of Ice Cream	51 13
Butchers	13 48	Milk Distributors	2 8
Grocers & General Stores	38 48	Greengrocers	14 6
Sale or Manufacture of Preserved Food	6 33	Bakeries	4 5
Fresh & Fried Fish	5 13	Cafes & Restaurants	18 5
		Licensed Premises	43 1

MILK

Some difficulty was experienced with raw T.T. milk retailed from vending machines due to sourness and complaints regarding cleanliness. The conditions on the farm where the milk was produced and packed is a matter for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and they were notified of all complaints received, but it was decided to prosecute in respect of one offence under Section 2 Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Due to technical difficulty in proving the actual ownership of the milk the case was dismissed by the magistrates.

It is essential that the milk vending machines are properly serviced daily and it is desirable that the milk cartons should be date-stamped to prevent customers being provided with stale or sour milk. This is particularly important where unpasteurised milk is used, due to its reduced keeping qualities.

During the year four samples of milk were taken in the course of delivery to or at schools in the Borough and submitted for bacteriological examination. All proved satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

Of 13 samples taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, 9 were Grade I, one was Grade III and the remaining three were unsatisfactory.

The unsatisfactory samples were taken from a Soft Ice Cream Machine and faults were found in the sterilisation and manufacturing techniques, which were remedied.

HOUSING

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—

(1) Houses which on inspection were considered unfit for human habitation	34
(2) Houses in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action	2
(3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to:—	
(a) serving notices requiring execution of works	—
(b) the making of demolition or closing orders	33
(4) The number of informal notices requesting execution of works	2
(5) Houses rendered fit after service of formal notice	2
(6) The number of demolition or closing orders made	30
(7) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking not to be re-let was given	2
(8) The number of houses demolished	36

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Fourteen applications for Discretionary Grants and seventeen applications for Standard Grants were received and approved during the year. As well as considerable structural improvements these applications provide the following additional amenities:—

18 hot water systems, 7 bathrooms, 12 foodstores, 14 W.C.'s
3 fuel stores, 13 wash-hand basins, 12 baths, 2 new kitchens
and 3 extensions of kitchens.
7 conversions to form new dwellings, 5 miscellaneous improvements.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the period October to December, 1960, difficulty was experienced due to the surcharging and blockage of a main sewer serving the northern part of the town. The high water table aggravated the difficulties, and the sewer overflowed at a number of points in the Stert Valley during this period.

WATER

During November and December, due to the abnormally high water table, the service reservoir and addits at Wootton Waterworks were contaminated by surface water. At times, the whole area of the waterworks was flooded to a depth of several inches. On three occasions it was necessary to warn householders over approximately one half of the town to boil their drinking water. The addits supply had to be discontinued for several weeks, but by pumping out and sterilising the service reservoir the supply was maintained from the City of Oxford during this period and restrictions were removed within two or three days.

SWIMMING POOL

This is in a meadow beside the Thames from which water was pumped. It is 80ft. long by 30ft. wide and the water was changed weekly on Saturdays. The water was treated by a twice daily addition of a chlorine solution direct to the pool. The amount added was checked each time by tests for residual chlorine.

Seven samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination with very satisfactory results.

Since the end of the year main water has been laid on, enabling a continuous replacement of water from the main supply instead of a weekly filling with ordinary water. Considerable further improvements are planned for 1962.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937-1959

	No. Inspections		Written Notices	Prosecu- tions
Factories without mechanical power	3	4	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	57	50	2	—
Other premises	1	2	—	—
Total	61	56	3	—

Cases in which defects were found numbered 4, all being unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences, and all were remedied.

There was only one outworker—engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS DURING 1960

General Sanitation Visits:

Refuse Collection and Disposal	140
Drainage	112
Water Supply	111
Moveable Dwellings	65
Petroleum	60
Pests	47
Factories	40
Offensive Trades	39
Mortuary	34
Atmospheric Pollution	14
Swimming Pool	10
Infectious Diseases	9
Shops	9
Workplaces	6
Miscellaneous Visits	113

Under Public Health Act:

Number of Houses Inspected	54
Number of Visits to above houses	60

Under The Housing Acts:

Number of Houses Inspected	139
Number of Visits to above houses	164

Improvement Grants:

Number of Visits to above houses	134
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	57

Meat and Food Inspection:

Visits to:—	
Slaughterhouses	568
Market Stalls	134
Butchers	48
Grocers	42
Food Preparing Premises	33
Visits in connection with Milk Sampling	15
Ice Cream Premises	13
Fishmongers and Poulterers	13
Visits in connection with Ice Cream Sampling	10
Dairies and Milk Distributors	8
Street Vendors and Hawkers	7
Shops and Stalls	6
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	6
Restaurants	5
Bakeries	5
Waste Food Order	5
Miscellaneous Food Visits	25

Total visits during the year2173

ABINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

This table gives certain essential figures as a background against which the following pages can be viewed.

Parish	Est. Pop. Mid 1960	Area in Acres	Total Dwellings (a)	Council Houses	Rateable Value (b)	Product of 1d. Rate (c)
					£	£ s.
Appleford	293	862	84	13	1364	5 15
Appleton with Eaton	848	2077	231	32	4858	19 18
Besselsleigh	72	906	22	2	562	2 2
Cumnor	4444	5690	1150	312	50615	214 2
Draycott Moor	507	1054	143	65	2866	12 10
Drayton	1927	2609	554	108	10832	45 7
Frilford	273	1148	66	—	3336	13 16
Fyfield & Tubney	566	2746	175	39	4582	19 7
Garford	121	1068	40	4	522	2 1
Kennington	3629	1369	958	170	33789	142 0
Kingston Bagpuize	178	1109	74	—	1354	5 4
Lyford	85	774	43	—	220	1 0
Marcham	878	2513	248	40	8677	35 8
Milton	859	1466	232	31	33769	139 11
North Hinksey	5225	1069	1371	48	56921	238 11
Radley	1948	2862	313	71	16085	70 17
St. Helen Without (d)	1667	2005	264	8	44633	173 9
South Hinksey	438	509	97	8	4938	21 6
Steventon	1251	2401	388	94	13996	57 8
Sunningwell	1105	1332	280	37	12063	50 14
Sutton Courtenay	2481	2101	750	308	49102	212 14
Wootton	2498	1523	672	177	25151	106 2
Wytham	227	1992	59	—	2990	10 19
Gas Board					852	3 11
Electricity Board					9059	37 15
Totals	31520	41185	8214	1567	393136	£1641 7
Totals for 1959	30150	41185	7982	1502	385570	£1620 10

(a) Excludes Residential Caravans

(b) at 1.4.60

(c) For year 1960/61 to nearest shilling

(d) Excludes R.A.F. Married Quarters

STAFF

The greatly regretted retirement of Mr. T. E. Upton, after 34 years of invaluable service to the Council, took effect on May 31st, 1960, and the sudden death of Mr. C. Helsby at the end of 1959, resulted in a major upheaval in the work of the Department.

Mr. D. H. Ratcliff was appointed as Additional Public Health Inspector in July, and Mr. B. R. McHugh took over the duties of Mr. Helsby, with special emphasis on caravans, a subject on which a tremendous amount of work has been done during the past year and for which this Department now has overall responsibility.

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

The total number of new houses completed during the year was 232, showing an increase on the previous year of 34. These consisted of 65 Council Houses and 167 built by Private Enterprise. A further 153 were under construction on 31st December, of which 62 were Council Houses and 91 were private.

The distribution of these houses is shown in the following table:—

Parish	<i>Council Houses</i>		<i>Private Enterprise</i>	
	Completed	Under Con- struction 31.12.60	Completed	Under Con- struction 31.12.60
Appleford	—	—	—	—
Appleton-with-Eaton	—	—	—	2
Besselsleigh	—	—	—	—
Cumnor	15	—	30	10
Draycott Moor	—	—	6	2
Drayton	16	—	43	44
Frilford	—	—	—	—
Fyfield & Tubney	—	—	2	2
Garford	—	—	—	—
Kennington	—	—	24	9
Kingston Bagpuize	—	—	—	—
Lyford	—	—	—	—
Marcham	—	—	1	3
Milton	—	—	5	—
North Hinksey	—	—	16	4
Radley	—	—	9	—
St. Helen Without	—	—	6	1
South Hinksey	—	—	3	1
Steventon	—	—	3	4
Sunningwell	—	—	6	2
Sutton Courtenay	4	—	11	3
Wootton	30	62	2	4
Wytham	—	—	—	—
Totals	65	62	167	91
Totals for 1959	116	31	82	94

TEMPORARY DWELLINGS

The 40 prefabricated bungalows at Wootton and 16 bungalows at Tubney Woods remain in use, but the future of the "prefabs" is in some doubt. One has been demolished in order to examine closely its construction and state of decay, and as a result of this examination it is very probable that as tenants are rehoused, the buildings will be demolished.

CLEARANCE OF UNFIT PROPERTY

The first phase of the Council's Slum Clearance programme due for completion by the end of 1960 was, in fact, satisfactorily completed in April, 1959. In February, 1960, the Minister called on local authorities to submit their proposals for the second phase, and the following table, which gives proposals and a comparison with 1955, were adopted by the Council. Unfortunately it has not been possible to make the progress which one would have liked, owing to reorganisation of the Department and the amount of work involved on caravans, which has been mentioned earlier.

SUMMARY OF UNFIT HOUSES 1960

Parish	1955 No. Sug- gested for Repair	No. repair- ed since 1955	1955 No. sug- gested for Demolition	No. Demolition Orders	to re- condition	Under- takings not to let	Total since 1955	No subject to D.O.s and not demolished	Total No. houses still requiring action
Appleford	17	5	5	3	2	1	6	3	13
Appleton	30	6	4	(1)	—	—	1	2	25
Besselsleigh	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cumnor	48	9	4	5	—	5 (5)	10	9	32
Draycott Moor	5	3	3	3	—	—	3	2	2
Drayton	50	3	8	8	1	—	9	10	45
Fyfield & Tubney	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Garford	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kennington	5	—	3	—	—	3 (1)	3	—	5
Kingston Bagpuize	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Lyford	24	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Marcham	17	2	3	4	—	—	4	4	16
Milton	10	—	11	11	—	—	11	11	9
North Hinksey	6	4	4	2 (1)	1	—	3	—	4
Radley	17	5	3	1	1	—	2	—	15
South Hinksey	2	1	2	1 (1)	—	—	1	—	3
St. Helen Without	6	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	6
Steventon	33	1	14	4	—	13	17	4	27
Sutton Courtenay	30	4	9	9	3	—	12	2	25
Sunningwell	13	1	—	(6)	—	—	6	—	6
Wootton	22	2	8	7 (2)	2	1	10	5	17
Wytham	18	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Totals	366	71	83	65	10	23	98	52	282*

(a) Action under Section 16 refers to houses which are unfit for human habitation and are incapable of being rendered fit at reasonable expense.

() Figures shown thus are houses demolished or partly demolished by owners without recourse to Demolition procedure, but included in totals.

* Includes 22 owner/occupied houses.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS

Repair and improvements to all classes of property has continued throughout the year and the following table shows the distribution of the work.

Parish	Housing Conversions	Additional Bedrooms	New Bathrooms	New W.C's.
Appleford	1	—	1	1
Appleton	—	—	1	2
Cumnor	1	2	2	2
Draycot Moor	1	1	2	3
Drayton	3	2	3	2
Frilford	—	1	—	—
Fyfield & Tubney	—	1	1	—
Kennington	1	1	1	2
Kingston Bagpuize	—	2	2	2
Lyford	7	7	7	7
Marcham	—	1	1	2
North Hinksey	2	2	2	4
Radley	2	2	3	3
St. Helen Without	1	1	1	1
South Hinksey	1	—	1	1
Steventon	1	1	3	3
Sunningwell	—	2	1	1
Sutton Courtenay	2	3	4	3
Wootton	—	4	3	3
Wytham	3	2	3	3
Totals	26	35	42	45
Figures for 1959	13	14	25	29

In the report submitted last year attention was drawn to the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, which altered the basis of Improvement Grants and introduced the new type of Standard Grant as a facility additional to the Discretionary Grant.

From their introduction in June, 1959, to December 31st, 1960, 45 Standard Grants have been approved, amounting to a maximum of £4,185. Of these, 24 applicants were paid a total of £1,653 7s. 0d. Discretionary Grants, for the improvement of 46 properties, amounted to £15,172. Since 1952 Grants to a total of £83,142, involving 274 properties have been approved by the Council.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

It is well known that caravans and their occupants have become an increasingly difficult problem in this District for the past few years and has involved the Department in a large amount of work, without corresponding results.

In August, 1960, however, the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act became enforceable, and amended quite considerably the law relating to caravans. The Council accepted the new situation and decided on certain forms of action. The principle that they should attempt to provide a municipal caravan site and that all matters relating to the control of caravans (including planning) should come within the scope of this Department. A very large proportion of the caravans are situated in the area of the Oxford "Green Belt," which is considered most undesirable. The ultimate aim is progressively to reduce the number of caravans in the District and to concentrate those that remain into well run sites, which are provided with adequate and suitable facilities.

Members of the staff have surveyed land which, it is hoped, the Council will acquire in order to provide a municipal site for approximately 100 caravans.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The weekly kerbside collection of household refuse has continued as in previous years, but the method of collection and points of disposal, together with other administrative arrangements, have been under review. The possibility of collecting dustbins from inside the gates of houses, thus obviating the danger of rows of dustbins being left along the roadside for sometimes up to 24 hours or more, has been investigated, but the cost involved was considered to be prohibitive.

In March, the shortage of manpower to carry out refuse collection became so acute that, with the strength reduced by 50%, the Council decided that wages must be increased in order to attract suitable applicants. In addition, in order to keep abreast with the increasing demands, one of the vehicles normally held in reserve was put into service and a further large capacity refuse vehicle was ordered for delivery in 1961.

In order that the foreman could exercise greater control over the staff, an additional man was employed for tip work, and the council also approved the special collection in parishes of bulky material which cannot be collected in the normal rounds. To improve the appearance and prolong the life of the Council's vehicles, high-pressure washing facilities were ordered for the Depot, and it is hoped by a reshuffling of duties that greater attention can be paid to the maintenance of all plant.

The problem of litter bins was also the subject of much discussion, and following experiments of converting oil drums into litter bins the Council gave approval for the provision of 100 bins of this type throughout the District. This number is in addition to the 12 provided by an advertising firm in return for advertising facilities.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Appleton and Cumnor

Work on this scheme started in 1959. It is a self-contained scheme with its own works and it is estimated that work should be completed early in 1962.

Kennington Works

Extensions to the existing works, necessary to cope with the increase in development and the new sewer from Radley, were in use at the end of the year, although some minor work remained to be completed.

Marcham

Considerable work of laying new sewers was done, together with the necessary enlargements to the Gozzards Ford Works.

Radley

Tenders for this scheme were invited with a view to commencing work early in 1961.

Southern Parishes

The laying of sewers in Drayton, Steventon and Sutton Courtenay was finished and the sewage works were put into operation.

The consultant Engineers were asked to report on the remaining areas still to be sewered and, following this report, schemes were being prepared for the following areas:—

Appleford and Milton. A joint scheme was submitted to the Minister for approval.

Farmoor. As an extension of the Botley and Kennington scheme.

Dry Sandford, Cumnor Road, Wootton, Old Boars Hill. As an extension of the Wootton Road scheme.

WATER

From 1st April, the newly formed Thames Valley Water Board took over responsibility for the District's water supply. The Council, however, continue to act as Agents for the Board.

Sampling of the main supplies continued regularly throughout the year and these were found to be satisfactory.

The following table gives details of dwellings receiving water from piped supplies:—

Parish	Total No. of Dwellings	No. of Dwellings supplied with main water	No. of Dwellings supplied by standpipes
Appleton	231	162	—
Besselsleigh	22	19	—
Cumnor	1150	1129	—
Draycott Moor	143	129	—
Frilford	66	59	—
Fyfield and Tubney	175	129	—
Garford	40	34	—
Kennington	958	948	—
Kingston Bagpuize	74	53	—
Marcham	248	177	—
North Hinksey	1371	1364	—
Radley	313	284	—
St. Helen Without	264*	259*	—
South Hinksey	97	96	—
Sunningwell	280	257	—
Wootton	672	659	—
Wytham	59	31	—
Total	6163	5789	—
*R.A.F. Married Quarters not included			
<i>Abingdon R.D.C. Undertaking</i>			
Appleford	84	46	—
Drayton	554	517	21
Lyford	43	14	—
Milton	232	197	15
Steventon	388	311	39
Sutton Courtenay	750	711	5
Total	2051	1796	80
Grand Total	8214	7585	80

FOOD PREMISES

The total number of food premises in the area was 138, comprising the following types of business:—

Grocery & General Stores	52	Bakehouses	5
Public Houses	49	Greengrocery	5
Confectionery	12	Fishmongers	2
Butchers	7	Off Licence	1
Cafes	5		

Of these 138 premises, 69 are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream and 4 for the manufacture of sausages.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The total number of "Distributors" registered under the above Regulations and who retail in this District was 4. One Dairy (not being a Dairy Farm) was registered. Seven firms retailed in the area under cover of Supplementary Licences.

The collection of samples of milk from Schools in the area continued during the year and the five samples taken for examination were found to be satisfactory.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

During the year the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered after examination had shown them to be unfit for human consumption:—

Minced Beef	71 lbs.	Shoulder Ham	10 lbs.
Grapefruit Segments	56 lbs.	Topside Beef	9½ lbs.
Ox Kidneys	20 lbs.	Corned Beef	6 lbs.
Intestines & kidneys		Leg Lamb	5½ lbs.
of casualty sow	20 lbs.	Sausages	1 lb.

All condemned food was disposed of by burial in the Council's Refuse Tip.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT 1958

Report on Slaughtering Facilities

During the year, local authorities were required to submit reports to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on the existing slaughtering facilities in their districts and their probable future needs.

Neighbouring authorities, trade organizations and local butchers were all consulted as to whether they felt that the lack of a slaughterhouse in this District presented difficulties. All reported that the present arrangements were quite satisfactory and a report to this effect was submitted to the Minister.

DISEASE OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER, 1957

Seven visits were paid to the three premises licensed in the District. One of these ceased to operate and the boiler was removed. The remaining two were considered satisfactory and continue to be licensed.

DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Rodent Officer carried out control work under the above by means of poison.

A total of 3,454 visits were made during the year to 638 properties (Local Authority 4, Dwelling Houses 540, Business Premises 13 and Agricultural Property 81), and the number of dead rats and mice recovered was 881.

The number of wasp nests destroyed was 67.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937-1959

	No.	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories without mechanical power	5	4	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	44	24	3	—
Total	49	28	3	—

Cases in which defects were found numbered 3, all being unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences, and all were remedied.

There were 3 outworkers engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' WORK, 1960

Number of different premises visited	1680
" " Visits made	2059
" " Complaints received	104
" " Defects or nuisances discovered	38
" " Notices served (Informal)	46
" " Notices served (Statutory)	Nil
" " Prosecutions	Nil

Matters in relation to which visits were made:—

Caravans, etc.	848
Housing Act — other than inspections	234
Drainage	227
Improvement Grants	107
Shops Act	105
Housing Inspections	105
Nuisances	75
Food Premises	63
Refuse Collection	41
Water Supplies	26
Refuse Disposal	21
Pollution (ditches or streams)	12
Waste Food Order	12
Milk Supplies	11
Factories and Workplaces	28
Unclean Houses	7
Rent Act	6
Butchers' Shops	5
Food Inspections	5
Miscellaneous	9

Number of Defects or Nuisances abated:—

As to Drains or Cesspools	27
" " Other defects or nuisances	10
" " Deficient or impure water	4
" " Polluted ditches, streams, etc.	4
" " Overcrowded houses	2
" " Unclean houses	1

Number of houses connected to water main	231
--	-----

Number of Closets replaced by W.C's	45
" " Water samples taken	22
" " Seizures of unsound food	10
" " Inspections to piggeries	10
" " Milk Samples taken	5
" " Wells closed	3
" " Wells (new) sunk	1
" " Wells cleansed, repaired, etc.	1

FARINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

This table gives certain figures as a background against which the following pages can be viewed.

Parish	Est. Pop. Mid. 1960	Area in Acres	Total Dwellings	Council Houses 31.12.60	Rateable Value (a)	Product of 1d. Rate (b)
					£	£ s.
Ashbury	544	5609	172	36	3752	15 3
Baulking	126	1580	39	—	491	1 18
Bourton	355	1260	82	6	1745	6 18
Buckland	665	4505	184	—	3954	15 4
Buscot	225	2887	71	—	2316	9 8
Charney Bassett	196	1209	63	—	840	3 7
Coleshill	231	2014	73	—	725	2 16
Compton Beachamp	101	1812	32	—	593	2 8
Eaton Hastings	111	1570	35	—	439	1 14
Faringdon	3288	3547	1054	282	35302	141 16
Fernham	207	1016	56	8	1239	5 1
Great Coxwell	251	1435	79	12	1140	4 9
Hatford	98	993	29	—	557	2 6
Hinton Waldrist	254	2016	80	14	1118	4 10
Kingston Lisle	231	2040	75	12	1711	7 1
Little Coxwell	226	887	67	—	1298	5 5
Littleworth	243	2350	77	—	1208	4 17
Longcot	313	1894	95	12	1394	5 9
Longworth	766	2291	213	40	4544	18 6
Pusey	101	1040	32	—	645	2 10
Shellingford	176	1761	56	2	1058	4 5
Shrivenham	2066	2695	462 (c)	83	29736	122 17
Stanford-in-the-Vale	923	2927	291	70	5666	23 2
Uffington	578	2929	185	54	2944	11 9
Watchfield	1455	1517	448 (d)	70	21637	88 17
Woolstone	120	1942	40	—	508	1 17
South Western Gas Board	—	—	—	—	1295	5 12
Southern Electricity Board	—	—	—	—	3055	12 12
Totals	13850	55726	4090	701	£130865	£530 18
Totals for 1959	13530	55726	4033	701	£129788	£512 14

(a) as at 31.3.60

(b) to nearest shilling

(c) includes 82 Military Married Quarters

(d) includes 295 Military Married Quarters

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

New houses completed during the year numbered 47. All of these were Private. A further 116 were under construction on the 31st December, 1960, and these consisted of 30 Council Houses and 86 Private.

The distribution of these houses is shown by the following table:—

Parish	<i>Council Houses</i>		<i>Private Enterprise</i>	
	Completed	Under Construction 31.12.60	Completed	Under-Construction 31.12.60
Ashbury	—	—	—	1
Charney Bassett	—	—	2	9
Faringdon	—	18	14	11
Great Coxwell	—	—	—	4
Little Coxwell	—	—	—	1
Compton Beauchamp	—	—	—	4
Fernham	—	—	—	1
Hatford	—	—	2	1
Kingston Lisle	—	—	—	1
Littleworth	—	—	—	1
Longcot	—	—	4	—
Longworth	—	12	—	3
Shrivenham	—	—	17	34
Stanford in the Vale	—	—	2	1
Uffington	—	—	2	8
Watchfield	—	—	4	—
Woolstone	—	—	—	6
Totals	—	30	47	86
Totals for 1959	18	—	38	50

RENTS

Maximum rents which are based on the Gross Value for rating purposes range in the case of pre-war houses from 15/7d. to 22/11d. and for post-war houses from 22/- to 34/10d. Tenants, however, receive rebates which may amount to 11/8d. for pre-war houses or 19/7d. for post-war houses. These rebates may reduce the rents to minimum figures between 8/- and 11/3d. for pre-war houses and between 12/9d. and 15/3d. for post-war houses.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

When Caravan sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, came into force on the 29th August, the following were existing sites within the meaning of the Act:—

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Sites</i>	<i>Caravans</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>Sites</i>	<i>Caravans</i>
Buckland	1	5	Longworth	2	2
Faringdon	7	9	Shrivenham	3	34
Little Coxwell	1	1	Stanford-in-the-		
Hatford	1	1	Vale	3	9
Woolstone	1	1	Uffington	2	2

REFUSE DISPOSAL AND SALVAGE

Collection of refuse was carried out with one 18 cub. yd. vehicle and a team of four men, refuse being collected from the kerbside, weekly in the Parish of Faringdon and fortnightly in the remainder of the district.

The quantity of refuse continued to increase and overtime was worked throughout the year in order to maintain the service.

If this increase continues, and there is every reason to believe it will do so, it is clear that in due course a second vehicle and team will have to be employed.

Disposal by controlled tipping continued at Stanford-in-the-Vale — the tip being used also by Wantage R.D.C. for the disposal of part of their refuse.

Since tipping was commenced on this site, mechanical plant — a Bray Shovel and a Calf-Dozer — had been provided by Wantage Council, but at the close of the year proposals were approved for the provision of a suitable tracked dozer/loader to be purchased by this Council and to be maintained on the tip for use of both authorities.

Owing to the abnormal weather conditions during the year there were occasions when the satisfactory operation of the tip and movement of vehicles on its surface proved extremely difficult.

Salvage of mixed waste paper was continued during the year and total receipts from this source amounted to £113.1.0 compared with £107.14.0 during 1959.

WATER

Quality

As may be seen from the table of bacteriological examinations, seven Grade IV samples were obtained from Woolstone where the piped supply was under private control. A water scheme to supply this parish, the only village in the rural district without a public supply, was started during the year and completed in December. As the private supply, which will no longer be maintained by the owners, continues to be available it may take some time before householders take advantage of the public supply.

The other four Grade IV samples from the Ashdown Park and Folly Hill supplies were traceable to defects in the roof of a service reservoir which were promptly remedied. Otherwise, the supply was maintained at the recognised standard required by the Ministry of Health Grading.

Quantity

No shortage of water occurred during the year and it was unnecessary to impose restrictions of any kind on its use. Due to the abnormally wet summer, the boreholes remained at unusually high levels and flows in the River Thames remained constant during the summer months.

New Connections

The number of new connections made to the water during the year was 92.

Piped Water Supplies

The water supply to the Parish of Kingston Lisle was taken over by the newly formed Thames Valley Water Board on April 1st and the Council's responsibility ended.

No further progress was made during the year on the scheme of extending the supply to the Downs and thence to couple with the newly completed Woolstone mains, but it is expected that preliminary work will begin on this extension in 1961-62.

Examinations

Routine sampling of all piped supplies was carried out during the year and the results of the bacteriological examinations are shown in the following table. Where supplies are chlorinated all samples were taken after such treatment.

Supply	No. of Samples	Ministry of Health's Grading			
		Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Ashdown Park	20	16	2	—	2
Folly Hill	21	18	1	—	2
Kingston Lisle	3	3	—	—	—
Woolstone	11	4	—	—	7
Totals	55	41	3	—	11

DETAILS OF DWELLINGS RECEIVING WATER FROM PIPED SUPPLIES EITHER PUBLIC MAIN OR OTHER SOURCE

Parish	Dwellings	Inside the House	Standpipes
Ashbury	172	165	5
Baulking	39	39	—
Bourton	82	81	1
Buckland	184	183	—
Buscot	71	62	8
Charney Bassett	63	63	—
Coleshill	73	69	4
Compton Beachamp	32	32	—
Eaton Hastings	35	29	6
Faringdon	1054	1044	—
Fernham	56	52	4
Great Coxwell	79	78	—
Hatford	29	26	3
Hinton Waldrist	80	67	13
Kingston Lisle	75	74	1
Little Coxwell	67	58	6
Littleworth	77	75	—
Longcot	95	90	3
Longworth	213	186	8
Pusey	32	28	4
Shellingford	56	56	—
Shrivenham	462	462	—
Stanford	291	266	20
Uffington	185	175	12
Watchfield	448	448	—
Woolstone	40	28	10
Totals	4090 (4033)	3936 (3862)	108 (125)

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The Hinton Waldrist Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme was completed during the year and is operating satisfactorily.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government approved the schemes for Great Coxwell and Longcot and both these schemes are well under way.

Complete village schemes for Stanford-in-the-Vale and Buscot were submitted to the Ministry and an Inquiry into these schemes was held during December.

Further schemes for the villages of Buckland, Watchfield and Longworth are under preparation and preliminary work has commenced on the scheme for re-sewering Faringdon and Shrivenham.

Progress was made during the year with the negotiations between the Council and the War Department for the transfer of the W.D. Works at Shrivenham to the Council and it is expected that a settlement of this long outstanding matter will be reached shortly.

MILK

(1) *Milk and Dairies Regulations*

Two Dairies are registered in the district and in addition six distributors.

(2) *Milk (Special Designation) Regulations*

Seven Dealers were licensed to retail designated milk and one to sell milk wholesale. In addition supplementary licences were issued to three retailers whose premises are situated outside this area.

MEAT

There is one small private licensed slaughterhouse in the district, where cattle and sheep are slaughtered on a limited scale, to supply the owners' own retail business. Proposals to carry out the necessary improvements so as to make the premises comply with the construction regulations were submitted to the Council and incorporated in the Council's report under the Slaughterhouses Act, which was approved by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on 29th August, 1960.

The following is a list of carcasses inspected and meat found to be unfit for human consumption.

	Steers	Heifers	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep & Lambs
No. Inspected	102	119	—	27	—	338
All diseases except T.B.:						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	4	3	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than T.B.	3.92	2.52	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only:	No meat was found infected with T.B.					

OTHER FOODS

During the year the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered after examination had shown them to be unfit for human consumption.

1 box	200 Apples	1 lb.	Puffkins
6 lbs.	Corned Beef	7½ lbs.	Prawns
2 lbs.	Cheese Crispies	24 lbs.	Ham
2½ lbs.	Tinned Vegetables	10 lbs.	Lambs Liver
9 ozs.	Tinned Sardines	13½ lbs.	Tinned Fruit

FOOD PREMISES

The following list shows the number of food premises in the district set out in accordance with the type of business carried on. The majority of the shops are of the small village general stores type, staffed by the proprietor and members of his family.

Grocers and General Stores	...	46
Confectioners	...	11
Licensed Premises	...	51
Butchers	...	8
Cafes	...	8
Greengrocers	...	3
Fish Frying Establishments	...	2
Fishmongers	...	1
Bakehouses	...	4

43 of these premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream under section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and 1 for the manufacture of this product.

2 of the Butchers' shops and 2 of the Grocers are registered for the sale and manufacture of preserved food.

The general standard of hygiene was found to be satisfactory. Details of inspections made at the various types of premises are set out in the table at the end of this report.

HOUSING

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	...	16
Number of Closing Orders made	...	1
Number of Closing Orders Determined	...	1

Nine properties which were included in the Council's 1956 slum clearance proposals were rendered fit for habitation during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

28 Applications for discretionary improvement grants under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, were approved by the Council. Altogether work under the scheme was completed to 45 properties during the year.

28 Applications for Standard Grants under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, were approved and work under the scheme was completed to 24 properties during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

Although the Council's Rodent Operator does carry out other duties, he is employed almost full time on Rodent Control Work. Since the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food ceased to carry out work by contract on agricultural premises the Council's service has been re-organised and farmers can avail themselves of these facilities on a re-payment basis.

During the year 184 Private Premises and 43 agricultural and business premises were treated for Rats and Mice.

In addition regular inspections and treatment where necessary, were carried out at the Council's Refuse tip and Sewage works.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937-1959

Premises	<i>Inspections</i>			
	No. on Register	Inspections made	No. of written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories without mechanical power	6	3	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	43	24	—	—
Total	49	27	—	—

Cases in which defects were found — Nil.

There were no outworkers in the district.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' WORK DURING THE YEAR 1960

Number of Visits made	1292
" " Complaints received	84
" " Defects or nuisances discovered	31
" " Notices served (Informal)	8
" " Notices served (Statutory)	1
" " Prosecutions	Nil

Miscellaneous matters in relation to which visits were made:—

Refuse Disposal	205
Council House Applications	121
Slaughterhouses	108
Refuse Collection	107
Petroleum Storage	94
Number of Water Samples taken for examination	76
Sewerage	75
Food Premises	70
Water Supplies	46
Caravans, etc.	42
Cafes and Inns	41
Rodent Control	31
Factories and Workplaces	27
Infectious Diseases	26
Butchers' Shops	22
Housing Act	22
Drainage	22
Schools	19
Mortuary	18
Shops (other than Food Shops)	15
Unclean Houses	15
Bakehouses	9
Dairies	8
Food Stalls and Vehicles	7
Nuisances	7
Milk Supplies	5
Miscellaneous Visits	54

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
DURING THE YEAR 1900

During the year 1900, the Public Health Department has been engaged in a series of investigations and reports on the health of the community. The following are the principal reports made during the year:

1. Report on the health of the community, showing the results of the annual examination of the population.
2. Report on the health of the community, showing the results of the annual examination of the population.
3. Report on the health of the community, showing the results of the annual examination of the population.
4. Report on the health of the community, showing the results of the annual examination of the population.
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