

[Report 1971] / Medical Officer of Health, Ashington U.D.C.

Contributors

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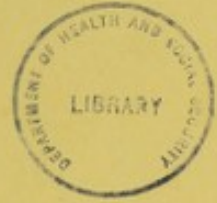
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I
URBAN DISTRICT OF ASHINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the Year

1971



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you the report of the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Public Health Inspector for 1971.

Dr. K. Dick retired in August 1971, and I would like to pay tribute to the work she has performed during her term of office. This in fact should be credited as her final annual report.

Population The population fell again from 25,390 in 1970 to 25,300 in 1971. (Registrar General's estimate). These figures are accurate, following the census in 1970.

Births The number of registered live births was 510 - an increase of 47 over 1970 giving a crude birth rate of 20.1 per 1,000 estimated population (E. & W. 16.0) and an adjusted rate of 20.9 per 1,000 estimated population (E. & W. 16.0).

Deaths There were 324 deaths during 1971, this is 35 fewer than in 1970 and gives a crude death rate of 12.8 per 1,000 estimated population (E. & W. 11.6) and an adjusted death rate of 14.9 per 1,000 estimated population (E. & W. 11.6).

There were 11 deaths of infants under 1 year - 4 fewer than in 1970, giving an infant mortality rate of 21.5 per 1,000 live births (E. & W. 18.0). This is a considerable improvement but still above the figure for England and Wales.

Infectious Disease There were only 8 cases of infectious disease notified during the year. This must be a record for this district. There were 2 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, 2 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis and 1 case each of food poisoning, scarlet fever, Measles and infective hepatitis.

The food poisoning case was in a child and the diagnosis was made too late to trace the source of the infection.

I would like to thank all members of the health department staff for their co-operation and help during my first four months as Medical Officer and to my colleagues in other departments for their courtesy, consideration and assistance.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. DONALDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICE OF THE

To the Chairman and Members of the House of Representatives of the United States

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your report of the Medical Office of the House of Representatives for 1971.

Dr. E. Dick has been inducted in August 1971, and I would like to say tribute to the work he has performed during his term of office. This is not meant to be a review of his first annual report.

Population The population fell again from 22,200 in 1970 to 21,500 in 1971. (The population of the island is estimated at 22,000.) These figures are accurate, following the census in 1970.

Deaths The number of registered live births was 210 - an increase of 17 over 1970 giving a crude birth rate of 20.4 per 1,000 estimated population (21.2 in 1970) and an adjusted rate of 20.8 per 1,000 estimated population (21.2 in 1970).

Deaths There were 15 deaths during 1971, this is 27 fewer than in 1970 and gives a crude death rate of 12.5 per 1,000 estimated population (18.2 in 1970) and an adjusted death rate of 12.3 per 1,000 estimated population (11.8 in 1970).

There were 17 deaths of infants under 1 year - 4 fewer than in 1970 giving an infant mortality rate of 21.5 per 1,000 live births (21.2 in 1970). This is a considerable improvement but still above the figure for England and Wales.

Infectious Diseases There were only 8 cases of infectious diseases notified during the year. This must be a record for this district. There were 2 cases of pneumonia, 2 cases of non-bacterial infectious and 1 case each of food poisoning, scarlet fever, measles and infective hepatitis.

The food poisoning occurred in a child and the diagnosis was made too late to trace the source of the infection.

I would like to thank all members of the Health Department staff for their co-operation and help during the last four years as Medical Officer and to my colleagues in other departments for their courtesy, consideration and assistance.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. THOMSON,

Medical Officer of Health

Chairman of the Public Health Committee - Councillor J.W.C. Greener

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	KATHLEEN DICK, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. (Retired 31.8.71) ALEXANDER DONALDSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (From 1.9.71.)
Chief Public Health Inspector	S. MUSK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Inspector	S. GREEN M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Inspector	I.L. RICHARDSON M.A.P.H.I.
Offices of the Medical Officer	Station Villa, Ashington.
Offices of the Public Health Inspector	Station Villa Ashington.
Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector	Mrs. M. Hay
Telephone	Ashington 2911

Area in Acres	6,057
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population Mid 1971	25,300
Rateable Value	£826,098
One Penny Rate Produces	£7,820
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1971)	9,278
Total number of houses owned by Local Authority in district ,...	3,074

all infants per 1,000 live births

Deaths of Infants under 5 years	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	8	3	5

Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	7	3	4

Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)

Early Neonatal Death Rate (Infants under 1 week)

Perinatal Mortality rate (Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live and still births)

Chairman of the Public Health Committee - Commissioner J.W.G. Brewster

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

HEALTH DEPT.
M.D., B.S., D.P.H.
(Elected 1917)

ALEXANDER DONALDSON,
M.D., D.P.H.
(Elected 1917)

E. WILSON,
M.D., B.S., D.P.H.
(Elected 1917)

H. GILSON,
M.D., B.S.
(Elected 1917)

I.L. HICKMAN,
M.D., B.S.
(Elected 1917)

Health Officer, Washington

Health Officer, Washington

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Area in Acres 6,000
Registered Voters 15,000
Sizable Vests 100,000
One Penny Rate Paid 10,000
Number of Licensed Houses (end of 1917) 1,000
Total number of houses owned by local authority in district 2,000

VITAL STATISTICS

The figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for England and Wales.

BIRTHS

Comparability Factor 1.04

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	481	246	235
Illegitimate	29	18	11
	<u>510</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>246</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 20.1
 Adjusted Birth Rate 20.9 (16.0)
 Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate 1.31
 Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births 6 (8)

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	5	3	2

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births 9.7 (13)

DEATHS

Comparability Factor 1.17

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
162	162	324

Death Rate per 1,000 of the population 12.8
 Adjusted Death Rate 14.9 (11.7)
 Deaths from Puerperal Causes, Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion NIL
 Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... NIL

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	10	5	5
Illegitimate	1	1	-
	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year

All infants per 1,000 live births 21.5 (18)

<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	8	3	5

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 week</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	7	3	4

Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths of Infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births) 15.4 (12)
 Early Neonatal Death Rate (Infants under 1 week) 13.5 (10)
 Perinatal Mortality rate (Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live and still births) 23.5 (22)

CAUSES OF DEATH 1971

Code No.	INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION	M.	F.	Total
002	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	1	1
151	Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	4	4	8
153	" " " Large Bowel	1	2	3
154	" " " Rectum	2	1	3
157	" " " Pancreas	2	3	5
160	" " " Antrum	1	-	1
161	" " " Larynx	-	1	1
162	" " " Bronchus and Lung	7	7	14
172.9	" Melanoma Site Unspecified	-	1	1
174	" Neoplasm of Breast	-	4	4
180	" " " Cervix Uteri	-	2	2
183	" " " Ovary	-	2	2
184.1	" " " Vulva	-	1	1
185	" " " Prostate	6	-	6
188	" " " Bladder	-	1	1
199	" " " Site Unspecified	1	2	3
200	Lympho Sarcoma	-	1	1
203	Multiple Myeloma	-	1	1
205	Myeloid Leukaemia	-	2	2
213	Paget's Disease of Bone	-	1	1
250	Diabetes Mellitus	1	2	3
255.9	Adrenal Necrosis	1	-	1
345	Epilepsy	1	-	1
410	Myocardial Infarction	58	55	112
427	Congestive Heart Failure	-	5	5
428	Myocardial Degeneration	2	8	10
430	Sub Arachnoid Haemorrhage	1	1	2
431	Cerebral Haemorrhage	16	16	32
433	Cerebral Thrombosis and Embolism	6	6	12
437	Cerebral Arteriosclerosis	-	1	1
438	Ill Defined Cerebro Vascular Disease	1	-	1
440	Arteriosclerosis	3	1	4
442	Aortic Aneurysm	1	-	1
450	Pulmonary Embolism	2	1	3
480	Viral Pneumonia	-	1	1
484	Acute Interstitial Pneumonia	-	1	1
485	Broncho-Pneumonia	6	9	15
491	Chronic Bronchitis	18	7	25
493	Asthma	1	-	1
512	Spontaneous Pneumo Thorax	1	-	1
514	Hypostatic Pneumonia	2	-	2
532	Duodenal Ulcer	1	-	1
560	Intestinal Obstruction	1	-	1
560.2	Volvulus	1	-	1
567	Peritonitis	1	-	1
571	Cirrhosis of Liver	2	-	2
574	Cholelithiasis	-	1	1
577	Acute Pancreatitis	-	1	1
582	Chronic Nephritis	1	-	1
593	Renal Failure	-	1	1
716	Polymyositis	-	1	1
772	Intracranial Haemorrhage	-	1	1
775	Haemolytic Disease of Newborn	-	1	1
776	Cerebral Anoxia with Prematurity	1	1	2
777	Prematurity	1	-	1

Code No.	INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION	M.	F.	Total
788	Dehydration	1	-	1
794	Senility	3	1	4
796	Accidental Asphyxia	1	-	1
E816	Motor Accident (Vehicle ran off road)	-	1	1
E854	Accidental Barbiturate Poisoning	-	1	1
E953	Suicide by Hanging	1	-	1
N801	Fracture Base of Skull	1	-	1
N933	Asphyxia, Inhalation of Vomit, Alcoholism	1	-	1
Totals		162	162	324

Deaths over 65 years 105 117 222

Child Deaths (1 - 4 years inclusive) - 1 1
(Cause Pulmonary Embolism and Hydrocephalus)

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH IN ASHINGTON

Causes	Total No. 1970	Total No. 1971	% of Total deaths 1970	% of Total deaths 1971
Diseases of Heart & Circulatory System	148	135	41.22	41.3
Malignant Neoplasms	59	60	16.43	18.5
Cerebrovascular Disease	44	48	12.25	14.8
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	46	46	12.8	14.1
TOTAL	297	289	82.70	87.17

INFANT DEATHS

Cause	Sex	Age	Place of Death
Pneumonia	Male	3 mths.	Hospital
Rhesus Incompatability	Female	5½ hrs.	Hospital
Prematurity	Male	1 min.	Hospital
Prematurity	Female	9 hrs.	Hospital
Necrosis of adrenals	Male	6 wks.	Hospital
Anoxia of Childbirth	Female	10 min.	Hospital
Cerebral Haemorrhage	Female	20 hrs.	Hospital
Prematurity	Female	19 days	Hospital
Prematurity	Male	8 hrs.	Hospital
Asphyxia (Accident)	Male	2 mths.	Home
Peritonitis	Male	45 min.	Hospital

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1971.

Two new cases were notified. One death occurred from tuberculosis in 1971.

Death rate from respiratory tuberculosis in Ashington. 0.03

Death rate from other forms of tuberculosis in Ashington NIL

STATISTICS FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF ASHINGTON.

Year	Population	Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 pop.	Crude Death Rate per 1,000 pop.	Infant Deaths Under 1 yr.	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births
1906	19,200	37.5	16.35	136	188.6
1916	25,974	27.73	15	109	151.38
1926	31,810	23.22	11.90	81	107.9
1936	30,020	17.52	10.95	41	77.94
1946	28,460	21.5	10.7	30	49.9
1956	28,360	16.61	11.6	17	26.09
1957	28,370	15.83	9.799	15	33.41
1958	28,340	15.49	10.76	11	24.83
1959	28,210	16.16	10.17	12	26.32
1960	28,150	16.23	11.15	15	30.93
1961	27,380	15.70	11.47	9	20.98
1962	27,170	16.636	12.44	8	17.69
1963	26,920	16.86	11.6	7	15.42
1964	26,600	16.43	10.86	14	32.04
1965	26,480	15.52	13.22	9	21.89
1966	26,360	14.68	11.49	5	12.92
1967	26,320	16.6	11.2	7	15.9
1968	26,080	17	12.9	6	14.0
1969	25,830	16.1	13.2	9	22
1970	25,390	18.2	14.1	15	32
1971	25,300	20.1	12.8	11	21.5

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

	Under 1yr	1 - 2 yrs	3 - 4 yrs	5 - 9 yrs	10-14 yrs	15-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55-64 yrs	65-74 yrs	TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	-	1	-	2	-	2	1	-	1	-	1	8

CANCER DEATHS 1971 - SITE AND AGE DISTRIBUTION

Site of Disease	MALES						FEMALES							
	0-25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	Over 65	Total	0-25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	Over 65	Total
Malignant Neoplasm of:														
Stomach	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	1	3	4
Large Bowel	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Rectum	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pancreas	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Antrum	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Larynx	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Bronchus & Lung	-	-	-	-	2	5	7	-	-	1	3	-	3	7
Melanoma	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	4
Cervix Uteri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Ovary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Vulva	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Prostate	-	-	-	-	2	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bladder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Unspecified	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Lympho Sarcoma	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Multiple Myelomata	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Myeloid Leukaemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Paget's Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
TOTALS	1	-	-	1	5	17	24	-	1	1	7	7	20	36

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ended 31st December, 1971.

		No. of inspections during year	No. of defects or contraventions of Byelaws.	No. of Informal Notices served	Defects remedied by informal action	Defects remedied under Improvement Grant procedure.	No. of Statutory Notices served	Defects remedied by Statutory Action	Legal Proceedings
<u>Housing</u>									
Structural Defects	)		1172	103	72	1069	17	33	-
Defective Food Store	)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dampness	1107)		190	22	17	168	1	1	-
Overcrowding	)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Water Supply</u>									
Insufficient	65)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unsatisfactory	)		13	9	7	4	-	-	-
<u>Drainage</u>									
Insufficient	148)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unsatisfactory	)		53	8	8	39	6	9	-
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>									
Insufficient	20)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unsatisfactory	)		13	10	11	1	3	3	-
<u>General</u>									
Food Premises	571	223	218	166	-	-	-	-	-
Dairies	24	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Slaughterhouses	434	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
Tents, Vans, etc.	62	7	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
Offensive Trades	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Keeping of Animals	29	6	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Offensive Accumulations	100	35	2	35	-	-	-	1	-
Clean Air Acts	82	9	-	9	-	-	-	-	-
Civic Amenities Act	70	27	-	27	-	-	-	-	-
Refuse Collection & Disposal	1575	212	109	212	-	-	-	-	-
Factories & Workplaces	34	13	13	135	-	-	-	-	-
Offices and Shops	221	136	136	107	-	-	-	-	-
Infectious Diseases	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rodent Control & Disinfestation	310	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Noise Nuisances	15	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :		4896	2118	630	706	1281	27	47	-

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

General

The abatement of nuisance was as usual achieved mainly by informal action, and in respect of only four premises was it necessary to serve Statutory Notices.

Inspections were carried out in connection with all Improvement Grant applications and necessary repairs were carried out before the grants were approved. These repairs have been included in the tables.

A total of 190 houses were improved during the year, of which 145 were by Discretionary Grant, 23 by Standard Grant and 21 were Council houses.

One General Improvement Area, consisting of 94 houses (the Council owned Garden City Villas) was declared, and the systematic area improvement by the National Coal Board in co-operation with the Council was still proceeding.

Under Part III of the Housing Act 1969, three qualification certificates were granted and two applications refused, and one certificate of provisional approval was granted.

No applications for certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act 1957 were made during the year.

The table below summarises the notices served:-

Nuisances dealt with and work required to be done	Verbal or written Notices	Defects Remedied
Insufficient, choked or defective drainage	53	53
Defective W.C. Basins	6	5
Defective W.C. Cisterns & service pipes	8	6
Defective water supply and lack of internal water supply	4	3
Defective sinks and waste pipes and provision for internal water supply	9	8
Defective or missing ashbins	274	274
Defective roofs	93	85
Damp walls	190	185
Defective spouts	103	96
Defective wallplaster	44	44
Defective ceilings	298	298
Defective doors windows and floors	207	206
Defective ranges, fireplaces and setpot boilers	23	19
Defective chimney flues	39	38
Defective paving and yard surfaces	69	67
Defective food stores	-	-
Defective brickwork and pointing	118	115
Defective baths and wash basins	17	17
Defective electrical wiring	161	156
Offensive accumulations	5	5
Other defects	3	3

Water Supply

The water supply to the area is provided by Tynemouth Corporation from Fontburn and Tossan to Hebron Reservoir, and by gravity main to Ashington, with an additional supply provided by the Coquet Water Board.

No alterations or additions to the distribution system were necessary during the year.

The storage tank at Bothal Village was by-passed throughout the year by a temporary direct mains connection.

Thirty nine water samples were taken for bacteriological examination, all of which were reported to be satisfactory.

Sewerage

The length of trunk sewer in the Summerhouse Lane area, found to be damaged by mining subsidence, was re-laid during the year.

A length of sewer was laid in the Lintonville area, discharging into a tank which will be emptied regularly, and eliminate the necessity for chemical closets in two more premises.

Swimming Baths

The swimming baths belong to the Ashington Miners' Welfare Institute, but are available to the general public as well as to Institute Members, and are open all year round.

The water used is from the main water supply and is treated by continuous chlorination and filtration.

Nine bacteriological samples of the baths were taken during the year, and all samples were reported to be satisfactory.

Regular sampling and testing is also undertaken by the Scientific Department of the National Coal Board in Ashington and copies of the reports are made available to this Department.

Schools

There are 13 Primary Schools in the district (7 Junior and 6 Infant) 6 Secondary Schools, a Grammar School, Technical College, Seniors Practical Instruction Centre, and a Training Centre for Handicapped Children.

The Hirst East Secondary Modern School was extended by 100 places, housed in temporary buildings across the road.

An additional 330 County High School places are proposed.

Cinemas and Public Buildings

Routine inspection of such buildings was carried out during the year.

Atmospheric Pollution

The installation of room heaters in Council Houses, which was abandoned in favour of fan-assisted open fires when a shortage of smokeless fuel was predicted, has not been resumed, though the threatened shortage never really materialised as far as Sunbrite was concerned.

While the improved open fires are approved appliances in that they are capable of burning coke, some of them will only burn the more re-active, and more expensive

Atmospheric Pollution (Cont'd.)

solid fuel. As long as tenants are given the option of burning coal or coke, most of them will burn coal, being the cheapest, and ignore the long-term effect of the hazard to health and environment caused by smoke.

As long as we continue to install coal burning appliances, we are not only failing to contain or reduce domestic air pollution, but are encouraging it.

The joint operation, with Alcan Ltd., of monitoring equipment has continued, and should provide an excellent comparison of "before and after" measurements once the smelter plant comes into operation.

Fouling of Footways by Dogs.

We still receive complaints of dogs fouling paths, verges and grassed areas, particularly on open plan estates.

While a dog catcher and dog warden are now employed, the practice of allowing dogs to stray is so prevalent that it is difficult to control. Unfortunately, complainants are rarely prepared to identify the offending dogs and owners when fouling occurs and we consequently have not yet been able to take proceedings.

Rodent Control

Although the number of complaints was higher than last year, the number of actual infestations was less and necessary treatments were successfully carried out.

There was again a seasonal influx towards the end of the year when rats tend to move into more densely populated areas because of lack of food in natural habitats.

During the year surveys were again carried out of areas likely to harbour rodents, and refuse tips were treated at regular intervals. These regular surveys and treatments resulted in the early elimination of infestations and this shows in the relatively small number of infestations within the town.

The following table summarises the work done:-

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
Number of Properties in district	11,444	29
Total number of properties inspected following notification	169	-
Number infested by (1) Rats	50	-
(2) Mice	18	-
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	300	29
Number infested by (1) Rats	8	2
(2) Mice	-	-

Disinfestation

Treatments carried out were as follows:-

	Council Houses	Private Houses
Clover Mite	105	-
Beetles	12	11
Bugs	4	-
Silver Fish	1	-
Snails	-	1
Flies	2	1
Wasps	2	2
Fleas	-	1
Bees	1	-
Spider Beetles	1	-

No charge is made for the treatment of Council Houses, though private occupiers pay for Disinfestor's time and for the insecticide used.

A very high number of complaints of clover mite was received, mainly from the West End Estate, and presumably due to the mild winter. Normal spraying had little effect, and it was found necessary to remove a strip of grass at the base of the houses, leaving the soil rough turned, and then again spraying walls and windows.

This treatment was very successful, but it may be necessary to retain this soil barrier round the houses for a number of years in order to clear the mite completely.

No complaints of mosquito bites were received during the year, and though likely breeding grounds were examined, no larvae were found.

Pet Animals Act

One licence to sell Pet Animals was granted to a stall holder in the closed market.

Riding Establishments Act 1964 and 1970.

There is one riding establishment in the area, and following the submission of the Veterinary Surgeon's report, the licence was renewed for a further twelve months, but the licensee was informed that it would not be again renewed unless the buildings were brought to the standard required by the 1970 Act.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The second phase of the bonus scheme was introduced in May on the delivery of the two new Revopak collection vehicles. This reduced the collection frequency to once per week, except for premises with limited bin storage and certain trade premises. The number of collection vehicles was reduced from five to three.

The teams did not settle down on this scheme, but had to work overtime to complete the schedules, and further work study was carried out, resulting in a new bonus offer, which was finally accepted in December.

It was hoped that the revised scheme would operate satisfactorily.

Collections of bulk refuse were carried out in overtime, and during the year we dealt with 798 requests for the removal of furniture, cookers, cycles etc., all of which were collected free of charge.

Refuse Collection and Disposal (Cont'd.)

The removal of derelict and abandoned vehicles was secured, mainly by informal action after the owners had been traced.

The refuse pulverising plant continued to operate satisfactorily. Break-downs occurred much less frequently, and modifications to the output conveyor, and the provision of a chimney to relieve pressure successfully eliminated the last of the regular causes of hold up in operation. The escape of dust from the plant within the building has been largely eliminated and it is hoped that a spray system to be installed next year will deal with dust resulting from the vehicles tipping into the hopper.

The remainder of the 22 acres held under the pre-1969 lease is expected to be handed back for agricultural use in January, leaving less than 7 acres in current use.

1,575 visits and inspections were made during the year in connection with refuse collection and disposal.

Statistics and costs for the year 1970-1971 were as follows:-

Operational Statistics

Total refuse collected	9,382 tons
Percentage of refuse weighed	7%
Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day	20.32 cwts.
No. of premises from which refuse is collected.	9,953
Premises from which collections are made at least once weekly.	100%
Average haul, single journey to disposal point	2.5 miles
Trade Refuse Income	£925

COSTS

	Collection	Disposal	Total
Gross Expenditure	£38,813	£18,498	£57,311
Gross cost/ton - Labour only	£2.75	£0.42	£3.17
Gross cost/ton - Transport only	£1.37	£0.46	£1.83
Nett cost (all expenditure) per ton	£4.06	£1.95	£6.01
Nett cost per 1,000 population	£1,505	£724	£2,229
Nett cost per 1,000 premises	£3,825	£1,841	£5,666

Refuse Disposal Vehicles and Staff.

<u>Vehicle Reg.</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>First Registered</u>
KNL 155E	Shelvoke & Drewry	Fore & Aft Tipper	6.1.67.
MJR 890F	" " "	Pakamatic	1.8.67.
UTY 767H	" " "	"	22.5.70.
YJR 463J	" " "	Revopak	14.5.71.
YJR 775J	" " "	"	14.5.71.
VNL 851H	Austin	6 cwt. van	3.7.70.
WTY 998J	Ford	5000 Tractor/Dozer	1.3.71.

(In service December 1970.)

MJR 890F is the normal spare vehicle, and KNL 155E is being held temporarily, unregistered, until we can assess what effect the plate testing will have in the availability of the spare.

Refuse Disposal Vehicles & Staff cont'd.

Staff consists of:-

1 Foreman, 3 Drivers, 3 Plant Operators, 2 Driver/Lifters and 10 Bin Lifters.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

There are 81 factories and workshops in the district. The following table gives details of inspections made and defects found during the year under review.

1. INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sects. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	4	4	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Sect. 7 is enforced by L.A.	68	23	13	-
3. Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by L.A. (excl. outworkers' premises).	9	7	-	-
TOTAL:	81	34	13	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number of Cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	6	6	1	1	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	13	13	1	1	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133		No. of prosecutions for failing to supply lists	Section 134		
	No. of outworkers on August 1st required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases in default in sending lists to the Council		No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Artificial Flowers	42	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	42	-	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

Although eight premises were registered during the year, there was a decrease of twenty nine in the total number of registered premises, due to the thirty seven premises which no longer came within the scope of the Act, either by closing down or ceasing to employ persons.

Of the 281 premises registered under the Act, 163 received one or more general inspections during the year.

221 visits and inspections under the Act were carried out for various purposes.

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS			
	Number of Premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at the end of the year	Number of registered premises receiving general inspections during the year
Offices	-	61	18
Retail Shops	7	205	137
Wholesale Shops & Warehouses	-	4	2
Catering establishments open to the Public - canteens	1	8	4
Fuel storage depots	-	3	2
TOTAL:	8	281	163

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED
PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	850
Retail Shops	1315
Wholesale departments, warehouses	23
Catering establishments open to the public	73
Canteens	2
Fuel Storage Depots	19
TOTAL:	2282
Total Males	918
Total Females	1364

No applications for exemption in respect of temperature, sanitary conveniences or washing facilities have been received.

One exemption from the first aid provision is in force in view of the Medical Centre which is available to the employees concerned.

ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	Number of Contraventions Found
4	Cleanliness 1
5	Overcrowding -
6	Temperature 7
7	Ventilation 3
8	Lighting 10
9	Sanitary Conveniences 11
10	Washing Facilities 2
11	Supply of Drinking Water -
12	Clothing Accommodation -
13	Sitting Facilities -
14	Seats (Sedentary Workers) -
15	Eating Facilities -
16	Floors, passages and stairs 53
17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery 4
18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery -
19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery -
23	Prohibition of heavy work -
24	First Aid - General Provisions 13
	Other Matters 32
TOTAL:	136

11 accidents were notified during the year, details of these were submitted to the Department of Employment and Productivity in the quarterly returns.

Details of accidents notified were as follows:-

Type of Premises	Nature of Accident
1. Retail Shop	Strained back when lifting carton of detergent
2. Retail Shop	Broke bone in hand while hoisting himself from kneeling position by means of a shelf.
3. Retail Shop	Slipped while hanging side of bacon, lacerating right arm on bacon hook.
4. Retail Shop	Bruised back when struck by a carton which rolled down a conveyor belt.
5. Retail Shop	Slipped on staircase injuring spine.
6. Retail Shop	Twisted back while lifting a bread tray.
7. Retail Shop	Lacerated hand while cutting chicken.
8. Retail Shop	Slipped on warehouse floor injuring back.
9. Retail Shop	Bumped trolley bruising right leg.
10. Office	Fell while cleaning window injuring wrist.
11. Canteen	Slipped on canteen floor injuring back,

Investigations were carried out in the case of accidents 3,4 and 5 but no further action was found necessary.

Formal investigation is only required if the accident was of a serious nature, or it appears that there are unusual circumstances, or the possibility of safety regulations having been broken. In fact, we visit the premises of every accident notification, if only to impress the management that notification is not merely a formality, but that the purpose is to find means to prevent accidents.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF HOUSING FOR THE YEAR 1971.

Houses completed within the district during the year:

- a) By Local Authority -
- b) By any other Housing Authority -
- c) By Private Persons -

Closing and Demolition

- 1. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas -
- 2. Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas 1
- 3. Houses closed, not demolished -
- 4. Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included above. -

Repairs

Houses made fit by procedure under either Housing or P.H. Acts

- 5. By informal action 37
- 6. By owners, following statutory notice 4
- 7. By Local Authority in default of owners -
- 8. Demolition Orders revoked after reconstruction 1

TABULAR STATEMENT OF HOUSING FOR THE YEAR 1971 (Cont'd)

Houses Patched

9. Houses in Clearance Areas still in use
at end of year for temporary accommodation. -

Clearance Programme

10. Number of unfit houses in clearance programme
remaining to be dealt with at end of year -

HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS - HOUSING ACTS 1969-71

GENERAL IMPROVEMENT AREAS

Areas declared during the year

<u>No. of Areas</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>
1	94

PRIVATELY OWNED HOUSE IMPROVEMENT

No. of Separate Houses

1. DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

In GIA'S Others

- a) Improvements completed during year - 145
b) Approximate average grant/house £421
c) Total number of houses improved with grant aid since 1949 2126

2. STANDARD GRANTS

During the year Total to date

- a) Number of separate houses for which grants have been made 23 206
b) Number of houses provided with
(a) Bath or shower 4 22
(b) Wash hand basin 8 44
(c) Hot water supply 13 44
(d) Water Closet 23 197
(e) Sink 4 10

COUNCIL HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

Number of council owned properties improved
with exchequer assistance

21 166

HOUSING ACT 1969 - PART III

1. Qualification Certificates

- (a) Applications: received 5
(b) granted 3
(c) refused 2
(d) Appeals: allowed -
(e) disallowed -

2. Certificate of provisional approval

- (a) Applications: received 1
(b) granted 1
(c) refused -

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Ice Cream

Six premises in the area are registered for the manufacture of ice creams though in only five of these, was ice cream manufactured during the year.

They were all inspected and were found to comply with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations 1959, and with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

91 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

The analysis of results is as follows:-

Grade	Mobiles				Premises			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Soft Ice Cream	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Ice Cream	-	-	-	-	43	29	9	9

Milk Supply

Three premises were registered as dairies and 65 persons as milk dealers. Since 1st January 1961, all milk licences have been issued by Northumberland County Council.

The County Health Department is also responsible for the taking of milk samples. 28 samples were taken during the year for bacteriological examination, and three samples failed to pass the tests.

There is one Producer Retailer in the district, and four samples of milk were taken for the Brucella Abortus Ring Test.

These were all reported to be negative.

Food Shops and Food Preparing Premises

106 premises are registered for the sale or manufacture of ice cream, and 25 for the manufacture of sausage, preserved food etc. and of these, two premises are registered for both purposes.

571 visits were made to food premises, and in addition food premises being inspected under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act were at the same time, dealt with under the food Hygiene Regulations.

Food Hygiene standards were found to be quite high, contraventions being generally of a minor nature.

Food Shops and Food Preparing Premises (cont'd)

The number of food premises by type, together with an analysis of washing equipment fitted is as follows:-

Trade	Number of Premises	Number of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 (Wash hand basins).	Number of premises to which Reg. 19 applies (Sinks etc.)	Number of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19.
Confectionery	19	19	12	12
Grocers & General	73	73	73	73
Butchers	23	23	23	23
Greengrocery	12	12	12	12
Bakery	12	12	12	12
Ice Cream Parlours etc.	9	9	9	9
Fish Wet	3	3	3	3
Fried Fish	13	13	13	13
Cafes, Canteens etc.	17	17	17	17
Hotels	3	3	3	3
Clubs	23	23	23	23
School Kitchens	5	5	5	5
TOTAL:	212	212	205	205

Food Complaints

Nine food complaints were received and investigated during the year as follows:-

<u>Complaints</u>	<u>Prosecuted</u>	<u>Plea</u>	<u>Result</u>
1. Foreign matter in milk	Yes	Guilty	Fined £10
2. Insect in loaf	Yes	Guilty	Fined £5
3. Pupae in milk bottle	Yes	Guilty	Fined £10
4. Foreign matter in milk			
5. Woody substance in meat pasty			
6. Worm in tinned potatoes			
7. Foreign object in meat paste			
8. Pin in imported tinned tomatoes			
9. Mushrooms looked and tasted peculiar			

In cases four to eight, the Clerk did not consider that there was sufficient evidence to justify proceedings being taken, and the complaints were brought to the notice of the manufacturers and other persons concerned.

Food and Drugs.

Regular sampling of milk and other foods is carried out in the district by the Northumberland County Council.

Details of this work have been kindly provided by Mr. C.L. Arlidge, Chief County Weights and Measures Inspector, showing that 23 milk samples and 63 samples of other foods were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst.

All samples were found to be genuine, except for one sample of imported condensed Full Cream Milk which was slightly deficient in milk solids. Representations were made to the appropriate Government Department.

Meat and Other Foods

One slaughterhouse closed in July, and the three remaining slaughterhouses continued to operate and licence renewals during the year were as follows:-

Slaughterhouse	Occupier	Licence Expires
Back Lintonville Terrace	W.J. Burgess & Sons Ltd.	31st July 1972.
Wellhead Terrace	J. Wheatley	31st July, 1972.
Back 197, Alexandra Road	T. Davidson	31st July, 1972.

Hygiene standards remained generally good and though minor defects appeared from time to time, these were quickly remedied. All three slaughterhouses were inspected during the year by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. 100% Meat Inspection has been maintained, and the statutory procedure laid down by the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963, detailing methods of examination and stamping has been followed.

No charge is made for meat inspection.

There are no poultry processing premises in the district.

Number of Animals slaughtered during the year.

	Bullocks	Heifers	Cows	Bulls	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Normal Kill	419	265	-	-	1	1330	640
Casualties	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
TOTAL:	419	265	-	-	1	1331	640

Meat and Other Organs, Condemned, Surrendered and Destroyed for Tuberculosis NIL

For Other Defined Diseases

Bovine

Heads and Tongues Actinobacillosis 1.
Lungs Pleurisy 9.
Livers..... Cirrhosis (Part) 3; Abscesses 11.
Hearts Pericarditis 1.
Beef Abscesses 10 lbs.
Carcases Generalised C. Bovis 440 lbs.

Swine

Heads Abscesses 4.
Lungs Pleurisy 28; Pneumonia 14; Abscesses 1.
Livers Perihepatitis 3; Parasites 7; Abscesses 1.
Hearts Pericarditis 36.
Kidneys Nephritis 1.
Pork Bruising 80 lbs. Shotly Eruption 151 lbs.

Sheep

Lungs Pleurisy 5; Pneumonia 1.
Livers Abscesses 4; Parasites 1; Cirrhosis 1.

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. Killed and Inspected	684	-	1	1331	640
<u>All Disease except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses in which some part or organ was condemned	23	-	-	11	62
Percentage affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis or Cysticerci.	3.36	-	-	0.83	9.69
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned:	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses in which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis:</u>					
Carcasses in which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised & totally condemned.	1	-	-	-	-

UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
1. Meat at slaughterhouses	-	9	109
2. Meat at retail shops	-	-	22
3. Cooked Meat and meat products	-	-	63
4. Canned Meats	-	-	91
5. Other Canned foods	-	4	-
6. Fish (Fresh)	-	-	-
7. Fruit and Vegetables (Fresh)	-	-	-
8. Frozen Foods	1	12	111
9. Other Foods	-	-	-
	2	8	60

Disposal of unfit food is carried out according to circumstances and its character.

Date	Time	Place	Remarks	No.
10/1	7	-	Left at 7:00 AM	1
10/1	8	-	Left at 8:00 AM	2
10/1	9	-	Left at 9:00 AM	3
10/1	10	-	Left at 10:00 AM	4
10/1	11	-	Left at 11:00 AM	5
10/1	12	-	Left at 12:00 PM	6
10/1	1	-	Left at 1:00 PM	7
10/1	2	-	Left at 2:00 PM	8
10/1	3	-	Left at 3:00 PM	9
10/1	4	-	Left at 4:00 PM	10
10/1	5	-	Left at 5:00 PM	11
10/1	6	-	Left at 6:00 PM	12
10/1	7	-	Left at 7:00 PM	13
10/1	8	-	Left at 8:00 PM	14
10/1	9	-	Left at 9:00 PM	15
10/1	10	-	Left at 10:00 PM	16
10/1	11	-	Left at 11:00 PM	17
10/1	12	-	Left at 12:00 AM	18
10/1	1	-	Left at 1:00 AM	19
10/1	2	-	Left at 2:00 AM	20
10/1	3	-	Left at 3:00 AM	21
10/1	4	-	Left at 4:00 AM	22
10/1	5	-	Left at 5:00 AM	23
10/1	6	-	Left at 6:00 AM	24
10/1	7	-	Left at 7:00 AM	25
10/1	8	-	Left at 8:00 AM	26
10/1	9	-	Left at 9:00 AM	27
10/1	10	-	Left at 10:00 AM	28
10/1	11	-	Left at 11:00 AM	29
10/1	12	-	Left at 12:00 PM	30

Date	Time	Place	Remarks	No.
10/1	7	-	Left at 7:00 AM	1
10/1	8	-	Left at 8:00 AM	2
10/1	9	-	Left at 9:00 AM	3
10/1	10	-	Left at 10:00 AM	4
10/1	11	-	Left at 11:00 AM	5
10/1	12	-	Left at 12:00 PM	6
10/1	1	-	Left at 1:00 PM	7
10/1	2	-	Left at 2:00 PM	8
10/1	3	-	Left at 3:00 PM	9
10/1	4	-	Left at 4:00 PM	10
10/1	5	-	Left at 5:00 PM	11
10/1	6	-	Left at 6:00 PM	12
10/1	7	-	Left at 7:00 PM	13
10/1	8	-	Left at 8:00 PM	14
10/1	9	-	Left at 9:00 PM	15
10/1	10	-	Left at 10:00 PM	16
10/1	11	-	Left at 11:00 PM	17
10/1	12	-	Left at 12:00 AM	18
10/1	1	-	Left at 1:00 AM	19
10/1	2	-	Left at 2:00 AM	20
10/1	3	-	Left at 3:00 AM	21
10/1	4	-	Left at 4:00 AM	22
10/1	5	-	Left at 5:00 AM	23
10/1	6	-	Left at 6:00 AM	24
10/1	7	-	Left at 7:00 AM	25
10/1	8	-	Left at 8:00 AM	26
10/1	9	-	Left at 9:00 AM	27
10/1	10	-	Left at 10:00 AM	28
10/1	11	-	Left at 11:00 AM	29
10/1	12	-	Left at 12:00 PM	30



