

[Report 1967] / Medical Officer of Health, Alfreton U.D.C.

Contributors

Alfreton (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1967

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Alfreton Urban District Council



**ANNUAL
HEALTH REPORT**

1967

Alfreton Urban District Council

*With the Compliments
of the
Public Health Inspector*

*Public Health Department
The First, High Street,
Alfreton, Derby.*

Alfreton Urban District Council

**ANNUAL
HEALTH REPORT**

1967

Public Health Committee:

COUNCILLOR M. HEWITT (Chairman)
Members: All the members of the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
"THE FIRS", HIGH STREET, ALFRETON

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D. WRIGGLESWORTH

Student Public Health Inspector:

MRS. J. BARKER

General Clerk:
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Receptionist and Shorthand Typist:
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Alfreton Urban District Council

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
"THE BURS", HIGH STREET, ALFRETON

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1967-68

Alfreton Urban District Council

Chairman: Councillor J. S. HEATHCOTE
Vice-Chairman: Councillor REV. J. H. FRANCIS

ALFRETON WARD

„ R. BOWLZER
„ M. HEWITT
„ D. McNEILL
„ J. FULLWOOD
„ R. A. PETTIFER
„ M. E. POPE

SOMERCOTES WARD

Councillor W. T. RIMMINGTON
„ H. H. DEAN
„ C. HIBBIT

RIDDINGS WARD

Councillor K. HUNT
„ J. W. ROBERTS
„ F. F. RUSSELL

SWANWICK WARD

Councillor T. G. ENGLAND
„ J. G. A. GREEN
„ H. WALKER

IRONVILLE WARD

Councillor J. S. HEATHCOTE
„ Rev. J. H. FRANCIS

ALFRETON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the
Alfreton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1967.

The changes referred to in the Report for 1966 continue. Foremost are the problems concerning the employment of men from the pits which are closing. If it had not been for the vigour of the Council and its Officers, in particular the Clerk of the Council, the problems would have been much greater. As a result some degree of dismay and unhappiness has been avoided. However, work for men is still urgently needed. Every encouragement must continue to be given to industry to expand or to move into the area.

The programme for many years of constructing a new sewage disposal system, modern street lighting, paving and road making, produce a sound background for further development.

Plans for grouping all "services" required by the "Public" under one roof have been made. These await money and action. There is no doubt that this development will be of great benefit to all.

Problems continue to arise because adequate housing is not available to re-house some persons in unfit dwellings. It is a serious criticism to find that a house has been declared and accepted as unfit and is awaiting demolition and that suitable alternative accommodation is not available. It is a pleasure to feel that this is to be changed at last.

The paddling pool at the Lido has been a constant source of worry because of bad bacteriological reports. This problem has been solved at last.

We look forward to an answer to the long term problem of refuse disposal. It would be unwise to use up all available tipping space. It is essential to have some space in hand at all times in case of difficulty with modern plant and possible emergencies.

It is pleasing to note the happy and easy way the Officers of the Council work closely and smoothly together. This extends to many other people not employed by the Council. The lack of strain, sometimes noted elsewhere, is interesting.

The enthusiasm of members of the Council to support action on matters concerning health of the community is much appreciated.

Interest and help from many other people in the area is most encouraging. Thanks too, to members of the staff who make our work so much more a pleasure than just another job.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

P. WEYMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

The statistics which appear in this report have been compiled from information received from a number of sources throughout the year.

These are kept to a minimum in this report but some are necessary so that comparisons can be made with previous years.

The Registrar of Births and Deaths for Alfreton supplies a weekly return, giving details of births and deaths occurring in the area.

Notifications of infectious disease are sent in by Medical Practitioners and in cases of Tuberculosis sometimes by the Chest Physicians and Hospital Medical Officers.

The notification of suspected cases is most important, for instance, in poliomyelitis, food poisoning and dysentery. Telephone communications are much appreciated and can save a great deal of time.

Additional information about infectious disease and undiagnosed illnesses comes from hospitals, school teachers, parents, health visitors and casual conversations. At weekly and quarterly intervals, details regarding infectious disease, births and deaths are received from the Registrar General. This enables a watch to be kept on any unusually prevalent disease in the County, or surrounding districts or towns.

Information received from Medical Officers of Health or Port Medical Officers about travellers leads to surveillance of persons arriving from Smallpox areas. Sometimes contacts of Paratyphoid cases require examination to ensure that they are free from disease.

Many points occur during the year and are dealt with in a routine manner.

POPULATION

The population of the Urban District at 30th June, 1967, was estimated by the Registrar General as 22,650. This is a decrease of 90 from the estimate made at the same time in 1966.

BIRTHS

318 live births were registered, giving a crude birth rate per thousand of the population of 14.0. This figure when adjusted for comparison purposes by the application of the comparability factor of 1.06 is 14.8. This can be compared with an England and Wales rate of 17.2.

See Summary of Statistics.

INFANT MORTALITY

Six infant deaths were recorded. This gives a mortality rate per 1,000 live births of 19.0. This can be compared with an England and Wales rate of 18.3.

See Table 4.

PERINATAL MORTALITY

The number of still births and infant deaths occurring under the age of one week is 14, giving a rate per 1,000 live and still births of 43.0. The following table gives figures for the last five years:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Rate per thousand live and still births</i>	<i>Rate for England and Wales</i>
1963	8	22.3	29.3
1964	9	25.2	28.2
1965	9	25.3	26.9
1966	9	27.9	26.3
1967	14	43.0	25.4

STILL BIRTHS

The 10 still births registered give a rate per 1,000 births (live and still) of 30.0. This can be compared with a rate for England and Wales of 14.8.

DEATHS

246 deaths were registered. This gives a crude death rate per thousand of the population of 10.9, which after adjustment by the application of the comparability factor of 1.14 is 12.4 and can be compared with a rate of 11.2 for England and Wales.

Deaths from Individual Diseases

The 246 deaths are set out in Table 5 according to cause and sex.

Disease of Heart and Circulatory System

126 deaths occurred in this group, 69 males and 57 females. 52 deaths were due to coronary disease, 34 to other heart disease, 31 to vascular lesions of the nervous system and nine to other diseases of the circulatory system.

Cancer

50 deaths, 26 males and 24 females, make this the second largest group. The death rates per thousand of the population are set out in the Summary of Statistics with comparative figures for England and Wales.

There were 13 deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus, 11 of which were men.

Pneumonia and Bronchitis

There were eight deaths from pneumonia and 16 from bronchitis.

Maternal Deaths

There were no maternal deaths registered in the district.

Tuberculosis

There was one death from respiratory tuberculosis. This occurred in an elderly woman.

Accidents

10 persons, four men and six women, died as a result of accidents.

Two elderly women and one elderly man, died as a result of falls. An elderly woman and a middle-aged man died following burns, two middle-aged men died following an overdose of tablets, and a woman as a result of coal gas poisoning. A middle-aged woman died after bumping her head in the kitchen.

A young woman died after being involved in a motor vehicle accident.

Suicide

An elderly man committed suicide by drowning.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

72 cases of infectious disease were notified. Measles was responsible for 81% of this number. The incidence of individual diseases was:—Measles 58, Scarlet Fever 5, Whooping Cough 4, Pneumonia 3 and Tuberculosis 2.

Measles

58 cases were notified. The majority occurring in the 1 - 9 age group during the Spring.

Scarlet Fever

5 cases were notified—4 of these in children of school age.
See Table 7.

Tuberculosis

2 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified. One occurred in an elderly man; the other in a young woman.

Whooping Cough

4 cases were notified, all of these in children under 10 years of age. See Table 7.

HOME-MADE DISEASES

"Instant health" or almost "instant health" is the result of our modern drug industry. Unfortunately there remain diseases not yet conquered. Circulatory diseases and malignant diseases stand out in the list. More personal application to recommendations made to try and reduce these would be a step forward. Behaviour, not medicines, seems to be the key word.

Home Safety

Obvious amongst these "diseases" are home accidents of all sorts. We are fortunate in having the active Alfreton and Ripley Home Safety Committee.

As more and more technical improvements enter the home it is necessary that these come under close scrutiny by many people with different attitudes. The grouping together of people from different educational backgrounds and disciplines on a home safety committee leads to this scrutiny.

It is interesting to note that even members of Home Safety Committees can have home accidents!

The Secretary of the Alfreton and Ripley Home Safety Committee sends information about the Committee's activities.

Some points of interest and some of the activities of the Committee during the year were:—

1. Cooking utensils—types with detachable handles were demonstrated—in connection with cooker safety.
2. Oil Heaters—Fire Prevention Officer of Derbyshire County Council reported on the display of a "Safe Oil Heater". Leaflets were obtained. A talk to the Committee was also given on this matter.
3. Children's Posters—three prize-winning posters were selected and sent to Ro.S.P.A. to be exhibited at the National Home Safety Conference, 1967. All three were on show.
4. Fire Prevention Officer of Derbyshire County Council gave an explanation on the subject of different kinds of plastic (this arose through a newspaper report because a plastic material was being used for unsuitable purposes.
5. National Home Safety Conference—a delegate accompanied the Secretary and on returning gave reports to the Committee.
6. Poster Competitions—Decision to hold another Poster Competition entitled "Safety in the Home". Leaflets to be distributed to Schools, Boy Scouts, Guides, etc. This competition is in conjunction with the Rotary Club's Home Safety Week to be held in July. The prizes will be awarded on the last day of the week.
7. Home Safety Area Group Meetings at Nottingham—attended by delegate and Secretary and reports back to Committee.
8. Home Safety "Serviettes"—6,000 purchased and distributed to Primary and Junior Schools and to old age pensioners' clubs in Alfreton and Ripley for use at Christmas parties, etc.
9. Flame-resistant materials—discussions and enquiry about use in schools and children's homes.
10. I.T.V.—enquiry by Secretary on whether adverts re fire-

guards could be more frequent and enclosing a copy of the poster which has been designed on this subject for display on various public transport vehicles in these areas.

11. Hearing problems—arising out of discussions on possible dangers arising from difficulty in hearing, the Committee invited a Welfare Officer for the Adult Deaf to speak to them. Problems of deafness were discussed. Various warning systems for deaf people were mentioned.
12. B.S.I. Fireguard—demonstrated to Committee. It was interesting to find some members had not yet seen one. Inquiries and recommendations followed. Letter to Councils re provision.

Bronchitis and Lung Cancer

Comment was made during the year on the results of cigarette smoking and the problems arising from it.

It seems possible that the increase in cigarette smoking occurring from the turn of the century has now reached its maximum and is levelling off. The increase in lung cancer cases continues and will do so for some years yet.

This is an example of a habit which has got out of control. No-one would worry about the odd cigarette taken for pleasure. Chain smoking, lighting frequent cigarettes, smoking down to the last "drag" are all bad factors and ensures constant and continuous attacks on delicate lung tissue by many chemicals and fine particles.

Chest diseases are said to be more difficult to clear up and the illness lasts longer in cigarette smokers.

This is not surprising after this continuous personal pollution leading to damage of lung tissue.

Postural Deformities

Our final shape as adults depends on our way of life.

The stoop of the office worker, the overweight of the car driver, the satchel deformity of the school child who carries a heavy satchel over the same shoulder for years, bunions as a result of ill-fitting shoes all result from neglect and unawareness.

Overweight and lack of exercise have association with disease possibly accelerating or making worse disease processes already existing.

People with arthritis or disease affecting the legs suffer far more if overweight. The consequent further lack of exercise results in more overweight and more disability. Deformities increase and become permanent.

Hypothermia

Reminders were given of the dangers to the old, very young and the ill of cold damp bedrooms, poor heating and general lack of care.

Not only may old damp unheated bedrooms be a menace to the older people but they cause upsets to countless numbers of asthma and bronchitis cases. The change of temperature from a warm living room to a cold damp bedroom causes more trouble.

The encouragement given by the Council to improve houses must in the long term help to avoid some of these problems.

The other need is for regular visiting and help when required.

The other aspect of hypothermia — that of exposure and exhaustion during recreational pursuits—is much more commonly known. Advice, training and booklets are available to all interested in outdoor pursuits.

Family Infection

If one person in a family has diarrhoea then all members commonly have it. Often this is the result of poor hygiene habits. Washing hands after using the toilet and before preparing food set up a barrier if consistently carried out.

In many homes the only place for washing hands is the kitchen sink. In this vegetables and salads are also washed. Sometimes the babies nappies are also rinsed.

Modern facilities for families and modern hygiene training will prevent much unnecessary illness.

Coughing at one another is another poor habit and spreads diseases in families.

UNTREATED MILK

Following a period of vigorous national publicity, consultation on Ministry of Health Circular 17/66 took place.

This was reported to the Public Health Committee in February, 1967.

“95% of the milk sold in this country is heat treated. The process destroys organisms which may cause infection. Only heat treated milk is used in schools.

Organisms may get into milk from the cow or from persons handling the milk.

Tuberculosis was originally commonly transmitted from milk to people—causing disease of bones in particular. This has now stopped because:—

- (a) of extensive heat treatment (pasteurisation);
- (b) a successful tuberculosis eradication scheme carried out by farmers and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Lately, interest has been rising in other infections carried to people from the sale of untreated milk. In particular Brucellosis. This disease causes abortion in cattle. In people a vast variety of symptoms may occur from something like 'flu and night sweats to arthritis. Diagnosis is not always easy and the number of cases which occur is not known.

Ministry of Health Circular 17/66 refers to action by Medical Officers of Health to prevent this disease.

District Medical Officers met the County Medical Officer in January, 1967, to discuss this problem.

Following this meeting certain action is being taken. The first action was to find out the extent of the problem to initiate action as necessary.

There are five producer/retailers in the district.

In considering the general situation certain points stand out:—

- (a) Brucellosis should be made a notifiable infectious disease.
- (b) Heat treatment of all milk—but this may be thought to affect freedom of choice.
- (c) Eradication scheme for Brucellosis in cattle similar to that carried out to eradicate Tuberculosis. A job for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.
- (d) When inquiries are made some parents do not know which type of milk they buy. Sometimes they buy the untreated milk because they think it is better for their young children.
- (e) Some countries will not import cattle from another country where Brucellosis is prevalent. This may eventually produce vigorous Government action.

It is necessary to know that other diseases may be spread by untreated milk. It is, therefore, advisable to drink only milk which has had heat treatment.”

The unfortunate outbreak of foot and mouth disease at the end of 1967 cut short sampling for the year. Contact with farms was reduced to the minimum urgently required.

In areas where extensive slaughter of herds took place it would be wise to replace with only brucellosis free animals. This makes the best use of an unfortunate situation.

CARE OF THE ELDERLY

Disabled People — Housing

Attention is drawn again to the increased supply of cars and wheel chairs to people who are disabled. More money has been available to do this. The Council gives some help to these people in helping to provide suitable ground floor accommodation. As far as one can ascertain, numbers will continue to accumulate.

Problems must be considered urgent when there is only an upstairs lavatory and a disabled person downstairs.

Some of the older houses which have both upstairs and downstairs lavatories cause problems because of the difficulty of access to the downstairs toilet outside and up steps.

The sympathy and help given by the Council in a number of cases is much appreciated. It is unfortunate but necessary to warn that this may be required fairly often.

Gadgets to Help

These are usually associated with the term disabled person and handicapped persons. They are supplied as required to registered handicapped or disabled persons.

It was felt that a great number of people were not obtaining benefit from gadgets because they were unaware of them or were not yet sufficiently handicapped to be "registered."

As a result, considerable effort was made to publicise these gadgets over a large area.

Public Health Committees and Home Safety Committees were involved.

The following report was made.

"Much thought has been given to producing aids to help the disabled. Unfortunately not enough of this information is common knowledge or possibly is just not considered by relatives.

Many of these aids might be useful long before a person becomes old or officially "disabled." "Restricted movement" is often an early problem.

It is too late to think of these items for Christmas presents, but opportunities often arise for this sort of thing.

Unfortunately a wish not to appear handicapped makes a person refuse aids. However, if an aid is left at the house often the person will eventually experiment in private and then be extremely pleased with success.

This is a very brief list.

1. Long-handled shoehorn—for those who cannot or should not bend to put on shoes—(because of inability, pain or dizziness).
2. Elastic shoelaces—often used for young children, equally of assistance to older people and useful with (1) above (shoe tongue should be stitched to upper to prevent it being displaced).
3. Dressing help—short stick 12in. with knob on end to list clothes over shoulder.
4. Grip aids—pens, pencils, forks, spoons and similar objects may be difficult to hold. A much thicker handle is often of great assistance and certainly makes it easier to pick up objects.
5. Lazy tongs—useful to reach for objects and pick things up off the floor.
6. Long handled forks and spoons may also be of assistance.
7. Lever handles to doors—extended handles on top are also helpful.
8. Incontinence pants and pads — for those liable to have urgent calls to lavatories and wish to get about when lavatories may not be available. Deodorants and ointments to prevent soreness should also be obtained from chemist.

9. Drinking—for those with shaky hands drinking may be a problem.
 - (a) Drinking straws of any length may be made from plastic tubing.
 - (b) Plastic unspillable cups on a swivel controlled by the mouth may be available or constructed.
10. Cooker safeguards—these have been discussed at intervals and occasionally one is seen. They support the handles of pans on the cooker and avoid accidental knocking off the cooker.
11. In the kitchen right heights are most important. A stool with adjustable seat will assist.
12. Wall attached can opener is most important.

Thought and discussion will often find a solution to the apparently most intractable problems. The handyman or a craft centre will often finish the job.

Many voluntary organisations are interested in these problems. The Central Council for the Disabled, the British Red Cross, St. John Ambulance Brigade. Sometimes the County Council Home Nursing Service can help or the District Welfare Officer will discuss and advise."

Poor Eyesight

A reminder was issued that it is possible to obtain from libraries books especially printed in large type. These are often seen in houses where there is a partially sighted person.

Sometimes an older or indeed a young person is noted who should have an eye test and probably benefit from glasses. Visitors might keep this in mind.

A remarkable change in outlook may occur when satisfactory glasses are obtained. The world around becomes different and more exciting.

One relative complained that she had taken magazines to a friend for years—but that the friend had stopped reading them. On enquiry and discussion the friend had not had an eye test. The supply of spectacles helped to bring back some of the old interests.

Incapacity to Garden

Every year towards the end of the summer, comments are made on gardens, especially Council house tenants' gardens. The following comments may be of interest. As a result the Council looked at this problem.

"An old couple changed accommodation to assist the Council. Their old garden was in good order. The new one may never have been properly cultivated.

Their family doctor said they were not fit to dig their garden.

In spite of this the old man did and is doing a first-class job but moaning bitterly at the long grass and hedge condition.

Once again the problem of gardens at the height of the weed growing and hedge growing season is apparent.

Many tenants do not want gardens or have not the patience, capacity or interest to develop them. One family when told to dig their garden do just this and leave it until they are told to do it again.

As pointed out to me by your Clerk, houses must have space between them.

Some time ago an organisation approached me in another town and asked what would be the most useful thing to do.

It was suggested that old people's gardens seemed to cause the greatest worry and problems. We don't dig gardens they said. It was suggested that if proper advice was obtained from modern horticulturists and park superintendents it should be possible to lay out old people's gardens so as to require little or no maintenance. It must be possible to produce a few schemes on this basis.

The only alternative seems to be to clear the whole area and lay down open access grass spaces and run the Council's grass cutter up and down at intervals."

HEALTH EDUCATION

Almost all we do in the health department is associated in some way with education and health.

Opportunity at Committee meetings is taken to present brief reports on other matters.

Smoking in public places, drowning accidents, cancer of the breast, and hypothermia were reported on in this manner for general information.

Drug Dependence

Information was provided and discussion took place on this problem.

HYGIENE IN THE HOME

As a result of comments on the need for wash-hand basins if an adequate standard of hygiene is to be obtained, the Surveyor reported that 402 Council houses have no wash-hand basins.

FAMILY PLANNING

During the year the following report was submitted to your Public Health Committee.

"A report on Ministry of Health Circular 5/66 has been delayed so that reaction to the circular could be obtained. The development of the service envisaged is a duty of the local health authority (Derbyshire County Health Committee).

Extracts from the circular are:—

1. "The Minister of Health has had under consideration the present and future development of family planning services. These

he regards as an essential aspect of family welfare. Planned parenthood strengthens family life; lack of planning, often due to ignorance of effective methods of contraception, may lead to marital disharmony, ill-health and social breakdown, and in some cases even to criminal abortion and death. The Minister therefore urges local health authorities to review their present arrangements for family planning immediately in the light of these considerations and of the suggestions made in the following paragraphs."

2. "General medical practitioners are also, of course, concerned with family planning advice and may provide it as part of the general medical care of their patients. Many patients will choose to go to their own doctors for such advice, and local authorities will no doubt have this in mind in making their own arrangements."

3. "The Minister regards general education in family planning as a most important part of health education, which authorities have power to undertake under Section 179 of the Public Health Act, 1936. It should feature in courses of talks or discussions arranged for parents' groups, mothers in clinics, etc.; in exhibitions, articles in the press, and other forms of general publicity and not least in the day-by-day educational activities of health visitors, midwives, social workers and others in their visits to the home. In all these ways, help and encouragement can be given in creating a stable and healthy family life."

At present, family planning advice is available from family doctors and from clinics at Chesterfield, Ilkeston and Derby.

The County plan to have a clinic at Alfreton in the near future. Most arrangements are made and run by the Family Planning Association on behalf of authorities or independently.

Other points to be made:—Family planning is often considered to be the prevention of unwanted births and arrangements for suitable contraceptive measures.

This is a very narrow outlook but the subject is centred more correctly on intercourse problems and conception.

Advice and investigation is needed on hygiene, menstrual problems (pain and disability especially) painful intercourse, infertility (investigation of both the man and the woman is necessary).

Should all persons about to be married produce a medical certificate or be examined? There are abnormalities and difficulties which might be found and some of the mental upset and desperate unhappiness avoided if they are dealt with.

Many doctors have no special training in these matters—but may be able to advise on who should be seen. Obviously more Family Planning Clinics are needed, remembering that their object is far wider than just advice on contraception."

At the time of writing, the Family Planning Association have an evening clinic at Alfreton which latterly has developed into two evening sessions.

It is a great pleasure to say "thank you" to the Association and especially to those workers who give up their time freely and with

enthusiasm. There is no doubt about the need of this type of clinic. Advice and help is available for those who ask for it.

CO-OPERATION

During the year help and advice have been given to many people. Equally comments have been received from many people.

Every effort is made to keep close contact with County Council staff working on problems in the District.

An occasional case conference on a problem family takes up a great deal of time. By the time such a meeting is called the problems are no longer liable to a quick and early solution. It is usually held when everyone is stuck and cannot get any further with the problems. Whilst this exchange of ideas is useful, to be beneficial to the problem families it needs to be called at an early date to anticipate and prevent the problems arising.

DRINKING WATER

Old habits of running to waste the first water from the tap are disappearing. Perhaps this is due to modern hurry and rush or due to the improved quality of supplies. It is still wise to run to waste a small quantity of water before drawing water for drinking purposes. This removes deposits from pipe, stale water from overnight standing and any possible amount of accumulated chemicals from any reaction over this period.

Never use water from the hot tap for drinking or cooking purposes. Investigation of the cistern will show deep deposits, dead birds, debris of all kinds. In addition, some chemical action may take place in the tank or hot water pipe.

So do not use this water for drinking or cooking purposes.

A letter from the Chief Medical Officer Ministry of Health on lead in drinking water gave details of some recent considerations on problems arising from this substance. Information available did not indicate that lead was found in the water supplies of the District. Analysts reports confirmed this.

In order to see how bad a situation could arise the Chief Public Health Inspector was requested to arrange for water samples to be taken from hot water supply pipes in houses with lead pipes and if possible when water had been in the pipe overnight.

The result of these investigations indicates that lead can be found in the hot water supply, where there are lead pipes, as had been expected.

This is partly the reason for the above warning—not to drink or use for cooking purposes the water from the hot tap.

Discussion with various people indicates that it is not unusual to fill the kettle from the hot water tap in order to obtain hot water quickly.

Lead is a cumulative poison and has long been notorious for its ill-effects.

The gradual disappearance of lead pipes and replacement by copper or other types of pipe is much to our advantage.

Prevention of Drowning Accidents

At intervals requests for information about any water which might constitute a hazard are made. The Home Safety Committee considered the problem.

In particular for details of any water which might be safeguarded. The adventurous nature of some children should not be deterred but access to dangerous situations should not be possible.

Learning to swim at an early age is another defence. This requires suitable learner baths available all the year round.

Classes in first aid and in teaching modern methods of resuscitation are extremely important. It is a pleasure to record that this is well understood. The voluntary organisations are most helpful.

VISIT OF MASS X-RAY UNIT, 1967

"Arrangements have been made for Nottingham No. 2 Mass Radiography Unit, under the control of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board, to visit Alfreton from 22nd February until 3rd March, 1967.

The Unit will be stationed at the Civil Defence Centre beside the Public Library in High Street, Alfreton. Time of sessions will be exhibited on posters and on leaflets. Leaflets will be distributed through Schools, Public Library and Factories, Council Offices and Post Office, Alfreton.

Leaflets will also be available at your meeting for your convenience.

All those who serve the public across a counter and may be 'coughed at', are advised to attend. Perhaps employers, especially of small numbers of people, will allow their staff to call in at a convenient moment. (Grandparents with a cough are especially welcome).

Men and women may attend together. Special arrangements have been made by the unit to visit the larger factories."

"Dr. Guthrie, Director of the Unit, reports:—

"The response on this occasion was not so good as last time, and I have not been able to find a reason for this. 1,773 examinees were X-rayed as compared with 2,530 in 1964. No case of active pulmonary tuberculosis was discovered."

We had good publicity in the newspapers and leaflets were extensively circulated. If it had not been for the enthusiasm of a few firms the figures might have been lower.

It should be remembered, however, that special visits are made to some of the larger firms, the National Coal Board has its own arrangements, and the general practitioners have the facilities at Ripley General Hospital."

There are many changes. Tuberculosis is not now the terrifying disease it used to be. Treatment has improved remarkably since the last war. This year only 2 cases have been notified. In 1957 there were 19 cases. In 1951 there were 30 cases notified.

The Unit on these visits makes use of the Civil Defence accommodation at Alfreton House. This will not be suitable or available for future visits. A more prominently "visible" site would be useful.

CLEAN AIR

The town is in the throes of considerable change. The closing of coalmines and the ensuing change of work for miners has brought a considerable degree of worry and unhappiness to the area. From being a predominantly coal mining area, the last pit is now about to close in the area.

It is not surprising that during this period of unsettlement there has been resistance to the idea that coal burnt in the open grate has been the main source of atmospheric pollution in the area.

The great change from coal mining to other industry is now upon us. New roads are being built, new factories built on old colliery sites, new services laid or in process of being laid. In all, a considerable amount of change and disturbance by any standards.

We should not hesitate to go forward, taking each opportunity as it offers. In clean air this has started. The first smoke control area has been accepted. This is an undeveloped area now ripe for development. Unless this control takes place, each chimney built in the district increases the load of pollution.

It is necessary to take advantage of every possibility and add more areas. We can then say:—

1. Here is access to the M.1 Motorway.
2. Here are new roads.
3. Here are plentiful services.
4. Here is a clean area.
5. Here are workers willing to be trained.
6. Bring your industry here.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

General Statistics

Area in Acres	4,957
Population (estimated)	22,650
Population per acre	4.5
Number of Inhabited Houses	7,721
Rateable Value	£642,899
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£2,646
Live Births registered	318
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live births	6.3
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	14.0
Adjusted Birth Rate (comparability factor 1.06)	14.8
Birth Rate, England and Wales	17.2
Still Births registered	10
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Births (live and still)	30.0
Still Birth Rate, England and Wales	14.8
Deaths registered	246

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population ...	10.9
Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor 1.14)	12.4
Death Rate, England and Wales	11.2
Maternal Deaths (Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion)	—
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	—
Maternal Mortality, England and Wales ...	0.2
Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age)	6
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	19.0
Infant Mortality, England and Wales	18.3
Infant Deaths (legitimate) under 1 year of age	5
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births legitimate	16.8
Infant Deaths (illegitimate) under 1 year of age	1
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births illegitimate	50.0
Infant Deaths (under 4 weeks of age)	5
Neonatal Mortality per 1,000 live births ...	15.7
Neonatal Mortality, England and Wales ...	12.5
Infant Deaths (under 1 week of age)	4
Early neonatal mortality per 1,000 live births	12.6
Perinatal Deaths (still-births and deaths under 1 week of age)	14
Perinatal Mortality per 1,000 live and still-births	43.0
Death Rate per 1,000 population from:—	
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	0.044
Tuberculosis, Respiratory, England and Wales	0.037
Tuberculosis, other forms	—
Tuberculosis, other forms, England and Wales	0.005
Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	0.574
Cancer of Lung and Bronchus, England and Wales	0.584
Cancer, other forms	1.634
Cancer, other forms, England and Wales ...	1.691

Table 1. BIRTHS

<i>Births</i>	<i>Legitimate</i>			<i>Illegitimate</i>		
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live	159	139	298	8	12	20
Still	3	7	10	—	—	—

Table 2. STILL-BIRTHS. 1957-67

Year	Number	Rate per thousand Births (live and still)
1957	11	26.5
1958	7	20.2
1959	9	24.9
1960	12	32.4
1961	9	26.9
1962	7	20.8
1963	6	16.8
1964	4	11.2
1965	5	14.1
1966	8	24.8
1967	10	30.0

Table 3. INFANT AND PERINATAL MORTALITY

Infant Deaths	Legitimate			Illegitimate		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Under 1 year of age	4	1	5	—	1	1
Under 4 weeks of age	3	1	4	—	1	1
Under 1 week of age	2	1	3	—	1	1
Perinatal Deaths	5	8	13	—	1	1

Table 4
COMPARATIVE TABLES — 1957-1967

Year	Population (estimated)	Birth Rate (per 1,000 of population)	Death Rate (per 1,000 of population)	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)
1957	23,680	17.1	11.6	24.8
1958	23,190	14.7	10.3	17.7
1959	23,480	15.0	10.7	34.0
1960	23,460	15.3	10.3	19.5
1961	23,110	14.1	10.6	27.6
1962	23,050	14.6	11.6	32.6
1963	23,020	15.3	11.1	14.2
1964	22,830	15.5	11.1	28.3
1965	22,820	15.3	11.0	11.4
1966	22,740	13.8	10.9	6.4
1967	22,650	14.0	10.9	19.0

Table 5

CAUSES OF DEATH				M.	F.	Total
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	.....	.....	—	1	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	.....	.....	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic Disease	.....	.....	1	—	1
4	Diphtheria	.....	.....	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	.....	.....	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infections	.....	.....	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	.....	.....	—	—	—
8	Measles.....	.....	.....	—	—	—
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	.....	.....	—	—	—
10	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	.....	.....	1	3	4
11	„ „ Lung, Bronchus	.....	.....	11	2	13
12	„ „ Breast	.....	.....	1	3	4
13	„ „ Uterus.....	.....	.....	—	2	2
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	.....	.....	13	14	27
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	.....	.....	1	—	1
16	Diabetes	.....	.....	—	—	—
17	Vascular lesions of Nervous System	.....	.....	14	17	31
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	.....	.....	32	20	52
19	Hypertensions with Heart Disease	.....	.....	2	1	3
20	Other Heart Disease	.....	.....	13	18	31
21	Other Circulatory Disease	.....	.....	8	1	9
22	Influenza	.....	.....	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia	.....	.....	7	1	8
24	Bronchitis	.....	.....	11	5	16
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	.....	.....	2	—	2
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	.....	.....	4	—	4
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	.....	.....	—	2	2
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	.....	.....	—	—	—
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	.....	.....	4	—	4
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	.....	.....	—	—	—
31	Congenital Malformations	.....	.....	1	2	3
32	Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	.....	.....	7	10	17
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	.....	.....	—	1	1
34	All Other Accidents	.....	.....	4	5	9
35	Suicide	.....	.....	1	—	1
36	Homicide and Operations of War	.....	.....	—	—	—
	All Causes	.....	.....	138	108	246

Table 6. TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS—1957-1967

Year	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Grand Total
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
1957	15	3	18	—	1	1	19
1958	7	2	9	—	1	1	10
1959	13	2	15	—	1	1	16
1960	4	1	5	1	—	1	6
1961	4	3	7	—	—	—	7
1962	1	1	2	—	—	—	2
1963	3	1	4	3	1	4	8
1964	1	1	2	—	—	—	2
1965	3	1	4	—	—	—	4
1966	1	1	2	—	1	1	3
1967	1	1	2	—	—	—	2

Table 7. DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1967.

	AGE GROUPS				
	Measles	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis	Whooping Cough
All ages	58	3	5	2	4
Under 1 year ...	2	—	—	—	—
1 —	11	—	—	—	—
2 —	8	—	—	—	—
3 —	3	—	—	—	1
4 —	12	—	1	—	1
5 —	20	—	3	—	2
10 —	—	—	—	—	—
15 —	2	—	1	1	—
25 —	—	—	—	—	—
35 —	—	—	—	—	—
45 —	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over ...	—	2	—	1	—
Age unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—

Factories Act, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on register</i>	<i>Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Number of Written Occupiers Notices Prosecuted</i>	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	89	17	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	5	835	—	—
<i>Total</i>	97	858	—	—

2. **Cases in which defects were found.** —NIL

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

<i>Nature of Work</i>	Section 133			Section 134		
	<i>No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of pros- ecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing apparel, making etc.	12	—	—	—	—	—
Others	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total</i>	12	—	—	—	—	—

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report for the year 1967.

NUISANCES

Systematic inspection of the district is carried out for the detection of nuisances. 101 Preliminary Notices were served and 31 Statutory Notices. No legal proceedings were taken.

COMPLAINTS 1967

The following list has been extracted from the Complaints Book. Every complaint received is recorded and a visit and enquiry made into the circumstances.

Absence of Water Supply	8
Burst Pipes	2
Choked Drains	47
Dampness to Houses	20
Defective Brickwork	2
brickwork to fireback	4
ceiling plaster	3
chimney stack and pots	8
doors	6
door frames	5
drains	14
dustbins	12
eavesgutters	7
flashings to chimney stacks	8
floors	4
hot water system	6
iron covers to inspection chambers	1
outside decoration	5
pan closets	1
paving	3
pointing to brickwork	12
rainwater downspouts	6
ridge fillets	3
roofs	16
sinks	4
sink waste pipes	5
wall	6
wall plaster	14

wash hand basin	1
w.c. cisterns	8
w.c. pedestals	6
w.c. seats	2
windows	1
window cords	2
window frames	3
Articles lost in Salvage	3
Foreign substances in food	6
Leaking cesspools	3
Noise nuisances	—
Obnoxious smells	19
Offensive accumulation of refuse	7
Salvage not collected	7
Smoke nuisances	5
Dustbins not emptied	42
Vermin: Ants	3
Beetles	11
Mice	16
Rats	39
Wasps	25
Miscellaneous	67
	<hr/>
	508
	<hr/>

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

House and Trade Refuse:

Portable ashbins in use and emptied by the Council	9148
Premises visited for collection of trade refuse under agreement	57
Premises visited for collection of salvage	192

Nightsoil

Pail closets emptied by Council	101
Closet sumps emptied by Council	0
Cesspools emptied by Council	39
Water closets in area	7202

Conversions:

Pail closets converted to water carriage system during the year	38
---	----

NUISANCES — OBNOXIOUS SMELLS

During the summer the spreading of sewage sludge on fields at Codnor Park aroused complaints of the obnoxious smell being caused in the area. Abatement of the nuisance was only secured when the sludge was ploughed into the fields.

Whilst this method of utilizing sewage sludge may improve the land it causes serious nuisance and discomfort to nearby house-

holders, many of whom complained that the smell penetrated throughout the house.

SWIMMING POOLS

During the year 50 samples were taken from the Alfreton Lido for bacteriological examination; of these 38 were classed as satisfactory and 12 unsatisfactory.

As in the previous year the necessity for collecting regular samples, particularly from the paddling pool, is apparent.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936 — SECTION 75 DUSTBINS

The system of replacing defective dustbins is as follows:— Defective bins are reported by refuse collectors. A letter is then sent to the owner requesting replacement of the defective bin. After a lapse of a reasonable time, a Statutory Notice is served on the owner, giving him 28 days in which to provide same.

323 new dustbins were provided at 119 private premises; 194 council houses and 10 other council premises. 40 Preliminary Notices and 2 Statutory Notices were served.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 — SECTIONS 235-248 COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There is only one common lodging house in the district. This is registered for 20 male inhabitants. It is frequently visited, the rooms are clean, well ventilated, and the walls and ceilings are painted to facilitate cleansing at prescribed intervals. Cooking facilities and washing accommodation are satisfactory, all beds are clean and comfortable.

Instruction is afforded to Student Public Health Inspectors and this is one of the Public Health Services we can show to colleagues who do not have a Common Lodging House in their district.

HOUSING

The Council's scheme for extending the development of the South Spire Estate at Somercotes provides for a number of dwellings for Slum Clearance purposes.

It is hoped that these houses will be available as soon as possible to allow us the opportunity of pursuing a more forceful approach to the housing problems within the district.

HOUSING ACT — 1957

During the year the following work has been carried out:—

Houses Erected:

(a) by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	18
(b) by other bodies and persons	...	...	...	...	...	26
Houses under erection:						
(a) by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	29
(b) by other bodies and persons	...	...	...	...	...	87

Inspection of Dwelling Houses

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Act) ...	289
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	9
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of action (formal or informal) by the local authority ...	34
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ...	8
Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ...	7
Number of persons displaced ...	0
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted ...	0
Number of dwelling houses where undertakings have been accepted that have become empty ...	0
Number of persons displaced ...	0
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were determined ...	0
Number of premises in respect of which closing orders were made ...	1
Number of applications for improvement grants approved by the Council (houses involved) ...	71

The following table summarises the four quarterly returns made to the Ministry during 1967.

Houses in Clearance Areas and Unfit Houses Elsewhere, Return for the Year 1967

A—Houses Demolished

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year— Persons	Families
In clearance areas ...	0	0	0
Not in clearance areas:			
(4) as a result of formal or informal procedure under Sect. 17(1) Housing Act, 1957 ...	7	0	0

HOUSING ACT, 1964

E—Unfit Houses made Fit	By owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by local authority ...	19	0
F—Houses in which defects were remedied (other than unfit houses made fit) after formal notice under Public Health Acts ...		15
Houses demolished during the year:—		
In clearance Areas:		
Nil.		

Individual Demolition Orders:—

Somercotes 1 and 2 Bown's Yard.
Swanwick 36, 37 and 39 Pentrich Road.
113 and 115 Pentrich Road.

Closing Order:

Somercotes 80 Birchwood Lane.

Overcrowding

Enquiries were made into several cases of overcrowding and the facts were reported to the Housing Department and the Public Health Committee. It is most difficult to deal with these cases as houses for the relief of overcrowding are not available to the department.

RENT ACT, 1957

Certificates of Disrepair

During the year no applications for Certificates of Disrepair or cancellations of same were received.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Part 1. General provisions and sale of food and drugs

Sections 1 - 7

Sampling of Food and Drugs is undertaken by the County Analyst as the Food and Drugs Authority. Mr. J. Markland has kindly supplied me with information of such work carried out by his department as follows:—

“73 samples, including 22 milks were taken in the area of the Alfreton U.D.C., during the year 1967.

“The milk samples were classed as satisfactory.

“Two samples were reported against: One sample of Pork Sausages contained preservative without declaration. The manufacturer was cautioned. Dried Skimmed Milk was wrongly labelled and the manufacturers are now amending the incorrect label.

“Following consumer complaints the following samples were submitted for examination by your Authority:

“A bottle of Milk contained patches of soot and iron—probably due to mis-use of the bottle by a consumer. Two Milks from the same complainant were received; one bottle contained clay but there was insufficient material in the second bottle for positive identification.”

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959

Legal proceedings were taken against two Dairy Companies for supplying milk in unclean bottles.

Both Companies pleaded guilty and fines of £5 5s. 0d. and £21 were imposed.

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF UNSOUND FOOD

Sections 8 - 12

All condemned food excepting meat is taken to the Council's Depot at Leabrooks where it is satisfactorily disposed of.

Total weight of food condemned during 1967:—

9 cwts. 3 qrs. 16 lbs. 4 ozs.

FOOD HYGIENE

Frequent visits are made to the food shops in the district to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

In addition, inspections are made when possible of mobile trading shops and food delivery vehicles operating within the district.

Food Shops.—35 Preliminary Notices involving non-compliance with various regulations were served on owners and occupier of food businesses in the area.

The following is a list extracted from the notices:—

Unsanitary Premises	...	...	...	...	—
Maintenance of Machinery and Equipment	...	...	...	...	—
Protection of food from risk of contamination	...	...	...	...	4
Smoking whilst handling food	...	...	...	...	3
Condition of sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	7
Facilities for washing hands	...	...	...	...	4
Facilities for first-aid	...	...	...	...	4
Facilities for outdoor clothing	...	...	...	...	—
Facilities for washing equipment	...	...	...	...	4
Lighting of food rooms	...	...	...	...	—
Ventilation of food rooms	...	...	...	...	—
Cleanliness and repair of food rooms	...	...	...	...	44
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	3
Temperature at which certain foods are to be kept	...	...	...	...	—
General requirements as to stalls and vehicles	...	...	...	...	9
					—
					82
					—

Legal proceedings were taken in one instance against an employee for smoking whilst in a food room containing open food.

A fine of £3 plus £5 5s. 0d. costs was imposed.

Alfreton Market.—Regular inspections are made by your Inspectors of the food stalls on the open market in Institute Lane. In the main the stallholders are co-operative and only sweets, confectionery, fish, fruit and vegetables are sold.

The Council have provided toilet facilities on Alfreton Market.

LICENSED PREMISES

There are 41 licensed premises in the urban area, situated as follows:—Alfreton 17, Somercotes 9, Leabrooks 2, Pye Bridge 1, Ironville 1, Golden Valley 1, Swanwick 4, and Riddings 6.

During this period the total weight of meat and offal condemned amounted to 76 tons 4 cwts. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

The following carcasses were condemned—

Calves:

- 1 Decomposition
- 5 Immaturity
- 3 Joint ill
- 4 Oedema
- 2 Septic peritonitis and enteritis
- 1 Umbilical pyaemia
- 3 Septic pneumonia

Beasts:

- 3 Septic pneumonia
- 3 Gangrene
- 1 Anaemia, pleurisy and peritonitis
- 3 Generalised actinobacillosis
- 6 Emaciation
- 6 Pyaemia
- 5 Oedema
- 2 Septic pericarditis
- 1 Acetonaemia
- 2 Peritonitis
- 3 Septicæmia
- 1 Fever
- 1 Severe bruising
- 1 Pleurisy
- 1 Lymphatic leukæmia
- 1 Generalised tuberculosis
- 1 Multiple tumours
- 1 Generalised actinomycosis

Pigs:

- 3 Pyæmia
- 1 Septicæmia
- 2 Peritonitis
- 1 Decomposition
- 1 Leukæmia
- 1 Multiple abscesses
- 1 Emaciation

Sheep:

- 13 Oedema
- 1 Moribund
- 1 Pneumonia
- 2 Multiple abscesses
- 15 Emaciation
- 1 Arthritis and bruising
- 3 Decomposition

Total weight condemned:—21,442 lbs.

Weight of offal condemned amounted to:—

Beef	—	Part carcasses	...	...	...	...	4,420 lbs.
Beef	—	Offal	...	...	...	...	139,351 lbs.
Pork	—	Part carcasses	...	...	...	...	973 lbs.
Pork	—	Offal	...	...	...	...	1,705 lbs.
Mutton	—	Part carcasses	...	...	...	...	477 lbs.
Mutton	—	Offal	...	...	...	...	2,372 lbs.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	<i>Cattle</i>			<i>Sheep and</i>		<i>Pigs</i>
	<i>excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Lambs</i>		
Number killed	4104	16400	401	16521	9333	
Number inspected	4104	16400	401	16521	9333	
All diseases except T.B.—						
Whole carcasses condemned	15	47	20	43	12	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2282	8598	2	774	279	
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than tuberculosis	55.9%	52.9%	5.4%	4.9%	3.1%	
Tuberculosis only—						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	1	—	—	—	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	80	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	0.0%	0.001%	0.0%	0.0%	0.94%	

It is interesting to compare the increased throughput of carcasses over the last ten years—

1958	21811	1963	35909
1959	25699	1964	40748
1960	23743	1965	40199
1961	31198	1966	45219
1962	41567	1967	46759

The restrictions imposed during the Foot and Mouth epidemic resulted in a decrease in the number of animals slaughtered during the latter part of the year. However, in spite of this, the total for the year still exceeded that for 1966.

Whilst the number of animals slaughtered over the ten-year period has doubled, there has been a reduction in the number of licensed slaughterhouses from 14 in 1958 to 5 at the present time.

Legal proceedings were taken in one instance for contravention by an employee, of the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, for smoking whilst handling meat.

The case was found to be proved and a fine of £5, plus advocates fee of £8 8s. 0d. was imposed.

Cysticercus Bovis

7 cases were detected in 1967 and the cold storage facilities used were at Chesterfield, Sheffield and Derby. It is our custom to inspect the certificate issued by the Manager of the receiving Cold Storage Depot and record the date and the number of the same.

Slaughtermen

33 licences have been issued to slaughtermen in this district. All trainees are tested in their skill in the use of a mechanically-operated instrument before a licence is issued to them.

THE SHOPS' ACT

The following details have been extracted from the register of shops:—

	<i>Canteens and Cafes</i>	<i>Food Shops</i>	<i>Other Premises</i>	<i>Total</i>
Alfreton	27	69	134	230
Somercotes	11	60	46	117
Leabrooks	2	11	12	25
Riddings	4	29	20	53
Swanwick	7	18	11	36
Pye Bridge	1	4	1	6
Ironville and Codnor Park ...	3	9	5	17
Golden Valley	—	3	—	3
	<hr/> 55	<hr/> 203	<hr/> 229	<hr/> 487

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The Surveyor co-operates with the department by submitting to me all plans in respect of factories for my perusal and observations, prior to planning permission being granted. The system works satisfactorily.

Deletions from and additions to the list of Factories and Workplaces noted by H.M. Inspector of Factories reported to me on Form 143, Section 8(3) are duly recorded and the Register kept up to date at all times. 97 premises are listed in the Register.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

With the completion in the previous year of all initial inspections of premises registered under the Act, it has now been possible to arrange for routine visits to be made periodically.

Outstanding items of work have been checked, and occupiers informed of any contraventions of the legislation.

Table A
REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Class of premises</i> (1)	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i> (2)	<i>Total number of registered premises at end of year</i> (3)	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i> (4)
Offices	—	30	24
Retail Shops	4	174	137
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	4	4
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	2	16	16
Fuel storage depots	—	1	—

Table B
ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

<i>Class of Workplace</i> (1)	<i>Number of persons employed</i> (2)
Offices	156
Retail shops	551
Wholesale departments, warehouses	77
Catering establishments open to the public	95
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	2
Total	881

Total Males 282

Total Females 599

Table D
EXEMPTIONS
Nil

Table E
PROSECUTIONS
Nil.

Table F
INSPECTORS

Number of inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) or (5) of the Act	2
Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act	Nil

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Smoke Control Areas

In June, 1967, the Council approved the Alfreton No. 1 Smoke Control Order in respect of 62 acres of land for residential development at The Delves, Swanwick.

The Order was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on 3rd November, 1967, and becomes operative on the 1st July, 1968.

This appears to be a sensible approach to ensure that new areas of development should be smokeless before the houses are built. Plans are now being prepared to submit further areas for approval.

Prior Approval for Boiler Plant

Four applications for prior approval of boiler plant have been received and recommendations made.

East Midland Division of National Society for Clean Air. N.E. Derbyshire Consultative Committee for Clean Air.

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Councillor M. Hewitt, and I, attended the meetings of the Society and the local Consultative Committee during the year. We found these meetings most interesting and instructive.

Smoke Measuring Instruments

Daily records have been kept and submitted to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. The instruments, one situated in the centre of Somercotes and the other situated at the office in the central area of the town, are both set up with equipment to make records of sulphur dioxide concentrations by the volumetric method. (See Statistic Details).

DAILY SMOKE FILTER

The following information is obtained by the use of two daily smoke filter apparatus at—

1. Public Health Inspector's Office, "The Firs", High Street, Alfreton.
2. Council Buildings, Somercotes Market Place, Somercotes.

Month 1967	Rainfall in inches	Concentrations of Smoke and SO ₂ in Microgrammes per cu. m. of Air											
		ALFRETON				SOMERCOTES				SOMERCOTES			
		Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average Value	SO ₂ Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average Value	SO ₂ Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average Value	SO ₂ Highest Value	Lowest Value
January	2.34	262	625	58	59	194	26	257	510	117	96	190	21
February	3.61	154	286	19	60	159	30	163	485	24	121	247	39
March	0.69	58	247	23	82	175	27	67	207	23	70	155	31
April	1.51	153	337	35	96	223	48	106	275	41	68	139	22
May	5.02	104	213	37	92	192	16	79	197	38	91	340	43
June	0.80	73	233	15	99	222	48	47	152	10	93	172	39
July	1.00	44	104	23	72	123	28	34	75	12	73	125	40
August	1.29	56	131	21	56	90	30	40	84	17	55	105	27
September	1.96	139	317	21	108	452	27	84	220	22	60	390	19
October	6.61	82	142	33	67	138	46	67	112	27	84	179	39
November	2.41	338	1349	51	172	321	73	78	700	40	130	292	47
December	1.12	183	1003	26	122	421	37	159	454	24	95	276	27

The amount of deposited matter is indicated at the one station within the District.

		BURTONS, HIGH STREET, ALFRETON										
1967	No. of days	Rainfall (in inches)	DEPOSITED MATTER				Total Solids (Tons per sq. ml.)					
			Total Water Insoluble Matter (Tons per sq. ml.)	Total Water Soluble Matter (Tons per sq. ml.)	North-East	North-West		South-East	South-West			
January	33	2.77	6.62	4.28	—	—	10.90	—	—	2	—	11
February	28	3.25	18.30	8.23	2	3	26.53	3	5	—	—	4
March	30	1.73	10.93	6.72	—	8	17.65	4	—	—	—	11
April	31	1.11	17.97	6.45	8	4	24.42	1	—	—	—	6
May	31	4.74	24.76	10.04	—	—	34.80	—	—	—	—	7
June	29	0.72	13.00	3.59	—	—	16.59	—	—	—	—	11
July	32	1.51	10.04	5.33	—	—	15.37	—	—	—	—	15
August	31	1.51	6.26	3.62	—	—	9.88	—	—	—	—	20
September	31	3.40	7.50	6.72	—	—	14.22	—	—	—	—	8
October	30	5.87	8.03	7.67	—	—	15.70	—	—	—	—	20
November	30	2.19	6.06	5.10	1	—	11.16	—	—	—	—	8
December	31	1.52	4.68	4.09	—	—	8.77	—	—	—	—	11
Wind Direction	North	South	East	West	North-East	North-West	South-East	South-West				
January	—	7	—	11	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	11
February	—	7	—	7	2	3	—	—	5	—	—	4
March	—	2	—	15	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	11
April	3	5	1	3	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	6
May	2	7	3	6	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	7
June	—	7	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
July	—	5	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
August	—	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
September	—	8	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
October	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
November	—	8	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
December	3	—	—	15	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	4

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

One application for registration under the Act was received from the Parkside Riding School.

The premises were inspected by a Veterinary Officer and the licence issued.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Applications were received for the renewal of licences to keep Pet Shops by Mr. C. Bagguley, 4 High Street, Swanwick; and Mr. G. Marvin, 13 High Lane, Ridgeway, Sheffield (pet stall on Alfretton Market). Both applications were approved subject to no nuisance being caused and the payment of the requisite fee.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1954

HAIRDRESSERS — SECTION 146

Hairdressing establishments in the area are registered and inspected prior to approval. The table shows the number of premises and changes during the year.

Number of registered premises, December, 1966 ...	40
Number of premises closed during 1967	—
Number of premises registered during 1967	—
Number of registered premises, December, 1967 ...	40

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

CELLULOSE SOLUTION REGULATIONS, 1934

PETROLEUM SPIRIT (CONVEYANCE BY ROAD)

REGULATIONS, 1959

HOME OFFICE CIRCULARS 5/1, Etc.

Number of licences issued to store petroleum during 1967	40
Number of licences issued to store petrol in can stores during 1967	7
Number of licences issued to store carbide during 1967	1
Total storage capacity of petroleum spirit in tanks and can stores	109,000 galls.
Total storage capacity of carbide of calcium	112 lbs.
Fees collected in respect of petroleum licences ...	£38 10s. 0d.
Fees collected in respect of can store licences ...	£1 15s. 0d.
Fees collected in respect of carbide licences ...	5s. 0d.

All licensed premises have been inspected during the year.

Three tanks which had been installed for a period of over 20 years were pressure tested, one of which was found to be defective. Seven new tanks were installed during the year.

Also during the year a complaint was received from residents in Lower Somercotes that there was a smell of petroleum vapour from the drains and in certain cellars.

From an initial inspection of premises within the vicinity on the line of the sewer it did not appear that any surface spillage into the drainage system had occurred.

However a strong smell of petroleum was located in an inspection chamber on the forecourt of one petrol filling station.

Readings from the dipsticks provided no indication as to any leakage from a particular tank. The owner agreed for the tanks to be emptied and a pressure test carried out, which subsequently revealed that one tank was in fact defective. This was disconnected from the pump and filled with cement slurry.

RODENT CONTROL

The department is responsible for a continuous effort to control rodent infestations in the district.

58 such complaints were received and satisfactorily dealt with. Daily inspections are made by the Rodent Operator of the tip and its surroundings and evidence of an infestation, however small, is quickly noticed, and the necessary action taken. Legal proceedings were not required and it is pleasing to record that all owners and occupiers of property are usually most anxious to co-operate in the eradication of rats, mice and other vermin.

I would like to record my appreciation of the co-operation of the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Nottingham, and also to the Pest Control Department for their valuable assistance in dealing with complaints received re rabbits and other pests under their control.

There are no serious infestations in farms.

Sewer treatments were carried out twice during the year and frequent inspections and treatment as required carried out at the sewage disposal works.

Complaints from householders regarding wasp nests, silver fish, ants, cockroaches, etc., are also dealt with by the department.

The following work under this heading has been carried out:

	<i>First Treatment</i>	<i>Second Treatment</i>
Alfreton	3	76
Somercotes	—	40
Leabrooks	—	7
Pye Bridge	—	4
Swanwick	1	20
Riddings	1	21
Codnor Park	3	15
Golden Valley	—	3
	8	186
Total		194

Sewage Works

All sewage works have been visited during the year and the following have received treatment:—

Alfreton	2
Highfields	1

Swanwick	1
Pye Bridge	1

After treatment no further activity was noticeable.

139 visits have been made to sewage works and Council premises and 11 treatments given; 84 visits were made to Council houses, etc., and 33 treatments given; 515 visits were made to private houses, 196 treatments given; 128 visits were made to business premises and 45 treatments given; smallholdings, etc., 30 visits were made and 10 treatments given.

Total number of visits made during the year:—

Sewer inspection chambers	194
Council houses, etc.	84
Private houses	515
Business premises	128
Other visits including farms and smallholdings	30
Sewage works, etc.	130
	<hr/>
	1,086
	<hr/>

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Public Cleansing Service

The financial details for this service relate to the year ending 31st March, 1968. The figures have been checked against the books kept by the Council's Financial officer. Every possible economy has been effected consistent with the maintenance of an efficient service.

Staff

The staff of the public cleansing department is as follows:—

Refuse Collection

- 3 Motor drivers
- 10 Loaders
- 4 Wheelers-out
- 4 Bin Lads

Refuse Disposal

- 1 Driver—Muledozer
- 2 Men—tip face

Nightsoil Collection and

Cesspools

- 1 Driver
- 1 Loader

Depot

- 1 Foreman
- 1 Man

Salvage

- 2 Men baling paper and textiles.
- 1 Man baled destructor scrap and metals.

Also the wages of three men divided between 31 men as a bonus.

Collection

We have maintained the weekly collection of domestic and trade refuse from all premises within the district. The object of the department is to provide the ratepayers with the best possible service at all times of the year.

We endeavour to remove all articles the householders wish to dispose of and make separate collections where it is necessary to clear a house of its effects.

Protective Clothing

As in the previous year, all workmen have been provided with two suits of overalls and protective gloves. Reinforced gloves are provided for handling baled destructor scrap, etc. Each workman is also provided with a donkey jacket, and the men working on the face of the tip issued with protective legginettes.

Depot

Messroom, locker room, showers and clothes drying room are provided for the workmen. Our object is to make available facilities comparable with the industries outside local government.

Garages

We have one large garage (containing an inspection pit) for two S. and D. Fore and Aft Refuse Collectors. On each side we have a smaller building. One is used for garaging the Muledozer, the other as a workshop for the stripping, sorting and grading of non-ferrous metals prior to sale. There is also a Paper Baling Shed with extensions providing accommodation for three S. and D. Refuse Collectors.

Nightsoil Collection

A regular service was maintained at premises in the area. Closet pails were emptied at least once per week; in cases of overcrowded premises, pails are emptied twice weekly. Cesspools have been emptied free of charge twice per year, and where necessary, additional clearances have been charged for. The revenue from these sources can be ascertained by reference to the costing report on services.

Leabrooks Controlled Tip

The refuse tip at Leabrooks consists of three areas of land. The first of $4\frac{3}{4}$ acres containing the depot and buildings completed in 1947. The second area of $6\frac{3}{4}$ acres acquired in 1947 is nearing completion. Part of this area was graded, top soiled and seeded during the year.

The further extension of 3 acres acquired the previous year has now had the top soil stripped off and on completion of fencing and culverting is ready for tipping on in 1968.

Improvements to the roadway have been carried out to allow the vehicles a good access to the new area of land.

Refuse Analysis

A winter and summer analysis of household refuse was carried out during the year.

150 properties were selected, i.e.—50 Terraced Houses.

50 Council Houses.

50 New Private Estate Houses.

The analysis indicated an average weight of refuse per house of 50.16 lbs. in winter compared with 28.5 per house in summer.

The full analysis is indicated in the following table:—

	Winter Analysis		Summer Analysis	
	lbs.	%	lbs.	%
(a) Fine dust and small cinder (under $\frac{1}{2}$ ")	20.8	41.4	8.6	30.1
(b) Cinder content (between $\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{3}{4}$ ")	17.4	34.6	7.6	26.6
(c) Vegetable and putrescible content	1.5	2.9	1.7	5.9
(d) Paper content	3.9	7.7	3.3	11.5
(e) Metal content (ferrous and non-ferrous)	2.56	5.1	2.6	9.1
(f) Rag content (inc. bagging and all textiles)	0.5	1.4	0.4	1.4
(g) Glass content (bottles, jars and cullet)	2.2	4.3	2.2	8.0
(h) Unclassified debris (not classified above)	1.3	2.6	2.0	7.4
Total	50.16	100.0	28.5	100.0

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

	Tons	£	s.	d.
S. & D. (1) removed	1,210	902	6	9
S. & D. (2) „	2,934	1385	3	8
S. & D. (3) „	2,912	1711	10	0
S. & D. (5) „	3,991	2099	1	0
Based on Test Weighing	11,047	£6098	1	5

The wages of the loaders (excluding on costs), £11,983 16s. 11d. together with £6,098 1s. 5d. cost of motors, gives a figure of 32s. 9d. per ton compared with 31s. 1d. in 1966/67.

Wages including on costs were, loaders £14,162 14s. 6d., together with £6,098 1s. 5d. cost of motors, giving a figure of 36s. 8d. per ton compared with 35s. 2d. in 1966/67.

TRADE REFUSE

The income from 68 business premises for the collection of trade refuse not having any salvage value, and including various firms who deposit refuse on the tip at a charge of 2s. 6d. per ton or 5s. per load depending upon the material, was £356 17s. 9d.

TRADE REFUSE COLLECTION

Expenditure

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loaders' wages	74	13	10			
Hire of lorries	178	7	11			
				253	1	9

Income

Trade refuse	356	17	9
1966—£143 14s. 9d. Cr.	£103	16	0 Cr.

382 tons of trade refuse were collected, and 1,006 tons of trade refuse were deposited at Leabrooks tip, making a total of 1,388 tons.

SALVAGE ACCOUNT

Expenditure

	£	s.	d.
Lorry Hire	241	3	7
Wages	3329	14	10
Baling Wire	79	5	0
Repairs to presses	109	13	2
Sundries	8	5	0
	£3768	1	7

1966 — £3,556 11s. 9d.

Income	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed waste paper ...	161	19	0	0	1295	12	0
Fibreboard ...	79	13	1	0	796	12	6
Newspaper ...	49	14	0	0	447	6	0
Baled Destructor Scrap	122	13	0	0	509	10	0
Light Iron ...	57	16	0	0	127	7	0
Medium Cast Iron ...	19	8	0	0	178	6	6
Mixed Wrought Iron and Steel ...	1	6	0	0	9	8	6
Heavy Cast Iron ...	1	6	0	0	12	16	9
Steel Scrap ...	19	15	0	0	124	15	0
Non-Ferrous Metal ...	2	13	2	21	381	2	8
Rags, etc. ...	3	1	3	26	79	7	4
Rubber Tyres ...	2	0	0	0	5	0	0
	<u>521</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>£3967</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

REFUSE DISPOSAL ACCOUNT

Expenditure	£	s.	d.
Wages on tip ...	2683	0	7
Lorry Hire ...	192	2	9
Muledozer ...	1279	2	6
Sundries ...	402	13	10
	<u>£4556</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>8</u>

1966 — £3,719 17s. 2d.

12,435 tons of refuse were disposed of at 7s. 4d. per ton as compared with 6s. 4d. per ton in 1966.

NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL ACCOUNT

Expenditure	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loaders' wages ...	302	0	9			
Lorry hire ...	717	5	4			
Sundries ...	4	3	0			
				<u>1023</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>
Income						
Emptying cesspools ...				129	4	4
				<u>£894</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>

1966 — £1,418 19s. 6d.

728 tons of nightsoil were collected at a cost of 24s. 7d. per ton, compared with 27s. 2d. per ton in 1966.

COMBINED COSTING

Collection of Wet and Dry Refuse—

	Tons	£	s.	d.	
House Refuse	11047	18081	18	4	
Nightsoil	728	894	4	9	
Trade Refuse	382	103	16	0	Cr.
	12157	£18872	7	1	

This gives a figure of 31s. 0d. per ton as compared with 29s. 6d. per ton in 1966.

SICKNESS RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1967/68

	Sick Pay	Unpaid Sickness	Other time lost	Total
1. Number of men involved ...	24	5	14	43
			Actual 29	
2. Hours lost	2963	899	398½	4260½
3. Percentage of (2) to (5) ...	4.7	1.4	0.6	6.7
4. Total number of men employed				31
5. Possible working hours				63325
6. Percentage of registered disabled persons to total staff:				
(a) commencement period				3.23
(b) end of period				3.23
7. Number in (1) absent through illness				24
accident				5

EFFICIENCY STATISTICS

Collection of house and trade refuse (including salvage collected separately). (As supplied to the Ministry for inclusion in the Annual Costing Return).

Number of premises from which refuse is collected, as per Rating and Valuation Roll	8381
Number of dustbins emptied weekly per annum ...	9148
Estimated tonnage	11950
*Number of collectors	16
Weight of refuse collected per man hour per day (365 days per annum)	5.3 cwts.
*Number of bins emptied per man hour	14.5
*Number of premises cleared per man hour	13.3
Total refuse collected (in tons)	11950
Weight (in cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days per annum)	28.5 cwts.
*Excluding driver who does not load.	

CONTROL OF PESTS

Expenditure	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages	317	2	5			
Materials	59	15	5			
				376	17	10
Income						
Business premises	27	3	3			
				£351	14	7

1966 — £338 5s. 11d.

There are no changes to report in the staffing of the department and my thanks are due to my assistant, Mr. R. W. Lander, Mr. D. Wrigglesworth (Authorised Meat Inspector), Mrs. J. Barker (Student Public Health Inspector), and Mrs. L. Day and Miss J. Clarke for their work in the office.

I would also thank my Depot Staff who under Mr. T. A. Smith, have competently carried out the refuse collection and disposal throughout the district for the year.

B. WELLS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Surveyor's Report for 1967

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Alfreton Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting a brief report which contains only matters which directly or indirectly affect the health of the population.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

New Sewage Scheme—Stage III — Alfreton. New Works

A completely new site for the sewage works was chosen to the north-west of Alfreton Colliery, consisting of approximately 25 acres of land and designed to cater for a dry weather flow of 1.275 million g.p.d. The site was affected by colliery subsidence when chosen some eight years ago, and consequently this works was placed in Stage III of the whole scheme. By 1967, subsidence had stopped and work could commence. However, the site was then ringed around by an opencast site and every bit of land that was not absolutely essential for stability of the sewage works was scheduled for opencasting. A start was made late in 1967 and by the end of the year all the preliminaries had been completed. During early 1968, substantial progress was made on the construction works. For much of the winter mud on roads caused by vehicles and machines was a hazard and nuisance that had to be vigorously combated.

New Foul Sewers

(a) A start was made at the end of the year on the new gravity foul sewer from Sleetmoor Lane to the proposed new pumping station at Damsteads.

(b) Work was completed in 1967 on the diversion of the foul and surface water sewers serving the industrial estate at Nix's Hill necessitated by the construction of the new by-pass.

Surface Water Sewers

Under Construction.—A new surface water sewer from Cotes Park Industrial Estate to the top pond in Birchwood Woods was commenced at the end of 1967.

Future Plans.—Estimates have been prepared for the provision of sewers to carry surface water from the new housing sites at The Delves, Swanwick, to Hickton Road brook and also for the piping of this brook.

Other Work

Colliery subsidence in the Somercotes area caused damage and a backfall on a foul sewer in Stanley Street. The sewer was entirely relaid together with private house drains and the cost involved recharged to the National Coal Board.

Existing Sewage Works

Damage

Considerable damage has been caused at Sewage Disposal Works and at pumping stations throughout the area, and at Pye Bridge Works a quantity of valuable metal was stolen. The Council decided to put up notices offering £50 reward for information.

ALFRETON LIDO

Attendances

Total attendance at the Lido in the summer of 1967 was 132,245 and this was approximately 7,000 more than the previous year. This total was made up of 99,822 swimmers (including 11,763 school children in organised parties for instruction) and 32,423 spectators.

Filtration, Chlorination, etc.

The importance of the efficiency of the filtration plant at an open-air lido, where on a hot day the pool can be overcrowded, cannot be stressed too much. I am pleased to say that all samples taken from the swimming and diving pools have been satisfactory. All efforts to improve the paddling pool filtration and chlorination equipment unit have proved abortive. It is now the Council's intention to feed the water from this pool into the main filters during next year.

Cafe and Shop

An alteration to the running of the cafe was initiated before the start of this season. Hot meals were not provided and food limited to cold snacks, cakes and sandwiches. The period of opening of the cafe and shop was limited to the afternoons and an automatic hot drink machine was installed in the foyer so that hot drinks were available at all times. This arrangement certainly cut down expenses on wages and although profits were also reduced there was a small overall gain financially.

Changing Rooms

Plastic bags had been issued for containing clothing during rush periods. These were made safe for issue to children by punching holes in them.

A new electric scrubber was purchased so that the floors in the changing rooms and passages could be scrubbed and disinfected against foot infections.

HIGHWAYS

Road Signs

During this year the conversion of all warning and regulatory signs were completed in order to comply with the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions, 1964.

This included changing five "Halt" signs to "Stop" signs and the provision of nine "Give Way" signs, together with numerous miscellaneous warning signs.

Road Improvements

Improvements to highways by the provision of a footpath and widening of the carriageway took place in this year at Birchwood Lane and Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes, and The Delves, Swanwick. Although there was some nuisance caused to local residents through dust, noise, etc., whilst the works were in progress, the eventual environmental improvement surely makes this temporary inconvenience well worth putting up with.

Private Streets

Negotiations took place during the year with Butterley Company Limited regarding repairs to the private streets owned by them in Ironville and Codnor Park. Improvements were carried out to road and footpath surfaces by the Company.

Street Lighting

From April, 1967, the County Council took control of all street lighting on all County roads with the exception of Sleetmoor Lane, but the maintenance of these lights is still carried out by Alfreton U.D.C. All street lights on these roads were adjusted for all night lighting from December, 1967.

HOUSING

Progress — 1967

The number of council houses commenced during the year was 29 and 18 were completed. A total of 87 houses and bungalows have been commenced and 26 have been completed by private enterprise.

HOUSING PROGRAMME SUMMARY AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1967

(a) Pre-War Houses	456
Providence Place, Alfreton (existing houses purchased in 1957)	10
Catherine Street, Alfreton (existing houses purchased in 1957)	7
Alfred Street, Riddings (existing houses purchased in 1957)	6
Birchwood Lane, Somercotes (existing houses purchased in 1960)	3

Coupland Place, Somercotes (existing house purchased in 1962)	1
Mount Pleasant, Riddings (existing house purchased in 1964)	1
Queen Street, Somercotes (existing house purchased in 1966)	1

485

(b) Post-War Houses:—

Pease Close Housing Site, Alfreton.

Two-bedroom bungalows	14
One-bedroom bungalows	8
Three-bedroom houses	88
Two-bedroom houses	112
Gregory flats	40
Two bedroom houses	6

Firs Estate, Alfreton.

Firs Estate, three-bedroom	124
Firs Estate Extension, two-bedroom	130
Firs Estate Extension, three-bedroom	22
Firs Estate Extension, bungalows	4
Firs Estate Extension, two bedroom	12

Limes Avenue, Alfreton.

Three-bedroom houses	32
Two-bedroom houses	98
Bungalows	8

Colin Street, Alfreton.

Bungalows	14
Two-bedroom houses	10

Rodgers Lane, Alfreton.

Three-bedroom houses	3
----------------------	---

Swanwick — South Street and Western Avenue.

Three-bedroom houses	42
Kenkast bungalows	18

Birchwood Lane, Somercotes.

Three-bedroom houses	4
----------------------	---

Ironville.

Houses, three-bedroom	4
-----------------------	---

Cottage Farm Estate, Somercotes.

Three-bedroom houses	132
Two-bedroom houses	104
Two-bedroom bungalows	8
One-bedroom bungalows	10

Park Side, Somercotes.

Two-bedroom houses	24
--------------------	----

Windmill Estate, Riddings.

Three-bedroom houses	12
----------------------	----

South Spire Site, Somercotes.		
Three-bedroom houses	... ..	12
Two-bedroom houses	... ..	42
Two-bedroom bungalows	... ..	8
Miners' Hostel Site, Alfreton.		
Bungalows	... ..	29
		<hr/> 1174
		<hr/> 1659
		<hr/>

Houses for Sale

Birchwood Lane.

Three-bedroom houses	... ..	4
Two-bedroom houses	... ..	4

North Street, Alfreton.

Two-bedroom houses	10
--------------------	--------	----

Beech Avenue, Alfreton.

Three-bedroom houses	... ..	18
Two-bedroom houses	... ..	50
		<hr/> 86
		<hr/>

Warden's Bungalow Scheme, Ironville

The second of the warden's bungalow schemes in the Urban District, comprising 18 bungalows and warden's bungalow, was commenced in June, 1967, and by the end of the year substantial progress had been made on most of the buildings.

Housing Maintenance

Considerable progress has been made on:—

(a) Repairing the fabric of the older houses on the Preston Avenue and Swanwick Housing Estates. Pointing of brickwork and pebble-dashing has been carried out.

(b) Replacement of the old rusty metal windows has been effected in the following streets: Wheatley Avenue, Smedley Avenue, Victoria Street, Birchwood Crescent, Birchwood Lane, Bonsall Drive, Leamoor Avenue, Somercotes., and Lower Drive, Swanwick.

All the old rusty metal windows which have caused tenants so much distress over the years have now been completely replaced. This is a prodigious feat that I am proud to report accomplished.

CLOSING OF THE MINES AND NEW INDUSTRIES

A matter that brought extreme anxiety to many residents in the Urban District during this year was the forecast of the closing of the last of the collieries in the very near future.

Approximately 40 acres of land was purchased by the Council on the site of the old Cotes Park Colliery from the National Coal Board. Alterations were made at this late stage in the design of the last section of the sewage scheme to enable it to cater for three

times the original sewage flow and for new foul and surface water sewers to be laid.

"Wet" industries consisting of a Dye Works and a Milk Marketing Board factory, whose enormous trade effluent discharge made them difficult to site were welcomed with open arms.

Many other problems and difficulties such as obtaining I.D.C. certificates for new industries, obtaining planning permissions, surface water disposal, mining subsidence, diversion of public footpaths, opencast workings and by-pass workings interfering with services, etc., were all faced and overcome.

Despite the fact that the unemployment problem has only been partly solved so far, achievements in this direction have been entirely due to self-help and hard work.

GENERAL

Pinxton Canal

The filling-in of the Pinxton arm of the Cromford Canal has proceeded slowly but satisfactorily throughout the year. The British Waterways Board have been instructed to increase the amount and size of the sewers along part of the canal in order to cope adequately with the surface water. They are now proposing to run a new 15in. sewer from the canal to the Erewash alongside Pye Bridge Sewage Works.

The filling-in of this canal has eliminated the serious nuisance of flies, stagnant water and rotting vegetation which were prevalent during periods of warm weather, since it was emptied some years ago.

Flooding of the Erewash

Flooding of B.6016, the main road from Ironville to Nottingham, houses adjacent to the river, outbuildings of other houses in the village, a children's playground and a sewage works still occurs each time there is heavy rain. The Trent River Authority, despite a previous promise to schedule this length as a "main river" and take over responsibility for dredging etc., have now informed the Council that this procedure may take years. This is a serious matter as undoubtedly the flood waters become polluted from the sewers and are a danger to health.

Opencast Coal Sites

The Council heard with concern early in 1967 that the Opencast Executive were proposing to commence two new opencast sites at Swanwick and Alfreton in the near future. After being assured by Opencast Officials that steps would be taken to improve the appearance of the areas of land concerned by filling in the two flooded areas at Damsteads and north of Alfreton Colliery and that all other necessary precautions would be taken, agreement was reached.

The Council are still very conscious however, that some residents at the northern end of Swanwick could be troubled by noise and dust nuisance and that there will be traffic hazards with the opencast coal lorries.

I wish to thank the Chairman of the Alfreton Urban District Council, the Chairmen of all Committees and Members of the Council for their support and help, and to my staff for their help and co-operation.

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Printed by
G. C. BRITTAIN & SONS LTD.
Church Street, Ripley, Derbys.