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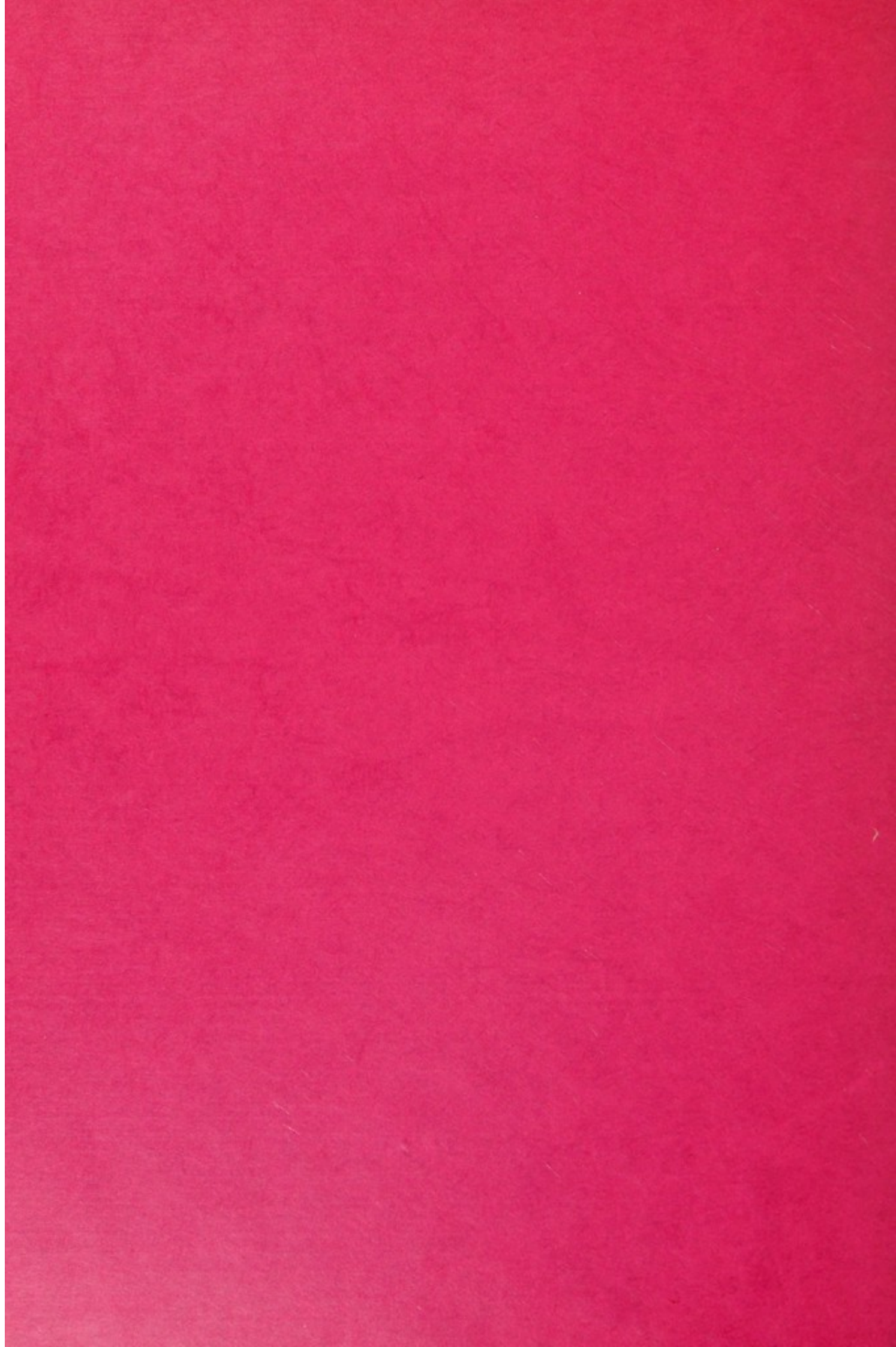
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BOROUGH OF ALDERSHOT



Annual Report
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1973



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COMMITTEE CONCERNED WITH THE WORK OF THE HEALTH
DEPARTMENT 1973

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

The Worshipful the Mayor (Clr. W.S. James DCM.)
(ex officio Member of the Committee)

CHAIRMAN

Alderman Mrs. V. L. Nevett

ALDERMEN: Mrs. B.E. Balchin, B.W. Edgoose, BSc., JP.,
G.A. North.

COUNCILLORS: D. Childerhouse, Mrs. R. Coe, J. Crompton,
A.E.A. Gardiner, J.H. Parlane, Mrs. R.A. Potter,
E.C. Rhodes, J.E.C. White, Col. A. Grieve OBE.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

I.H.C. MORTON, M.B., ChB., D.P.H., D.Obst.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

CATHERINE M. BRADFORD, M.B., BS.Lond., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Meat and Food Inspector

Shops Act Inspector

W.E. ROBERTS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

W.H.M. EDWARDS, M.A.P.H.I.

B. BERRY, M.A.P.H.I.

F.W. CULVER, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Dip.Inst.H.M.

Chief Clerk

D.L. BENNETT

Clerical Assistants

Miss P.M. JORDAN

Mrs. J.E. CRISP

Pest Control Officer

M. J. TILLEY (w.e.f. 2.7.73.)

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Aldershot,
Hants.

Tel.No. ALDERSHOT 22441

ex 21

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for the year 1973

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1973.

This is the last report by the Medical Officer of Health, as the post ceases to exist on 31st March 1974.

The Health of the Borough has been good. Influenza was reported in December but there was no large epidemic. Measles was prevalent and, as last year, many children had not been immunised against it. The figures are still far below those of the years before immunisation was introduced but if parents do not take advantage of the scheme, the cases will soon build up.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population was 33,750. This is 790 less than last year. It can be due to people moving from re-development areas to our housing estates outside the Borough or partly perhaps to troup movements.

The Health Centre is now established as a feature of the Town's service.

The new Frimley Park Hospital is opening in the autumn of 1974.

Since the decision was made to unite Aldershot and Farnborough in the new District of Rushmoor, the plans for amalgamation of the two Health Departments have proceeded. All staff who are not retiring or otherwise leaving have been absorbed. I am very pleased to say that Mr. W.E. Roberts at present Chief Public Health Inspector in the Borough, has been appointed Borough Health Officer.

On the National Health Service side, a N.E. Hants/W. Surrey Health District has been made. It will include the whole of Rushmoor and will be administered by the Surrey Area Health Authority. The Medical Adviser to Rushmoor, who will perform many of the functions of the former Medical Officer of Health, will be provided from the staff of the Health District. The District General Hospital will be at Frimley and it is not yet decided which of the smaller hospitals may be needed for ancillary purposes.

In conclusion, I must thank the Chairman, Aldershot Mrs. V. L. Nevett, and the Members of the Health and Housing Committee for their interest and support during the year; also Dr. Bradford, my Deputy, Mr. Roberts and my staff of the Health Department for their loyalty and co-operation and their hard work for the reorganisation of the Department.

This is my last report, as I shall retire when the post ceases to exist on 31st March 1974. My experience in Local Government has been short but it has been interesting and very enjoyable, largely due to the kindness and co-operation of all, Members and Officials, with whom I have worked.

I am,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

I. H. C. MORTON

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 1973

VITAL STATISTICS

Estimated population for mid-year 1973 (including non-civilian) .. 33,750

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Aldershot</u>	<u>Rate for England & Wales</u>
Total (33 illegitimate)	613	
Rate per 1,000 population	18.2	
Rate adjusted by comparability factor(0.77)	14.0	13.7
Illegitimate births as a percentage of total	5	9

STILL BIRTHS

Total (illegitimate nil)	3	
Rate per 1,000 all births	5	12

TOTAL ALL BIRTHS

616

DEATHS - all ages

Total	295	
Rate per 1,000 population	8.7	
Rate adjusted by comparability factor (1.47)	12.8	12.0

INFANT DEATHS AND MORTALITY RATES:

Total under 1 year (illegitimate nil)	9	
Rate per 1,000 live births	15	17
Total under four weeks (neonatal)(illegitimate nil).	6	
Rate per 1,000 live births	10	11
Total under one week (early neonatal)(illegitimate nil)	4	
Rate per 1,000 live births	7	10
Perinatal (still births plus early neonatal)	7	
Rate per 1,000 all births	11	21

MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion)

nil

Number of domestic houses and flats at 31.3.73	8,529
Number of Commercial Premises	1,216
Number of Licensed Premises (excluding Off Licences).....	43
Other Premises	168
Total Rateable Value (31st March 1974)	£4,272,768
Acreage: Civil - 1,431 S. Camp - 2,745 Total - 4,176	

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSE OF DEATH ACCORDING TO DISEASE

CAUSE OF DEATH		Male	Female	Total
B 6(1)	Late effects of respiratory tuberculosis	1	-	1
19(1)	Malignant neoplasm buccal cavity etc.	1	-	1
19(2)	Malignant neoplasm oesophagus	2	-	2
19(3)	Malignant neoplasm stomach	1	3	4
19(4)	Malignant neoplasm intestine	6	2	8
19(6)	Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus	23	2	25
19(7)	Malignant neoplasm breast	-	6	6
19(8)	Malignant neoplasm uterus	-	1	1
19(9)	Malignant neoplasm prostate	1	-	1
19(10)	Leukaemia	2	1	3
19(11)	Other malignant neoplasms etc.	6	12	18
20	Benign and unsuspected neoplasms	-	1	1
21	Diabetes mellitus	-	2	2
26	Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	-	1
27	Hypertensive heart disease	-	1	1
28	Ischaemic heart disease	42	28	70
29	Other forms of heart disease	4	6	10
30	Cerebrovascular disease	6	27	33
31	Influenza	1	-	1
32	Pneumonia	17	9	26
33(1)	Bronchitis and emphysema	12	12	24
33(2)	Asthma	1	1	2
34	Peptic ulcer	2	1	3
37	Cirrhosis of liver	-	2	2
42	Congenital anomalies	2	3	5
43	Difficult delivery and/or anoxic condition . .	3	-	3
46(1)	Other endocrine etc. diseases	-	1	1
46(4)	Multiple sclerosis	-	1	1
46(5)	Other diseases of nervous system etc.	1	2	3
46(6)	Other diseases of circulatory system	4	11	15
46(8)	Other diseases of digestive system	1	3	4
46(11)	Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	2	2
BE47	Motor vehicle accidents	4	2	6
48	All other accidents	5	3	8
49	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-	1
Total		150	145	295

Comments on Causes of Death

There were fewer deaths from coronary heart disease, but it is sad to record that one patient was only 24 years of age and another 34 years of age.

Cancer of the lung shows a marked increase to the level of four years ago.

There were considerably more deaths from chest illness, especially chronic bronchitis, but very few directly attributed to influenza.

There was one death from accidental hypothermia, aged 81 years.

There were ten deaths in children under a year old, four were due to congenital abnormalities, three to prematurity, one birth injury, one due to intestinal infection and one cot death. There were three still births.

INCIDENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968, the infectious diseases notified during 1973 are shown compared with the three previous years

	1970	1971	1972	1973
Measles	118	7	16(154)	131
Whooping Cough	6	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	2	1	-
Malaria	-	5	5	3
Dysentery	-	11	1(2)	1
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	2	-
Food Poisoning	2	4	1(12)	3(4)
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9	12	14	14
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	2	2	-
Infective Jaundice	9	13	11	5
Leptospirosis	-	-	-	1

The figures in brackets are the numbers which came to our notice from all sources.

There was an outbreak of measles in the Spring due to the decrease in the number of children immunised against measles.

Three cases of malaria occurred in Army personnel from abroad.

Sporadic cases of infective hepatitis occurred, four of the five being Army personnel.

Cholera alerts occurred during the Summer following information of cases from India in April and from the cholera outbreak in Tunisia in July when six cases were imported and again from the outbreak in Italy in August. No cases occurred in this area.

A case of leptospirosis occurred as a result of an Army exercise canoeing in Yorkshire.

Eleven cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified by the Army - six being discovered in Gurkha troops, and three male civilian cases occurred.

Food poisoning consisted of four isolated cases. One of them was due to an organism fairly new to the scene - the bacillus cereus, which sometimes occurs in rice; it is activated, like the other food organisms, by not cooling the food quickly after cooking if it is to be kept for some future meal.

Smallpox alerts occurred in March when there was an imported case of smallpox in a man returning from India, later the same month a laboratory technician developed smallpox as a result of which two contacts died. Since then several cases were thought to be smallpox but investigation proved negative. No cases occurred in this area. One or two people have been kept under surveillance after arriving here from smallpox endemic areas without valid vaccination certificates.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

One case of syphilis occurred - a late case contracted some years previously. There were eleven cases of gonorrhoea, eight male and three female, all over 18 years of age. Other infections were nineteen males and six females - two of the girls being under 18 years of age.

The national figures for gonorrhoea are still rising and will continue to rise as long as promiscuous behaviour continues. The ancient virtue of chastity outside marriage is not only a moral and spiritual ideal, but also very sound Public Health practice and no chance should be missed of emphasizing this, particularly by anyone in contact with the vulnerable age groups.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Health Department has permanent space on the Council's Notice Boards. The subjects this year have been, as usual, Food Hygiene and Smoking, and also Safety at Home. Although Health Education has always figured in the Medical Officer's section of the Report, it is hoped that it will continue as an Environmental Health activity in the new District.

COMMITTEE ON DRUG ABUSE

Over the year, it became evident that the Committee was not achieving a great deal. It had originally adopted an educational and preventive role, which had dwindled as the schools became less dependent on outside lecturers. The various agencies dealing with drug users worked very closely together but were reluctant to discuss their activities in a Committee. So any co-ordinating role was not practical.

After discussion it was decided not to dissolve the Committee but to suspend activity until after the reorganisation of the National Health Service in case there was any function for it in the new system. In such case, it would have to seek administrative support from the new Rushmoor District.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

CIVIL

Aldershot General Hospital

General	33 beds
Maternity	24 beds
Children	6 beds

Casualty Department closed 1.2.72.

Outpatients Department includes Surgical (including plastic and oral surgery), Medical, Gynaecological, Ante-natal, E.N.T., Paediatric, Ophthalmic, Special Treatment (V.D), Psychiatric and Pathological facilities.

Northfield Hospital (admits military personnel)

Acute Medical Ward	14 beds (6 male and 8 female)
Infectious Diseases	12 beds
Geriatric Ward	28 beds

Chest Clinic - covering adjoining areas of Hampshire and Surrey.

MILITARY (admits civilian personnel)

Cambridge Military Hospital	350 beds (crisis expansion 450)
Louise Margaret Maternity Hospital	66 beds

TUBERCULOSIS

The table immediately below gives details of the numbers of cases of tuberculosis notified to the department during the year and the figures for the preceeding four years for comparative purposes.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1969	7	5	-	-
1970	4	5	-	-
1971	11	1	1	1
1972	12	2	-	2
1973	13	1	-	-

There is a slight increase in the number of notifications for tuberculosis over preceeding years.

The Mobile Mass Radiography Unit of the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board continues to make weekly visits to the Town on Monday mornings from 11 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. It is located in the Station Approach where it is easily accessible to the public.

The following table gives full details of the Unit in Aldershot during the year under review:-

	Number Examined Total	Significant Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Primary Lung Cancer	
		Males	Females	Males	Females
Referred by General Practitioner	759	-	-	4	1
General Public (includes arrangements made for personnel to visit from factories etc.	1,980	-	-	-	1

B.C.G. All 13 year old children in the area were offered B.C.G. - vaccination giving protection against tuberculosis.
84% consents were received and 388 children were vaccinated.
There were 15 positive heaf tests, these children not requiring vaccination.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION PROCEDURES
during the year ending 31st December 1973

The following tables give details of the numbers immunised and vaccinated during the year 1973.

Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus Immunisation
Poliomyelitis Vaccination, Measles and German Measles Immunisation

Completed Primary Courses

Type of Vaccine	YEAR OF BIRTH					Under 16	Total
	1973	1972	1971	1970	1966/69		
Triple Antigen	-	470	149	18	6	1	644
Diph/Tetanus	-	5	5	1	1	-	12
Diphtheria alone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio (oral)	-	472	152	17	6	1	648
Measles	-	353	260	41	30	5	689
German Measles	-	-	-	-	-	281	231

Reinforcing Doses

Type of Vaccine	YEAR OF BIRTH					Under 16	Total
	1973	1972	1971	1970	1966/69		
Triple Antigen	1	1	10	14	37	34	197
Diph/Tetanus	-	-	-	-	388	5	393
Diphtheria alone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio (oral)	-	1	5	8	464	434	912

Diphtheria/tetanus and poliomyelitis vaccine given at immunisation sessions in primary schools and tetanus and poliomyelitis vaccine given to those children in their last year at school have helped to maintain the high level of booster doses given in the area. Rubella vaccine is given to all girls in secondary schools between 11 and 14 years of age (subject to the parents consent).

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following statistics set out the number of primary and re-vaccinations against smallpox carried out during the year.

	MONTHS				YEARS			Total
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1 year	2-4	5-15	
Primary Vaccinations	-	2	3	7	36	67	24	139
Re-Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	17	137	154

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

No action was required.

MORTUARY

The following figures show the total number of subjects admitted to the Mortuary during the year.

Total number of subjects admitted to the Mortuary	176
Cases admitted from the Borough of Aldershot	44
Cases admitted from outside the Borough	132
Number of Post Mortems held	171
Cases admitted no Post Mortems held	5

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Aldershot Health Centre

This Health Centre has now been fully operational for some time. The telephone number is Aldershot 24577 and it is necessary to ring for an appointment before attending any of the clinics listed below.

Child Guidance
Speech Therapy
Family Planning
Cervical Cytology
Chiropody Service
Ante-Natal
Child Health
Immunisation
School Health
Dental
Audiology
Audiometric
Hearing Test
Eye Clinic

Frimley Park Hospital

This Hospital is now open and all other clinics not listed above, i.e. Chest Clinic, Special Clinic (VD) etc., are held there. A comprehensive list is not available at the present moment. The telephone number of the Hospital is Camberley (91) 62121 and it is necessary to make an appointment.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

The Water Supply for the area is very similar to that of last years report.

2. Swimming Baths and Pools

The Indoor Pool closed down during 1973. Samples were taken from the Outdoor Pool during the summer months. The chlorination and filtration plants are working satisfactorily.

3. Hardness of Water

Analyses were carried out and all results satisfactory.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Aldershot

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1973, my 28th as your Chief Public Health Inspector.

This will be the last Annual Report of its kind as the reorganisation of the Health Services and of Local Government make it inappropriate in its present form. The statutory requirement for Annual Reports ceases with the repeal of the Public Health Officers Regulations on 1st April 1974 under the Local Government Act 1972.

I have been appointed to lead the Health Team of the new Borough of Rushmoor and I shall endeavour to fulfil the post with drive and determination and to utilise resources and staff in the best interest of the community.

Planning toward the formation of the new District goes on apace and the reorganisation during the transitional period involves new activities creating problems which have to be coped with in addition to existing workloads. It is true to say that the upheaval of reorganisation will involve far-reaching changes for both staff and organisation. Additional activities and organisation problems will continue long after 1st April 1974 and it is hoped that the integration of existing strengths within the inspectorate can be utilised in the environment where detailed knowledge is present.

It is hoped that assimilation of staff into the new departmental structures and helping staff to adjust to the new organisation are key issues in which the need to maintain morale and prevent wastage are of prime consideration.

Discussions spread over several years with adjoining Authorities have failed to bring to fruition the scheduled construction of the refuse pulverisation plant as recommended in the Local Government Operational Research Unit Report (C96) dated June 1971 and this, coupled with the Government restriction on public spending, may well cause problems when planning for refuse disposal after 1st April 1974.

Environmental improvements are well advanced in the Alexandra General Improvement Area and the allocation of garages is shortly to be completed.

Satisfactory progress has been made with regard to the provision of amenities by way of Improvement Grants. Inspections reveal there is room for improvement in the standard of workmanship carried out by some Contractors and the insistence that the product of shoddy workmanship is put right only delays the ultimate completion date and payment of grant.

In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee for their interest, help and support in the work of the department; to Dr. I.H.C. Morton for his general guidance and advice; to my Inspectors and to all members of the staff of the department for their loyal service and assistance willingly given throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. E. ROBERTS

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

General

The Housing and Public Health Acts empower Local Authorities to secure the carrying out of repairs necessary to bring unfit houses up to the required standard of fitness for healthy habitation. Informal action was usually sufficient to get the required work carried out and only in the minimal of cases has it been necessary to resort to formal action. Owners and Agents find difficulty in obtaining labour to carry out necessary repair work and in this connection delay is inevitable.

Housing Act 1969 and the Housing Finance Act 1972

Improvement of Houses

National Policy provides for the improvement of houses, which although built many years ago, are structurally sound but lack the amenities now considered necessary and essential for healthy living. The standard of fitness should attain that of the recognised 12 point standard, as laid down in the Act.

Improvement Grants

Every effort has been made to publicise the availability of grants within the Improvement Grant Scheme and of the many visits made and inspections carried out, a total of 89 owners signified their firm intention of seeking grant aid to upgrade their properties. Improvement work in respect of 70 properties was completed during the year.

Qualification Certificates

Only three applications were received during the year, a reflection of the provisions laid down in the Housing Finance Act 1972, whereby it is no longer necessary for a Landlord to apply for a Qualification Certificate before proceeding with improvements.

General Improvement Area

The area comprises approximately 253 properties and was declared in 1971. Since that date 37 houses have been provided with amenities. Nos. 65/67 Queens Road have been demolished and the site made available. Nos. 108, 108, 110 Queens Road have been demolished and flats will be erected in due course. Demolition of the old Stables in Alexandra Road was completed and the erection of twenty-two garages, on order, are expected to be completed at an early date. Closure of Alison Road to make way for Alison Way was completed and flower beds were laid out and shrubs planted.

Slum Clearance

There were no areas submitted as Clearance Area during 1973. The rehousing of occupants of properties in areas already submitted and confirmed is extremely slow and is very much at the mercy of available housing stock.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

Houses occupied by persons who do not form a single household vary a great deal but there were no problems during the year. It is anticipated that problems will be found when detailed inspections are carried out. When a property considered suitable and likely to be used for this type of occupation changes hand a "one direction" indication on the local search is made.

LOCAL LAND CHARGES

The number of requests for official search of the Land Charges Register totalled 956 and the required information supplied. This was a decrease of 73 over the previous year.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION - Clean Air Act 1968

A steady decline in the use of solid fuels has virtually eliminated domestic smoke from the atmosphere and there have been no problems in this connection. Garden bonfires still cause concern but only on one occasion was it necessary to give informal warning in response to a complaint.

NOISE NUISANCE - Noise Abatement Act 1960

Several firms operating round the clock collection and delivery services have in the past been the subject of complaints regarding noise in the early hours of the morning. Suggestions put forward by the Department's Inspectorate have abated the nuisance and no further complaints have been received.

DRAINAGE

All drainage systems are traced and properly sealed off from Public Sewers before demolition of unfit houses and other properties in development areas are condemned. Notified complaints involving the investigation, tracing and freeing of obstructed drains and sewers numbered 279.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are no premises within the Borough licensed under this Act.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1965

There are no premises within the Borough licenced under this Act. The Cattery previously notified is now no longer in existence.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Three premises within the Borough are licensed under this Act, the owners offering for sale small pet animals, cage birds, fish and tortoises. Frequent inspections are made of the premises, ensuring that they are maintained in a satisfactory manner and that due consideration is given to animals, birds, etc., offered for sale.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

There are four premises registered by the Local Authority dealing in scrap metal.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960 Section 3

One license was granted to station a caravan on a site attached to an Engineering Firm where all necessary amenities are available. Caravans and temporary sites occupied by travellers in connection with fairs and circuses visiting the Borough are subject to inspection as necessary. There are no permanent Caravan Sites situated within the Borough.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

Mr. M. J. Tilley was appointed to the post of Pest Control Officer and commenced his duties on 2nd July 1973. He has dealt with a wide variety of notified complaints in an efficient manner.

Regular inspections and treatments are given to all premises where rats and mice are likely to become established, especially such haunts as the Council Tip, Sewage Works, building sites etc. Under the 1961 Public Health Act, Local Authorities are empowered to destroy pigeons. The trapping of pigeons (with humane traps) continues and although some measure of success has been achieved, the numbers still remain high.

The North Hants Pest Control Committee has met throughout the year and interesting discussion has provided valued information for Inspectors and elected members to use to advantage in their Constituent Authorities.

The work carried out and the materials used during the year are summarised below:-

Number of properties inspected	965
Number of properties found to be infested	671
Number of dwelling houses treated	550
Number of business and agricultural premises treated	121
Total number of visits, inspections, pre-baiting and baiting..	2013

Total Quantity of Poisons, Baits and Materials used during 1973

1000 Baitrays	1 cwt. Pinhead Oatmeal
3000 Polythene Bags 4" x 6"	56 lbs. Warfarin "Mastermix" 0.5%
2000 Polythene Bags 6" x 8"	2 cwt. Cut Wheat
1 doz. 6oz. Aerosols "Dethlac"	24 lbs. Castor Sugar
4 lbs. Alpha Chloralose	24 lbs. Plain Flour
2 x 4 gals. Zaldecide	2 x 25 Kilgram B411 Ris Insecticide
3 kilo (6. 6lb) Zinc Phosphate	4 x 7 lb. Dieldrin D510/1% Dust
1 doz. Aerosol Fly Spray 12 oz.	

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES

Disinfestation is carried out where a verminous infestation is reported. Incidence has been minimal and has decreased over the past year. Furniture and effects belonging to prospective Council tenants are inspected prior to their taking up residence and where necessary treatment is carried out forthwith.

BURIAL OF THE DEAD - National Assistance Act 1948 Section 50

Where a person dies or is found dead in the district (other than in hospital) without any relatives or financial means and where no funeral arrangements can be made by any other person, the Local Authority is responsible for the disposal of the body. There were two cases falling within this category during the year.

SHOPS ACT 1950

Exemption orders allowing traders to open six days a week number seven, and requests from a number of shopkeepers to do likewise are at present thwarted due to existing legislation demanding fifty per cent of the traders of a particular class to be in agreement to open.

SHOPS (EARLY CLOSING DAY) ACT 1956

The majority of shops, excepting those enjoying a six day week, close on Wednesday afternoon. A departure from the traditional Wednesday half day has become necessary for some employees in order to meet the staffing requirements of the larger firms.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Complaints notified have been speedily remedied and it has not been necessary to resort to legal proceedings during the year.

Registration and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered during the year	No. of Registered Premises at end of year	No. of Registered Premises receiving general inspection during year
Offices	1	93	29
Retail Shops	2	245	56
Wholesale Shops & Warehouses	-	23	4
Catering Establishments open to public. Canteens	-	23	9
Fuel Storage Depots	-	3	-
Totals	3	387	98

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act = 293.

Analysis of Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions Found
4	Cleanliness 7
6	Temperature -
7	Ventilation 2
9	Sanitary Conveniences 2
10	Washing Facilities 4
16	Floors, Passages, Stairs 5
-	Other Matters 6
	26

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises

Class Of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	1722
Retail Shops	2031
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	974
Catering Establishment open to the public. Canteens.	211
Fuel Storage Depots	13
TOTAL	4951
Total Males	2305
Total Females	2646

Accidents

Nine accidents were reported and investigated. None involved Statutory action. One person subsequently died as the result of a fall from one floor to another, and recommended additional safety precautions have been introduced. With reasonable care a number of accidents reported could be avoided as personal carelessness is usually the main cause. There is a need for adequate training and supervision from management and your Inspectors by instruction and propaganda endeavour to promote awareness in the employees that could result in a reduction of casualties.

Analysis of Reported Accidents

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale Warehouses
Machinery	-	1	-
Falls of Persons	-	3	2
Handling Goods	-	1	-
Struck by Falling Objects	-	-	2

FACTORIES

PREMISES	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (non-mechanical)	7	4	-	-
Factories (mechanical)	170	57	2	-
Other premises				
TOTAL	177	61	2	-

Number of Cases in which Defects were Found and Nuisances Reported

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to HM Insp.	Referred by HM Insp.	Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
Noise	1	1	-	-	-

OUTWORKERS - Factories Act 1961

Inspection visits were made to outworkers premises and in all cases were found to be satisfactory. There are 12 registered outworkers within the Borough.

Registered Factories

Bakers	Manufacturing Chemist
Battery Manufacturers	Marine Store
Book Repairers	Medal Makers
Briar Pipe Makers	Metal Fabrication
Cardboard Cartons	Mineral Water Manufacturers
Chemical Engraving	Motor Repairs
Coffin Makers	Musical Instrument Makers
Concrete Products	Opticians
Cycle Repairers	Paint Spraying
Dairy	Paper Baling
Denture Manufacturer	Photographers
Dressmakers	Plumbers
Education and Office Equipment	Polo Stick Manufacturers
Electric Blanket Makers	Poultry Packing
Electrical Engineering	Printing
French Polisher	Radio & TV Repairers
Glass Cutter	Saddlers
Glass Fibre Manufacturer	Sausage Makers
Hatter	Sculptor (Monumental)
Joinery & Timber Products	Sewing Machine Repairers
Knitwear	Sign Makers
Launderette	Tail
Laundries	Typewriter Repairs
Light Engineering	Tyre Fitting and Wheel Balancing
	Upholsterers

DRY CLEANING

The various solvents in use at Coin Operated Dry Cleaning Plants present a health hazard if inhaled and all premises are inspected on occasion. Suitable notices are displayed, without exception, drawing attention to the need for care in handling articles immediately after processing.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Inspection of Meat

The Military Abattoir is the only Slaughterhouse situated within the Borough and provides for the practical and theoretical training of Military Personnel as well as for the training of Ministry Meat Graders.

Your Health Inspectors maintained one hundred per cent inspection of all carcasses slaughtered for human consumption during 1973. Local butchers receive their meat supplies from wholesalers situated outside the district. Inspection of vehicles used for the transport of meat is regularly maintained and for those handling meat supplies, inspection ensures they are suitably clothed in the appropriate protective garments.

Carcasses and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Slaughtered	824	25	-	1175	715
Number Inspected	824	25	-	1175	715
<u>All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	1
Parts condemned	454	18	-	96	144
Percentage	55.09%	72.00%	-	8.7%	20.14%
<u>Cysticercosis only</u>					
Carcasses	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses treated by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-
<u>T.B. Only</u>					
Whole carcasses	-	-	-	-	-
Parts	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage	-	-	-	-	-

The Weight of Condemned Meat and Offal at the Military Abattoir amounted to:-

	Tons	Cwts.	lbs.
Meat	-	2	50
Offal	1	16	35
Total	1	18	35

Cysticercus Bovis

The organs taken from one beast were found to be affected with cysticercus bovis and were condemned. The carcass was subjected to the prescribed period of refrigeration before being released for human consumption.

Disposal of Condemned Meat and Other Food

All meat and other foods considered unsuitable for human consumption are condemned and certificates issued. They are destroyed or disposed of under supervision, or if suitable used for non-edible purposes.

Slaughter of Animals Act 1958

One Slaughtermans Licence was issued during the year. Your Health Inspectors ensure that standards of hygiene demanded by the Act are upheld at all times and that animals intended for slaughter are kept and handled in a humane manner.

Food Inspection

Your Inspectors ensure that the wholesomeness of the public food supply is maintained at the level demanded and careful inspection is carried out with this aim in mind.

Food Hygiene (Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970)

Strict control and rotation is essential if food is to be maintained in optimum condition and your Inspectors constantly carry out "spot" checks to ensure foodstuffs offered are within the prescribed period of their shelf life. Warnings have been given in some cases and managements reminded of their obligation in training staff in the efficient handling of perishable foodstuffs.

Consequent upon the high cost of labour, many firms are turning toward the provision of vending machines as a means of providing refreshment for their employees. The need for improvement in the daily cleaning of vending machines is urged. Inspection results show that a few machines were not up to the standard of cleanliness expected. Furthermore, it is essential when siting machines that the location is such that damage to service doors is not liable to occur and allow entry of small rodents and the like.

Food Condemned (Other Premises)

Meat and Meat Products

739 lbs. Beef
164 lbs. Pork
12 lbs. Lamb
70 lbs. Bacon
10 lbs. Ox Liver
8 lbs. Pigs Liver
23 lbs. Lambs Liver
14 lbs. Pigs Kidneys
102 lbs. Lambs Kidneys
16 lbs. Cowheels
430 Chickens approx. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. each.

Groceries, Fruit, etc.

14 lbs. Capsicums
1170 lbs. Tomatoes
750 lbs. Potatoes
2 lbs. Cauliflower
9971 lbs. Bananas
290 lbs. Melons
974 lbs. Miscellaneous Canned Goods
50 lbs. Dried Milk
43 lbs. Canned Milk

Meat (Canned)

264 lbs. Corned Beef
27 lbs. Ham
74 lbs. Frankfurters
10 lbs. Pork Shoulder
12 lbs. Pork with stuffing
30 lbs. Haggis
3 lbs. Luncheon Meat

Frozen Foods

1340 packets = 1014 lbs.

Total Weight of Other Foods Condemned = 7 tons 15 cwts. 85 lbs.

Total Weight of All Food, including Diseased Meat, condemned during the year= 9 tons 14 cwts. 53 lbs.

POULTRY INSPECTION

One of the largest poultry processing plants in the country operates within the Borough with an average weekly throughput totalling 167,362 birds. This exceeds last years average by 9,946 per week.

As reported in last years Annual Report changes are in progress to bring processing standards in line with those set out in the directive adopted by the Council of the European Community.

Total number of Birds processed during the year :-

Type	Processed	Rejected as Unfit	Dead on Arrival
Broilers	8,533,711	9,302	39,823
Super Heavies	46,048	616	476
Heavies	97,608	430	832
Totals	8,677,367	10,348	41,131
Percentages		.12%	.47%

Grant Total = 8,728,846

Average Weekly throughput Total = 167,862

Total Weight of Poultry Rejected for Human Consumption (Based on Average Weights) including Dead on Arrival:-

87 tons 9 cwts. 4 lbs.

BAKEHOUSES

There are five bakehouses situated within the Borough; none of modern construction. The bulk of bread and confectionery retailed locally is supplied and delivered daily by nationally known firms from their bakeries situated outside the Borough.

LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS 1963

There are no premises in the district coming within the provisions of these Regulations.

COMPLAINTS OF FOREIGN BODIES AND SUBSTANCES IN FOOD

There have been 51 complaints regarding foreign matter or mould in foodstuffs investigated during the year and two were the subject of legal proceedings and are listed below:-

Eccles Cake - containing piece of glass - fined £30 costs £22.

Frozen Peas - containing snail - fined £50 costs £15.

All complaints received are the subject of careful examination, investigation and consideration, as all relevant enquiry details decide the action necessary to bring the matter to a successful conclusion.

ICE CREAM

The total number of premises within the district registered for the sale of ice cream is 103. Twenty-three samples were taken for bacteriological examination, including two voids, and the provisional gradings are as shown:-

Grade	I	II	III	IV
Soft Ice Cream	2	1	3	2
Other Ice Cream	6	2	4	1

MILK SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION

Milk distribution in the district, under the various designations, is in the main processed and bottled at one dairy in the Borough and two large central dairies sited outside the boundary. Control and sampling is carried out at the local distribution depots and at consumer level in the district.

MILK REGISTRATION AND LICENSING - Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963.

The number of registrations in force and those licensed at the end of the year are as follows:-

- 45 Dealers (Pre-packed) Licenses
- 1 Dealer (Pasteurised) Licence

MILK SAMPLING

Routine sampling of milk continued throughout the year and the 179 samples submitted for bacteriological examination were found to be satisfactory.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

91 informal samples were obtained under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the year ending 31st March 1973, and forwarded to our Public Analyst for examination. A summary of the samples submitted follows -

Commodity	No. of Samples Taken	Number Unsatisfactory	
		Analysis	Labelling
Milk Products	2	-	1
Drugs	11	1	-
Sausages	5	-	2
Meat Products	15	-	-
Tinned Meat Products	6	-	-
Miscellaneous	52	-	1

The Public Analyst commented on the following submitted samples:-

1. Pork sausages contained added preservatives without declaration, contrary to the Preservatives in Food Regulations 1962.
2. Beef sausages contained added preservatives without declaration, contrary to the Preservatives in Food Regulations 1962.
3. Milk, additive for coffee, label not in accord with the labelling of Food Regulations 1970.
4. Green olives in brine, ingredients of article not declared as required by the Labelling of Food Regulations 1970.
5. Benzocaine - sample submitted was not of the substance demanded.

Despite efforts by the new Authority to retain these functions this work will in future be administered by the County Council.

PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN FOODSTUFFS

The Authority is a partaking member of the Scheme of Sampling with regard to the joint survey of Pesticides Residues in Foodstuffs. There were no samples requested or submitted during 1973.

FOOD PREMISES

The following table classifies food premises subject to Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970.

Type of Premises	Number	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 16 (W.H. Basin with H & C.	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 19 (sinks)
Butchers	22	22	22
Bakehouses	5	5	5
Bread/Confectioners	9	9	9
Food Markets	12	12	12
Confectioners	35	35	35
Cafes and Restaurants	29	29	29
Grocers	43	43	43
Green Grocers/Fruiterers	13	13	13
Fishmongers	4	4	4
Fish Fryers/Take Aways	13	13	13
Public Houses, Hotels and other Licensed Premises	61	61	61
Factory and School Canteens	19	19	19
Milk Pasteurising	1	1	1
Ice Cream Manufacturers	6	6	6

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966 have been enforced throughout the year.

INSPECTION OF THE AREA

(A) Number and Nature of Inspections and Visits

Interviews with House Owners/Occupiers	374
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	490
Houses inspected - Improvement Grants	1173
Houses inspected - Housing Acts	334
Houses inspected - Qualification Certificates	33
Houses inspected - Clearance Areas	57
Visits in connection with General Improvement Areas	79
District Inspections	649
Drainage and Drain Testing	247
Water Supply and Sampling	8
National Assistance Act	19
Swimming Pool Sampling	97
Caravans	2
Infectious Diseases	31
Vacant Lands and Dumps	95
Water Courses and Ditches	39
Pet Shops and Keepers of Animals	32
Council Houses prior to Vacation and prospective tenants for Council Houses	251
Houses in Multiple Occupation	32
Verminous Premises and Other Vermin	213
Chicken Factory	113
Public Conveniences	7
Cinemas	7
Schools	43
Smoke Nuisance and Clean Air Act	18
Noise Abatement	16
Mortgage investigations (overcrowding)	29
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	293
Slaughterhouse	113
Butchers	83
Fishmongers and Poulterers	17
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	73
Grocers	185
Fried Fish Shops	16
Dairies	9
Ice Cream Premises	109
Restaurants	184
Food Stalls	58
Bakehouses	13
Other Food Premises	56
Vehicles and Stalls	43
Food and Drugs Sampling	92
Milk Sampling	201
Complaints received and investigated during the year	511
Inspection of unsound food	73
Factories	61

(B) NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED 87

(C) HOUSES IMPROVED

Roofs Repaired	3
Eavesgutters Repaired and Renewed	9
Rainwater Pipes Repaired or Renewed	6
Wall and Ceiling Plaster Repaired or Renewed	1
Floors Repaired or Renewed	4
Doors Repaired or Renewed	1
Water Heaters Provided or Repaired.....	2
Accumulations of Rubbish Removed	6
Ventilation Provided	1
Water Pipes Repaired	3
Draught Repairs	1
Defective Conditions (General).....	12
Redecoration.....	1
Damp-proof Courses Repaired	1

