

[Report 1957] / Medical Officer of Health, Chepstow U.D.C.

Contributors

Chepstow (Wales). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1957

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/aw6drdms>

License and attribution

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

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

L109022
1
CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1957.



GATE HOUSE,

CHEPSTOW, MON.

DECEMBER, 1958.

TEL. NO. 2657.

CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman.

Mr. Councillor W.G. James, J.P.

Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Councillor A.J. James.

COUNCILLORS:-

Mr. W.A. Bevan,

Mr. A.T.B. O'Neill,

Mrs. M. Collins, J.P.

Mrs. A.M. Palmer,

Mr. D.H. Davies,

Mr. L. Price,

Mr. T.F.H. Lang,

Mr. P. Price,

Mr. G.T. Meddins,

Mr. S.J. Richards,

Mr. C.E.A. Morgan,

Mr. S.J. Ryan,

Mr. R. Williams.

OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer.

Mr. A. Gill.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

Mr. E.McC. Taylor.

Additional Public Health Inspector.

Mr. D.J. Turner.

Rating Officer and Collector.

Mr. W.A. Hood.

Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. E.N. Dowell.

CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gate House,

CHEPSTOW, Mon.

December, 1958.

To:- The Chairman and Members of the
Chepstow Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of your District for the year ended 31st December, 1957.

The health of the district is satisfactory.


I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mr. Taylor and Mr. Turner for their help and co-operation.

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

E. N. DOWELL

Medical Officer of Health.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28837629>

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (Acres).	1,350.
<u>Population</u>	
1931 Census.	4,303.
Registrar General's estimate mid 1953.	5,791.
Registrar General's estimate mid 1954.	5,870.
Registrar General's estimate mid 1955.	5,930.
Registrar General's estimate mid 1956.	5,920.
Registrar General's estimate mid 1957.	5,910.
Number of inhabited houses	1,657.
Rateable Value @ 1st April, 1957	£64,699.
Product of ld. Rate (Actual 1956/57)	£281. 12. 7½d.
(Actual 1957/58)	£241. 13. 0d.

BIRTHS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>			
Legitimate.	54	54	108
Illegitimate.	2	1	3

There were 108 live births in 1956 and 81 in 1952.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>STILL BIRTHS.</u>			
Legitimate.	2	-	2

There was only one still birth in 1954.

INFANT MORTALITY.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>Deaths of Infants under one year of age.</u>			
Legitimate.	1	2	3

The following gives a list of infant deaths under one year of age, giving age at and cause of death:-

- | | | | |
|-------|--------|----------|--|
| (i) | Female | 4 days. | 1.a. Erythroblastosis Foetalis. |
| (ii) | Female | 4 days. | 1.a. Erythroblastosis Foetalis. |
| (iii) | Male | 1 month. | 1.a. Acute Dilatation of Stomach. |
| | | | 2. Ramstedt operation for Congenital Pyloric Stenosis. |

In 1954 there was one death of an infant under one year of age.
In 1952 there were 5 deaths.

DEATHS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Deaths.	38	21	59

There were 59 deaths in 1951 and 1952 and 98 in 1953.

For the sixth consecutive year there were no deaths attributed to Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion.

In 1953 there were 3 deaths attributed to malignant disease of the lung and 26 to vascular lesions of the nervous system. The deaths attributed to coronary disease were 7 males and 2 females in 1954.

Of the total deaths, 32 were 70 years or over at the time of death. Table 1 gives a classification of causes of death and the number attributed to each cause.

The Natural increase (the number of births exceeds the number of deaths) - 52.

GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY.

DIPHTHERIA.

For the fifth consecutive year, there were no cases notified.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation with the combined vaccine was continued in the area until the 11th September. After this date the supply of vaccine was limited to the formol toxoid for immunisation against diphtheria and the single antigen for immunisation against whooping cough. There is a risk of provoking poliomyelitis in using antigens in combination, and if non-alum precipitated antigens are used singly, they may be used throughout the year, subject to the discretion of the Medical Officer of Health.

Of the 108 children born in 1956, 58 were immunised by the end of 1957. Of the 93 children born in 1955, 50 had been immunised by the end of 1956. Of the children born in 1957, only 3 had been immunised by the end of the year.

As in the previous year vaccinations and immunisations were not discontinued owing to the occurrence of Poliomyelitis.

VACCINATIONS (Smallpox).

During the year 56 vaccinations against smallpox were carried out. Of this number 33 were babies born in 1957 and 21 babies born in 1956. In 1956, 51 vaccinations were carried out.

SCARLET FEVER.

Six cases were notified. There were no cases in 1954 and 8 in 1952.

MEASLES.

No cases were notified and only one was notified in 1956. It appears that the local practitioners have given up notifying Measles.

WHOOPING COUGH.

As with Measles, no notifications were received.

POLIOMYELITIS.

Two cases were notified and they occurred in one family. They were brother and sister and were of ages four and six years respectively. The boy was admitted to Allt-yr-yn Hospital on the 2nd August and was of the paralytic type. The girl, who complained of headache and generalised pains two days after the admission of the boy to hospital, was of the non-paralytic type.

During 1955 and 1956 no cases were notified.

170 children were vaccinated against Poliomyelitis during the year. These were carried out at Boverton House Clinic.

DYSENTERY.

Only one case was notified and occurred at one of the hospitals in the area. In 1956 there were 21 notifications.

ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS.

On the 21st May, a man age 36 years was picked up in the street, he was admitted to Allt-yr-yn Hospital, Newport, and the cause of his illness was encephalitis of the "Royal Free Hospital" type. He was not an inhabitant of Chepstow.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Primary Notifications.

The following were the notifications of new cases received during the year:-

(i)	Male.	age 60 years	Lungs.
(ii)	Male.	age 59 years	Lungs.
(iii)	Male.	age 35 years	Lungs.
(iv)	Female.	age 25 years	Lungs.
(v)	Male.	age 41 years	Lungs.
(vi)	Male.	age 67 years	Lungs.
(vii)	Female.	age 27 years	Lungs.
(viii)	Female.	age 43 years	Lungs.
(ix)	Male.	age 63 years	Lungs.

In 1956 there was only one notification but in 1952 and 1954 there were 7.

A Mass Radiographic Survey was carried out at Chepstow amongst the general population and schoolchildren, whose ages were 13 + years. This occurred in the period 30th January to 1st February, 555 of the general population and 228 schoolchildren were examined. 14 of the general population, who had an abnormality of the chest, required further observation, but no children were referred for further examination. As in 1956, 1954, 1953 and 1952 there were no deaths.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN
TUBERCULOSIS) ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS.

<u>DISEASE.</u>	<u>CASES NOTIFIED</u> <u>AGE GROUPS.</u>									TOTAL All ages.
	Under 1 yr.	1 2	3 4	5 9	10 14	15 24	25 and over			
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	6	
Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	
Dysentery.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
Measles.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Diseases.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
TOTAL:-	-	-	5	4	-	1	1	1	11	

DEATHS IN CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT 1957.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Other infective and parasitic diseases.	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	1	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	5	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	3	2
Coronary disease, angina.	7	2
Hypertension with heart disease.	-	2
Other heart disease.	3	5
Other circulatory disease.	2	-
Pneumonia.	1	-
Bronchitis.	4	1
Other diseases of respiratory system.	3	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	2	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.		1
Congenital malformations.	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	4	3
All other accidents.	1	1
All causes.	38	21

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER, 1957.

WATER

The water supply to the district is supplied by a private Company, and is derived from three sources in the Chepstow Park area within the Chepstow Rural District. All water is subjected to chlorination by the "Chloramine" process. The supply is adequate and routine samples are taken for both chemical and bacteriological examination.

Twenty-three samples taken during the year showed that the water was suitable for a public and domestic supply.

The water is not subject to plumbo-solvency.

SWIMMING AND BATHING POOLS

There are no swimming or bathing pools within the area.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No extensions were made during the year to the Council's sewerage system.

The cleansing and repair of choked or defective drainage systems, both public and private, is demanded immediately upon receipt of complaint or noted during inspections.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Almost the whole of the dwelling houses within the Urban District are provided with waterclosets connected up to the Council's sewerage system. A small number of dwellings are drained into cesspools, but as these are situated in the sparsely populated parts of the district, no trouble is experienced.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Domestic and trade refuse is collected twice weekly from all premises with a more frequent collection for the business premises in the town centre.

Disposal is effected by tipping in a large depression adjacent to the Chepstow Racecourse, and which should meet the needs of the district for many years.

HOUSING

The regular and systematic inspection of premises was carried out during the year as required by the Public Health & Housing Acts. It was found necessary in two cases to resort to formal action under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957, and in each case the owner appealed against the notices to the County Court on the grounds that the premises were Unfit for Human Habitation and not capable of being repaired at reasonable expense. The final outcome was, however, that an agreement was reached between the Owners and the Local Authority whereby the Authority purchased both houses. Vast repairs and improvements were carried out thus bringing the properties up to the required standard.

A schedule has been prepared, in connection with the Housing Survey required by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, of properties which come within the provisions of Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses, and whilst the Council have not yet been in a position to commence their "Slum Clearance Programme", it is hoped that within a minimum period the rehousing of tenants from such properties will be practicable.

In considering the schedule which was submitted to the Minister, one must realise, of course, that the schedule contained only proposals of properties to be dealt with and not binding undertakings. In effect, therefore, the information required was an indication of the size of the problem and how soon the Authority proposed to deal with its own problem. In two or three years the character of a house or an area may change for the better or the worse and a rapid appreciation of today may have to be revised when the opportune time arrives.

INSPECTION OF COUNCIL HOUSES

Only two applications were made to the Council for a grant under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, and it is to be regretted that other owners of properties which lack modern amenities do not seek aid, as only in this way will a large number of substantially built houses lacking modern amenities be available for letting to younger married couples.

Regular inspection of houses owned by the Local Authority was commenced during the year, selected areas being chosen from time to time and each house visited and inspected. Generally the houses were maintained in a very good condition, and the general state of cleanliness was found to be excellent.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955.

The regular inspection of food premises was maintained during the year and I am pleased to report that almost all food premises have an adequate supply of hot water available on the premises.

Satisfactory co-operation has been achieved with the food traders in this respect and there were complete alterations to several premises during the year, resulting in a higher standard of hygiene being able to be maintained.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The whole of the milk supplied within the district is imported, all consisting of bottled milk of the designated grades.

A number of samples of milk were abstracted from retailers during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for examination, and in each case satisfied the prescribed test.

Samples of milk were also submitted for biological examination, all of which gave satisfactory results.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1949-54.

Number of Licences Issued	...	...	...	...	...	8
Dealers Licence to retail Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dealers Licence to retail T.T. Past. Milk	...	...	...	...	...	2
Supplementary Licence to retail Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	2
Supplementary Licence to retail T.T. Past. Milk	...	...	...	...	...	2

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947 to 1952.

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES.

Manufacturers (Cold Mix)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Retailers	.....	...	...	...	...	13

ICE-CREAM SAMPLING.

Samples of pre-packed ice-cream were collected during the summer months and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for examination, all samples being placed in either Grade 1 or 2.

The bulk of the ice-cream consumed in the area is pre-packed and supplied by the larger distributor manufacturers.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACTS

The under-mentioned visits were carried out during the year in connection with the administration of the Factories and Workshops Acts:-

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register. (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Insp. (4)	Written Notices. (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	12	4	-	-	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	2	17	-	-	-	2
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	3	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL:-		29	4	-	-	

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found.			No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (7)	M/c line No.	
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.I. Insp. By H.M. Insp.			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4					4
Overcrowding (S.2).	5					5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3).	6					6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).	7					7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	8					8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	9					9
(a) Insufficient						
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10					10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11					11
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork).	12					12
TOTAL:-						

NOTICES SERVED.

Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Preliminary Notices complied with.	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Statutory Notices complied with.	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Council house repairs, rehousing etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	735
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	221
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Rodent Infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Bake-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Visits re: Unsound Food...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Water and Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Public Utilities Street Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Rag and Bone Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Refuse Collection & Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
School & Hospital Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Shops Act. Sec. 37.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Milk & Dairies Regs., 1949. (Delivery vans etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Food Delivery vans, Ice-cream vans etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Places of Entertainment. Sec. 89 P.H.A., 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
HOUSING (Public Health & Housing Acts).	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
HOUSING (No. of inspections made for that purpose).	...	...	...	...	...	...	258

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION.

	Cattle (exclud- ing Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	68	3	4	370	42	-
Number inspected	68	3	4	370	42	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.						
Whole carcass condemned.	-	-	-	1	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	7	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease, other than Tub- erculosis and cysticerci.	10.2	-	-	0.27	-	-
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-	-

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION (Contd.)

	Cattle (exclud- ing Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-				

Number of visits to Slaughterhouse 96

In addition, routine visits were made to butchers shops to ensure that all meat consignments from outside the district had been inspected at their source of origin.

CONDEMNATION OF UNSOUND FOOD.

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs.	Lbs.
<u>TUBERCULOSIS.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	-
Meat	-	-	-	-
Offal	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL:-</u>	-	-	-	-
<u>NON-TUBERCULOSIS.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	26
Meat	-	-	3	5
Offal	-	-	-	23
<u>TOTAL:-</u>	-	1	-	26
Total amount - Tuberculosis and Non-Tuberculosis:-	-	1	-	26
<u>OTHER FOODS.</u>				
Pork Pies.	-	-	-	18
Fish.	-	-	2	14
Chicken.	-	1	-	8
Cheese.	-	-	-	10
Sausage (Beef).	-	-	-	24
Sausage (Pork).	-	-	-	24
Cooked Ham	-	2	2	4
<u>TOTAL:-</u>	-	4	3	16
TINS.	498.

CATTLE MARKET.

The Council control the Cattle Market, markets being held on alternate Mondays.

Animals entering the Market during the twelve months ending the 31st December, 1957, were as follows:-

<u>CATTLE</u>	<u>CALVES</u>	<u>SHEEP</u>	<u>PIGS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1,348	730	7,950	2,109	12,137

CATTLE MARKET

The Bureau of the Census, Bureau of the Census, Bureau of the Census

on alternate Mondays.

Animals entering the market during the twelve months ending

the 31st December, 1927, were as follows:

CATTLE	CATTLE	CATTLE	CATTLE	CATTLE	CATTLE
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240

1927

Animals entering the market during the twelve months ending

the 31st December, 1927

1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240

1927

1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240

1927

1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240	1,240
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

