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BISHOP AUCKLAND  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



**REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER**  
OF  
**HEALTH**  
FOR  
**1961**



CHERRETT, BISHOP AUCKLAND





# BISHOP AUCKLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## *Chairman of Council :*

Alderman J. R. S. MIDDLEWOOD, O.B.E., J.P., D.L.

## *Chairman of Health Committee :*

Alderman J. R. S. MIDDLEWOOD, O.B.E., J.P., D.L.

## *Councillors :*

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J. D. Gordon.	*J. Noble-Eddy.	

\* Denotes Members of the Health Committee.

*Clerk to the Council :* J. R. PASSEY, Ll.B.

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## **Health Department Staff**

### *Medical Officer of Health :*

J. M. HEGARTY, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Part-time Medical Officer for the Urban District.

Assistant County (No. 9 Area) Medical Officer).

### *Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Officer :*

R. SNOWDON, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H., M.R.S.H.,

A.M.INST.P.C., I.S.A.A. (Dip.)

Associate of the Institute of Fuel.

### *Senior Additional Public Health Inspector :*

J. R. LYLE, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.INST.P.C.

(Resigned 11th March, 1961)

E. YOUNG, M.A.P.H.I.

(Promoted 12th March, 1961)

### *Additional Public Health Inspector :*

M. COSGROVE, M.A.P.H.I.

(qualified 5th April, 1961)

*Clerk :* T. K. CROSBY.

*Shorthand Typist :* MISS A. D UNN



## Annual Report for 1961

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Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report for 1961.

The vital statistics compare very favourably with those for the previous year. The birth rate is lower than last year and the death rate a little higher. There was a total of 439 deaths (237 males and 202 females). Of these, 56 died before reaching the age of 50. Well over half of the deaths (239) were over 70 years. Of these 239, 143 died aged 70-80 ; 89 between 80-90 and 7 were over 90 years of age.

Deaths due to cancer of all parts of the body have increased by only one, while the number from lung cancer has almost halved—14 in 1960 and 8 this year. In 1959 the number was 21. This is not the pattern for England and Wales where both these figures are increasing yearly. Deaths due to heart and circulatory diseases have increased by 16%. Those due to Bronchitis have risen slightly and from Pneumonia by almost 30%. There has not been a maternal death during the year.

The Princes Street Maternity Home was opened again at the beginning of the year after its closure at the end of 1960 due to Puerperal Pyrexia. Since then there have been 31 cases of pyrexia notified from either the Maternity Home or the Maternity Department of the General Hospital. None was due to any specific infection.

There has not been a case of Diphtheria or Poliomyelitis notified in the district.

The infant mortality rate is very much lower than last year. There were 18 deaths as against 24 in 1960. Of these 11 died before reaching the age of 1 week ; 1 died at 2 months ; 2 at 3 months ; 2 at 4 months ; 1 at 6 months and 1 at 9 months. Again, of these deaths, 7 were from prematurity ; 3 from abnormality ; 3 from infection and 2 from infection associated with abnormality ; and 3 from asphyxia due to different causes.

Notification of Measles about doubled, but there were fewer cases of Whooping Cough. Notifications of Scarlet Fever were up by 33½%. Only one case of Dysentery was notified during the year.

Notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis rose from 7 last year to 20 for 1961. Non-pulmonary cases were 7 in comparison with 4. This is a big increase, but on looking back, 1960 seemed better than it should have, as some of these 1961 cases, should, I think, have been notified during the end of 1960.



Details of the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit's visit are given later in the report. Attendances were very poor—about 260 less than last year which itself was poor. No new cases of Tuberculosis was notified but 3 cases were found which required occasional supervision. Various other important conditions were discovered.

B.C.G. vaccination against Tuberculosis was continued in the schools for children aged 13 and upwards. The response was very satisfactory—figures are quoted later under "Special Health Services." I would like to acknowledge the co-operation given by Head Teachers of all the schools visited.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis continued fairly satisfactorily during the year.

Triple Vaccine was approved by the Minister of Health for use in the County Clinics and to be supplied to the General Practitioners. This combines Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Tetanus so that the child receives only three pricks against the three diseases.

During the year, old people were visited on request from them or their relatives and dealt with as necessary. Some required hospital, some a hostel, some the services of a Home Help, some a special piece of equipment or their name to be added to the Hostel list. Details of the Home Helps provided are given later in the report.

A second "Over 60" Club was started by the Council to cater for the Woodhouse Close new estate. Premises caused some difficulty at the outset, but this has now been overcome and the Club is functioning successfully.

The Physically Handicapped Club, which was started last year, has gone from strength to strength, and now has a membership of between 70 and 80 drawn from towns far and near to Bishop Auckland.

I would again like to acknowledge both the courtesy and consideration given to me by my Council, and to thank the staff of the Health Department for the year's good work.

#### **Area and Social Conditions.**

The area of the district is 9,336 acres. The estimated population in mid-1961 was 35,400, a decrease of 40 on the previous year's estimate.

The rateable value at the end of 1961 was £343,781 and the product of a penny rate £1,319.

The number of houses according to the Council's rate book was, at the end of 1961, 11,487.



## Vital Statistics.

In the following extracts from the vital statistics of the district the corrected figures as supplied by the Registrar General have been used and the rates quoted are based on the above mentioned estimated population.

Live Birth	Total	Males	Females
LEGITIMATE	599	295	304
ILLEGITIMATE	27	14	13
TOTAL	<u>626</u>	<u>309</u>	<u>317</u>

Comparability Factors : Birth 0.96 ; Deaths 1.16. Standard Birth Rate : 16.97 The corresponding rate for England and Wales is 17.4 Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births—4.31%.

Still Births	Total	Males	Females
LEGITIMATE	18	11	7
ILLEGITIMATE	1	—	1
TOTAL	<u>19</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>

## Births.

Rate per 1,000 live and still births ; standard 17.50.

The total number of births was 645 ; 320 males and 325 females.

## Deaths.

After correction for outwardly and inwardly transferable deaths a total of 439 (237 males and 202 females) deaths of residents were recorded during the year, giving a standard death rate of 14.39 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales as a whole in 1961 was 12.0. Cardio-vascular diseases accounted for 181 of the total deaths.

**Live Births.** Total 626. Males 309. Females 317.

Rate per 1,000 population 16.97.

Illegitimate live births (per cent of total live births).

14 Males. 13 Females. 4.31%

**Stillbirths.** Total 19. Males 11. Females 8.

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births 28.28.

For England and Wales the rate was 19.1.

Total live and still births 645. Males 320 ; Females 325.

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) 18. Males 8 ; Females 10.

## Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births. 33.36.

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births 34.86.

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births Nil.



**Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.**

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births. 20.38.

Legitimate. Males 5. Females 6.

Illegitimate. Males 0. Females 0.

**Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.**

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births. 20.38.

Legitimate. Males 5. Females 6.

Illegitimate. Males 0. Females 0.

**Perinatal Mortality Rate.**

Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths. 53.95.

**Maternal Mortality (including abortion).**

Number of deaths : Nil. Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths : Nil.

The following table gives the number of deaths recorded from the various causes during the year.

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total
Lung Cancer .. .. .	7	1	8
Other Cancers .. .. .	21	39	60
Leukaemia .. .. .	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	36	33	69
Coronary disease, angina .. .. .	64	29	93
Hypertension with heart disease ..	2	12	14
Other heart disease .. .. .	24	30	54
Other circulatory diseases .. .. .	11	9	20
Pneumonia .. .. .	10	7	17
Bronchitis .. .. .	16	3	19
Other respiratory diseases .. .. .	2	1	3
Gastric or duodenal ulcer .. .. .	1	—	1
Gastritis and enteritis .. .. .	—	3	3
Nephritis and nephrosis .. .. .	1	4	5
Diabetes .. .. .	—	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate .. .. .	3	—	3
Congenital malformations .. .. .	3	2	5
Motor vehicle accidents .. .. .	5	2	7
All other accidents .. .. .	10	4	14
Suicide .. .. .	3	2	5
Tuberculosis (all forms) .. .. .	2	3	5
Influenza .. .. .	1	1	2
Other infections .. .. .	2	—	2
Pregnancy, childbirth .. .. .	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection .. .. .	—	—	—
Syphilitic diseases .. .. .	—	—	—
All other causes than those specified ..	13	15	28
Homicide and operations of war .. .. .	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .	<b>237</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>439</b>

The above table is based on information supplied by the Registrar General.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified and the deaths from the various infectious diseases (excluding tuberculosis) which occurred during 1961.

Disease	Total cases notified	Total number after corrected diagnosis	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .. ..	20	20	—	—
Smallpox .. ..	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever .. ..	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .. ..	30	30	1	17
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	32	32	31	—
Measles .. ..	640	639	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	57	57	—	—
Erysipelas .. ..	1	1	—	—
Dysentery .. ..	1	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—
	782	781	32	17

## TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows in arrangement by age groups, the number of new cases notified and of deaths from tuberculosis occurring in the district during the year.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
15	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
25	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
35	1	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
45	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	4	1	-	-	1	2	-	-
65 and over	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
1961	12	8	4	3	2	3	-	-
1960	3	4	3	1	2	2	-	-
1959	9	12	3	3	3	1	-	-
1958	16	8	4	1	3	2	2	-
1957	17	9	-	2	2	2	-	-
1956	5	14	2	2	1	1	-	-
1955	15	9	1	-	3	3	1	-
1954	13	7	2	1	7	5	-	-
1953	15	19	2	2	6	6	-	1
1952	23	21	1	3	6	9	-	2

Since 1958 no special consideration has been given by the Council to housing applicants from a home containing a sufferer from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. During 1961 no such family was re-housed.



## Mass Miniature Radiography.

The following statistics for 1961 relate to this district :

	Male	Female	Total
Attendances .. ..	602	1065	1667
Recalled .. ..	29	26	55
Referred to Chest Clinic	6	6	12

Of the numbers referred to the Chest Clinic :

- None were found to be suffering from active tuberculosis.
- 3 persons required occasional supervision.
- 3 had acquired heart conditions.
- 1 was suffering from Pneumoconiosis.
- 48 were listed under other conditions.
- None failed to attend for a clinical examination.

## WATER

A constant and unrestricted water supply is provided by the Council's waterworks to over 3,400 houses, serving a population of about 13,000 with water of good quality at a very reasonable cost. A sample, taken from a different part of the district each fortnight, is submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The results of these examinations are consistently good.

On at least two occasions during the year, all houses and premises in the district served by the works have been examined, special attention and more frequent inspections being given to the older parts of the town.

Monthly consumption of water is as follows :

Jan.	15,156,000	May	13,257,000	Sept.	12,720,000
Feb.	13,297,000	June	13,736,000	Oct.	13,049,000
March	14,501,000	July	13,109,000	Nov.	13,947,000
April	12,794,000	Aug.	11,608,000	Dec.	14,313,000

A total of 161,487,000 gallons for the year.

The remainder of the district is supplied by the Durham County Water Board which takes its own samples for bacteriological examination.

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The situation at the Vinovium Sewage Disposal Works is substantially the same. Investigations have been made into the various methods of de-watering sludge, and experiments carried out concerning its suitability as a liquid manure.

The suspended solids being discharged in the final effluent to the river are frequently in excess of the River Board's standard of 30 parts per million.

Extensions at present under consideration are being planned in the light of knowledge gained through investigation of the above conditions.



The aerial nuisance is still considerable due to the air drying of crude sludge, which is now being produced in quantities far exceeding the original cold digestion capacity.

The works also treats sewage from Spennymoor and Shildon Urban Districts, and Barnard Castle Rural District.

### SEWERAGE

The system continues to operate reasonably well in spite of the entrance of large amounts of grit. Conversion schemes have been approved for some 300 properties. This will deal with nearly all the houses which have sufficient life to warrant conversion.

### SPECIAL HEALTH SERVICES

(a) **Immunisation against Diphtheria.**

The following children were treated during the year in their homes, doctors' surgeries or County clinics :

521 children received primary full courses of immunisation treatment ;

179 children received " booster " doses, either singly or in combination.

(b) **Whooping Cough.**

484 children were vaccinated against Whooping Cough, either singly or in combination.

The administration of combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria injections has naturally lowered the numbers of single injections against each disease alone.

(c) **Smallpox Vaccination.**

229 primary vaccinations and 28 re-vaccinations were carried out during the year.

(d) **Poliomyelitis Vaccination.**

The number of vaccinations carried out during the year was as follows : 691 received first injections ; 709 received second injections ; 345 received third injections ; 1,458 received fourth injections.

(e) **B.C.G. Vaccinations.**

978 children were Heaf tested : 173 children were positive ; 749 children were negative ; 744 children were vaccinated. These figures apply to children attending schools in the Bishop Auckland Urban District.

Included in the notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were two teenagers whose mothers had previously refused B.C.G. for them.

(f) **Home Help Service.**

The services of a Home Help were supplied to 238 households.



## MEAT INSPECTION

As in the past few previous years a 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered within the Urban District was carried out during the course of 1,239 visits. During the year the carcasses and organs of 12,298 animals were inspected.

Once again the incidence of tuberculosis found was less than the previous year, and indeed the lowest ever percentaged—as can be seen by the following table :

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Percentage Cattle affected	6.46	5.33	3.39	1.90	0.33	0.07
Percentage Cows affected	8.36	11.12	4.97	3.57	0.68	0.34

Cysticercosis continued to counterbalance the decrease in tuberculous lesions. This year the percentage rose to 1.11 in cattle and 0.34 in cows—the number of cases in which cysticercosis bovis cyst was found was 33 in comparison with 15 in 1960 and 45 in 1959.

The percentage condemned due to disease other than cysticercosis and tuberculosis fell slightly from 52.49 to 45.08 in cattle and 42.90 to 36.15 in cows. As in previous years the high proportion of parasitic livers accounted mainly for these percentages.

	Cattle ex. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Slaughtered ..	2877	296	11	5308	3806
Number Inspected ..	2877	296	11	5308	3806
<b>TUBERCULOSIS</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Part carcasses condemned	2	1	—	—	146
Percentage condemned ..	0.07	0.34	—	—	3.83
<b>CYSTICERCOSIS</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Part carcasses condemned	32	1	—	—	—
Percentage condemned ..	1.11	0.34	—	—	—
Number of carcasses subject to refrigeration ..	1	—	—	—	—
<b>OTHER DISEASES</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Part carcasses condemned	1197	107	—	279	358
Percentage condemned ..	45.08	36.15	—	5.2	9.43



## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Seven slaughterhouse licences were issued during the year, allowing slaughtering at the following :

1. Leazes Farm, Leazes Lane, St. Helen's Auckland.
2. Staindrop Road, West Auckland.
3. Grey Street, Bishop Auckland.
4. Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland.
5. Violet Banks, Etherley Dene, Bishop Auckland.
6. Main Street, Witton Park.
7. Chester Street, Bishop Auckland.

The last numbered premises discontinued as a slaughtering centre in the autumn of 1961.

Licences were issued to 26 persons allowing them to slaughter or stun animals.

## VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF FOOD

The following is the quantity of foodstuffs found unfit and voluntarily surrendered :

20 tins Ham.	48 tins Cheese Fritters.
384 tins Meat.	1 tin Chicken.
395 tins Fruit.	1 tin Butter.
342 tins Vegetables.	48 Chicken Croquettes.
85 tins Soup.	51½ lb. Ham.
25 tins Milk.	16¼ lb. Bacon.
12 tins Fish.	15 stems Bananas.
28 tins Rice.	27 boxes Pears.
1 tin Barley.	49 boxes Peaches.
1 tin Semolina.	

## FOOD PREMISES

The following shows the numbers of the various food premises in the Urban Area :

- 180 General Dealers.
- 9 Greengrocers and/or Fruiterers.
- 42 Confectioners.
- 6 Wet Fish Shops.
- 21 Fried Fish and Chip Chops.
- 10 Bakehouses.
- 23 premises where Milk only is retailed.
- 34 Butchering premises.
- 22 Snack Bars, Cafes and Restaurants.
- 32 General Grocery Shops.
- 30 premises registered for Preserved Foods.

The number of visits made in the year to food premises was 356.



## ICE CREAM

The sampling of ice cream for bacteriological examination helps to indicate the efficiency of plant cleansing and sterilisation, and points to possible contamination of the product and the standard of hygiene of the food handlers.

38 samples were taken, and these were classified by the Newcastle Public Health Laboratory as follows :

		1958	1959	1960	1961	Total
Grade 1	..	8	3	2	11	24
Grade 2	..	4	2	6	4	16
Grade 3	..	6	1	3	12	22
Grade 4	..	12	1	4	11	28
<b>TOTAL</b> ..		<u>30</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>90</u>

### Premises Registered.

(a) Manufacture, Storage and Sale of ice cream						7
(b) Storage and Sale only	..	..	..	..	..	145

## FACTORIES

### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspec- tions (3)	Number of	
			Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Pros- ecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. .. .	19	20	7	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. .. .. .	108	33	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) .. .. .	10	10	-	-
TOTAL .. .. .	137	63	10	-



2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

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

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which process were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) .. .. .	8	8	-	2	-
Overcrowding (S.2) .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage (S.6) .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or Defective .. .. .	4	3	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against Act (Not relating to outwork) ..	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	12	11	-	4	-

Part VIII of the Act does not apply.

## HOUSING

### (a) Clearance Areas.

In 1961 six Clearance Areas were submitted to the Council for subsequent submission to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for confirmation. These areas were :

Area	No. of Houses.
Vulcan Street, Witton Park .. ..	1-11.
John Street, Witton Park .. ..	1-5 ; 27-30.
Garden Street, Witton Park .. ..	62-90.
Bankwell Yard, Bishop Auckland ..	1-4.
Wright's Yard, Bishop Auckland ..	1-3.
Douglass Terrace, Eldon Lane .. ..	1-10.

A total of 57 houses.

### (b) Individual Orders.

Orders were made against the following houses during the year.

House.	Order.
1, John Street, Witton Park .. ..	Closing.
8, Low Albion Street, Witton Park ..	Closing.
11, Low Albion Street, Witton Park ..	Closing.
*37, Low Albion Street, Witton Park ..	Closing.
69, Woodside, Witton Park. .. ..	Closing.
17, John Street, Witton Park .. ..	Demolition.
19, Woodside, Witton Park .. ..	Closing.
36, John Street, Witton Park .. ..	Demolition.
37, John Street, Witton Park .. ..	Demolition.
74, Low Albion Street, Witton Park ..	Closing.
3, Crown Yard, South Church .. ..	Closing.
13, Heslop Street, South Church. ..	Closing.
3, Shildon Road, South Church. ..	Closing.
6, Main Street, South Church .. ..	Closing.
3, Heslop Street, South Church .. ..	Demolition.
4, Heslop Street, South Church .. ..	Demolition.
7, Heslop Street, South Church .. ..	Demolition.
27, Main Street, South Church .. ..	Demolition.
4, Newton Cap Bank, Bishop Auckland	Closing.
18b, South Terrace, Bishop Auckland ..	Closing.
46, Low Escomb .. .. ..	Closing.
38, Low Escomb .. .. ..	Closing.
15, Park Terrace, Coundon Gate .. ..	Closing.
33, Park View Terrace, New Coundon ..	Closing.
11, Peases Street, St. Helen's .. ..	Closing.
13, Peases Street, St. Helen's .. ..	Closing.

\* Subsequently changed to a Demolition Order.

A total of 26 houses.

Altogether 83 houses were represented either collectively or individually as being unfit for human habitation.



(c) **General.**

1. WORK ON HOUSES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.	
Houses found to be defective in repair .. .. .	127
Number of informal notices served .. .. .	127
Number of formal notices served .. .. .	64
Houses rendered free from nuisances complained of ..	122

2. HOUSES CAPABLE OF REPAIR—HOUSING ACT, 1957.  
No notice served during 1961.

3. HOUSES INCAPABLE OF REPAIR—HOUSING ACT, 1957.	
Representation to Health Committee .. .. .	24
Demolition Orders made .. .. .	7
Closing Orders made .. .. .	19
Undertaking accepted .. .. .	—

4. RENT ACT.

The following table shows a summary of work carried out during the year :

(i) Applications for Certificate of Disrepair.	
Number of Applications for Certificate .. .. .	6
Number of decisions not to issue Certificate .. .. .	—
Number of decisions to issue Certificate :	
(a) In respect of some, but not all the defects ..	4
(b) In respect of all the defects .. .. .	2
Number of Undertakings given by Landlords under Paragraph 5 of the First Schedule ..	4
Number of Undertakings refused by local authority under proviso of Paragraph 5 of the First Schedule .. .. .	—
Number of Certificates issued .. .. .	—
(ii) Applications for Cancellation of Certificate.	None.

5. STANDARD GRANTS.

The Council's Engineer and Surveyor deals with all applications which are granted subject to a Certificate of Fitness from the Chief Public Health Inspector.

(a) Number of applications submitted to Local Authority ..	100
(b) Applications rejected by Local Authority .. .. .	—
(c) Total number of applications since inception .. .. .	199
(d) Total number of grants paid since inception .. .. .	131

6. DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.

The procedure with dealing with this type of grant aid is the same as for Standard Grants. The Council decided in 1961 to re-introduce Discretionary Grants after a lapse of ten years.

(a) Number of applications submitted to Local Authority ..	6
(b) Applications rejected by Local Authority .. .. .	—
(c) Total number of applications since inception .. .. .	13
(d) Total number of grants paid since inception .. .. .	7



## 7. Houses Demolished.

	Houses Demol'ed or Closed	Re-housing	
		Persons	Families
<b>IN CLEARANCE AREAS.</b> Houses unfit for human habitation .. ..	43	94	30
<b>NOT IN CLEARANCE AREAS.</b> Action under Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957 ..	15	5	1
<b>UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED.</b> Action under Sections 16 (4) and 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957 .. ..	11	29	8
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	69	128	39

## 8. Houses which were Unfit but Remedied in 1961.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.</b>		
(a) After informal action by Local Authority .. ..	84	-
(b) After formal action by Local Authority .. ..	37	-
<b>HOUSING ACT, 1957.</b>		
(a) After informal action by Local Authority .. ..	-	-
(b) After formal action by Local Authority .. ..	1	-
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	122	-

## 9. Inspections.

(a) Under Public Health, Housing and Rent Acts	2,680
(b) Under House Purchase and Housing Act ..	186
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<u>2,866</u>



## 10. New Houses.

In 1961 a total of 80 new houses or flats were provided in the Urban District—a decrease of 34 on 1960.

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Built by Local Authority ..	76	124	58	84	61
Built by Private Enterprise ..	33	25	31	30	18
Built by Durham County Council	7	5	15	—	—
Converted into flats (1 house) ..	3	2	3	—	—
Converted from factory premises	—	1	—	—	—
Converted from sale room premises	—	—	—	—	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>80</b>

## Housing Statistics.

### 1. NUMBER ON WAITING LISTS AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1961.

	Tenants	Sub-Tenants	Total
(a) General Waiting List ..	451	208	659
(b) Aged Persons Waiting List	288	17	305
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>964</b>

### 2. NUMBER OF FAMILIES RE-HOUSED.

#### (a) In New Dwellings.

Slum Clearance .. ..	31
Keyworkers .. ..	9
Aged Persons' List .. ..	—
General List .. ..	21
	<b>61</b>

#### (b) In Re-Lets of Existing Accommodation.

Slum Clearance .. ..	7
Keyworkers .. ..	10
Aged Persons' List .. ..	8
General List .. ..	39
	<b>64</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>125</b>

### 3. OVERCROWDED FAMILIES.

Of the total of 125 families re-housed during the year 1st January, 1961 to 31st December, 1961, the following were living in overcrowded conditions :

Statutorily Overcrowded .. ..	40
Points Scheme, i.e. lack of adequate bedroom accommodation .. ..	81

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH SUMMARY

PARTICULARS	Number of Inspections	Number of Informal Notices Served	Number of Formal Notices Served	Defects Remedied after Notice
Public Health and Housing Acts ..	2578	58	38	56
Overcrowding ..	-	-	-	-
Defective Sanitary Conveniences ..	18	18	13	16
Drainage ..	10	10	3	10
Water Supply ..	8	6	2	6
Food Premises ..	356	7	-	6
Shops Act ..	91	-	-	-
Slaughterhouses ..	1239	-	-	-
Movable Dwellings ..	32	-	-	-
Keeping of Animals ..	6	3	-	3
Insanitary Ashpits, etc. ..	21	12	3	12
Offensive Accumulations ..	7	3	-	3
Smoke Nuisances ..	76	-	-	-
Pet Animals Act ..	4	-	-	-
Market ..	77	-	-	-
Miscellaneous ..	906	-	-	-
Conversions ..	147	-	-	-



## CONVERSIONS TO WATER CARRIAGE

During the year a total of 42 conservancy closets were converted to the water carriage system—the lowest number for at least eight years. At the end of the year, due to conversions and the elimination of sanitary conveniences by demolition of houses, or the provision of water closets by erection of new houses, the various types of sanitary conveniences in the Urban District were as follows :

Water Closets .. .. .	11,914
Ashclosets .. .. .	1,301
Ashpits and Privies .. .. .	113

Over the period of eight years commencing 1954, a total of 1,765 conversions have been carried out as shown in the following comparative table :

Year	CONVERSIONS		Total
	Owners	Local Authority	
1954	110	317	427
1955	117	34	151
1956	115	232	347
1957	57	188	245
1958	70	271	341
1959	61	92	153
1960	59	—	59
1961	42	—	42
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>1134</b>	<b>1765</b>

## RODENT CONTROL

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The work of rodent control is carried out by a full-time Rodent Operator, Mr. H. Robb, under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector. In addition to rodent control work, Mr. Robb carries out certain other duties such as clearing choked drains, disinfestation and disinfection.

Rodent Control service is free to householders but a charge of 7/6d. per hour plus materials and travelling expenses is made for business premises.

During the year 181 requests for treatment were received, 53 of which came from business premises, resulting in an income of £162.15.3d.

Rodent Control in sewers is carried out by personnel of the Engineer's Department.

The following table shows the work carried out in 1961.

## RODENT CONTROL

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (2)	All other premises (3)	Totals of columns 1, 2 and 3 (4)	Agri- culture (5)
Number of Premises inspected as a result of :					
(a) Notification .. .. .	6	101	72	179	2
(b) Survey under the Act .. .. .	6	98	10	114	-
(c) Otherwise .. .. .	-	12	-	12	-
Total inspections carried out ( <i>including re-inspection</i> )	65	506	365	936	6
Number of Premises inspected which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats. Major .. .. .	7	2	6	15	-
Minor .. .. .	5	190	66	261	2
(b) Mice. Major .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-
Minor .. .. .	-	17	10	27	-
Number of Infested Premises Treated .. .. .	12	209	82	303	2
Total Treatments Carried Out .. .. .	46	359	116	521	5
Number of Notices served for :					
Treatment .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-
Proofing .. .. .	-	8	2	10	-
Number of Block Treatments .. .. .			Three		



# REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

ON

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

*To The Medical Officer of Health.*

Madam,

I am pleased to submit this report on the work carried out by the personnel of the Cleansing Department during 1961, and record my appreciation of the efforts of all concerned.

### **House Refuse—Collection and Disposal.**

A weekly service to all premises was again carried out smoothly despite the usual set backs due to sickness and holidays.

During the year 9,804 loads of refuse (this includes trade refuse) were collected. This is an increase of 112 loads on 1960 ; 357 on 1959 ; and 838 on 1958.

The density remains the same as that of 1960 ; viz : 6.3 cwts. per cubic yard—which is more than 50% above the national average. These weighings indicate a total weight of 19,055 tons collected and disposed of during the year. The weight of refuse for 1960 was 18,507 tons and for 1959 14,041 tons.

### **Refuse Tips.**

Again three refuse tips were in use—at Witton Park, Newfield and Gurney Valley. The main tip at Gurney Valley is controlled by a small bulldozer which for the quantity and weight of refuse being dealt with is working beyond capacity and consequently is expensive to maintain. This machine has to handle far more refuse than is indicated in the previous section due principally to the quantities of private refuse tipped.

During the year all three tips were systematically treated against rodents.

### **Salvage.**

671 loads of salvage giving an indicated weight of 229 tons at a density of 1.4 cwts. per cubic yard were collected and delivered to the Baling premises at South Church.

Of the 229 tons only 170 tons were suitable for baling. This high proportion of rubbish in the salvage reflects the labour involved in sorting and the constant difficulties encountered trying to persuade traders to keep the salvage " clean."



In late November, a 3 h.p. mechanical baling press was installed and improvements were carried out at the premises to streamline the baling of this waste.

All paper baled was despatched to the Thames Board Mills.

### Despatch of Salvage

Date	Type of Paper	Tons	Cwt.	Qrs.
20/1/61	Mixed Paper ..	12	14	0
20/2/61	Mixed Paper ..	11	3	0
20/2/61	Fibreboard ..	3	0	0
15/3/61	Mixed Paper ..	7	17	0
15/3/61	Fibreboard ..	4	4	0
10/4/61	Mixed Paper ..	9	2	0
29/4/61	Mixed Paper ..	9	18	0
24/5/61	Mixed Paper ..	11	0	0
13/6/61	Mixed Paper ..	8	19	0
3/7/61	Mixed Paper ..	7	15	0
24/7/61	Mixed Paper ..	10	19	0
16/8/61	Mixed Paper ..	8	16	0
13/9/61	Mixed Paper ..	10	15	0
4/10/61	Mixed Paper ..	11	8	0
25/10/61	Mixed Paper ..	10	8	0
25/10/61	Newsprint ..	2	13	1
22/11/61	Mixed Paper ..	12	8	0
21/12/61	Mixed Paper ..	5	14	0
21/12/61	Fibreboard ..	11	13	0
TOTAL ..		170	6	1

### Paper Tonnage.

		Tons	Cwt.	Qrs.
1957	..	40	0	0
1958	..	51	9	0
1959	..	73	2	0
1960	..	168	14	0
1961	..	170	6	1

### Trade Refuse.

During the past twelve months 542 loads of trade refuse, giving an indicated weight of 255 tons 12 cwt. at a density of 1.5 cwts. per cubic yard were collected and disposed of at a refuse tip. Almost all the loads were collected from premises subject to an agreement for a regular collection.

Eight requests were made for a casual collection of trade refuse and these yielded an income of £17.5.0d. at a cost of 12 $\frac{3}{4}$  hours work.



## Income.

The income from waste paper, trade refuse and scrap exceeded that of last year, and again was the best ever, being £2,248.12.6d. Comparisons with previous years are shown :

Year	Paper Sales			Trade Refuse			Scrap			Total		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1957	290	12	6	122	7	10	41	15	0	454	15	4
1958	318	3	9	261	1	3	21	14	6	600	19	6
1959	633	7	6	399	16	0	9	0	0	1,042	3	6
1960	1,133	8	0	656	13	0	8	1	0	1,798	2	0
1961	1,128	14	6	1,015	5	0	104	13	0	2,248	12	6
Totals	£3,504	6	3	£2,455	3	1	£185	3	6	£6,144	12	10

Together with the £200 paid each year to the Council by a Contractor for shale from Gurney Valley Tip, the total income for the years 1957-1961 is £6,944.12.10d.

## Vehicles.

In the year a new vehicle—a Karrier 7 cu. yard. "Bantam" was purchased and replaced one that was 18 years old.

All vehicles are washed and greased weekly and their appearance and amount of maintenance reflects the work carried out by the Foreman Mechanic, Mr. R. Elliott, and his assistant.

Over 230 hours were spent overhauling or repairing the Bulldozer ; items of repair or renewal included tracks, engine, steering, clutch and fuel pump.

## Staff.

The following table shows time lost due to sickness, absenteeism and holidays in 1961.

Month	Sickness	Absent	Holiday	Total
January ..	20	1	26	47
February ..	84	4	1	89
March ..	31	2	26	59
April ..	48	-	37	85
May ..	42	-	61	103
June ..	50	-	30	80
July ..	31	1	26	58
August ..	11	3	98	112
September ..	10	3	46	59
October ..	15	4	30	49
November ..	18	1	23	42
December ..	22	1	27	50
TOTALS	382	20	431	833

Time lost from all causes represented 12.2% of the working time available.

The following table compares time lost due to sickness in 1961 with the five preceding years.

NUMBER OF DAYS LOST DUE TO SICKNESS						
Month	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
January ..	41	72	82	5	31	20
February ..	73	35	89	56	54	84
March ..	37	47	53	37	15	31
April ..	20	44	35	54	13	48
May ..	24	17	16	47	21	42
June ..	35	2	29	7	-	50
July ..	47	5	10	5	-	31
August ..	57	14	41	21	11	11
September	28	82	85	46	53	10
October ..	43	32	45	14	40	15
November ..	15	17	2	-	65	18
December ..	35	25	2	43	37	22
TOTALS	455	392	489	335	340	382

Time lost from all causes except holidays was 402 days. This is compared as a % with previous years :

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Time Lost %	6.9	6.05	7.63	5.78	5.94	6.3

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*Chief Public Health Inspector  
 and Cleansing Officer.*



**APPENDIX.**

**Comparisons in Vital Statistics during the years 1952-1961**

VITAL STATISTICS	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Crude Birth Rate	17.4	17.9	18.3	17.6	17.3	18.6	20.2	16.8	17.6	17.0
Standard Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	17.8	19.4	16.8	17.6	17.0
Crude Death Rate	11.6	11.2	11.6	11.0	11.6	11.4	12.5	12.8	13.7	14.4
Standard Death Rate	..	..	..	..	..	13.5	14.7	12.8	13.7	14.4
Crude Infant Mortality Rate	27.3	21.3	35.1	38.5	30.6	35.1	22.4	26.2	43.2	35.2
Standard Infant Mortality Rate	..	..	..	..	..	41.4	24.0	26.2	43.2	35.2

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

**NEW CASES NOTIFIED.**

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Pulmonary Cases ..	44	34	20	24	19	26	24	21	7	20
Non-Pulmonary Cases ..	4	4	3	1	4	2	5	6	4	7

J. M. HEGARTY, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES — Notifications and Deaths.**  
(excluding Tuberculosis and Food Poisoning)

	1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958		1959		1960		1961	
	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D	N	D
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	8	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection ...	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ...	1	-	-	-	17	-	36	-	-	-	10	-	14	-	17	-	12	-	1	-
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever ...	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas ...	6	-	6	1	3	-	3	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
Measles ...	228	-	1012	1	258	-	139	-	581	-	426	-	130	-	776	-	309	-	639	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	3	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia ...	33	11	55	11	34	18	59	20	46	19	92	12	46	8	35	26	19	13	30	17
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	7	-	9	1	20	-	7	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	10	-	32	-
Scarlet Fever ...	158	-	132	-	44	-	16	-	68	-	25	-	33	-	35	-	15	-	20	-
Smallpox ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	184	-	255	-	219	-	126	-	159	1	232	-	158	-	106	-	67	-	57	-
TOTALS ...	644	11 1470	14 597	18 389	21 867	20 797	14 386	8 971	27 434	13 781	17	8 386	27 434	13 781	17					



**SUMMARY OF DEATHS BY SEX AND AGE GROUPS — 1961**

MONTH	Under 1		1-10		10-20		20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		70-80		80-90		Over 90		TOTALS		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	T'al
Jan.	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	1	4	7	4	2	-	1	12	15	27	
Feb.	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	3	11	7	6	7	-	-	1	32	22	54	
March	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	2	-	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	-	-	19	21	40	
April	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	5	3	5	3	7	3	7	-	1	21	19	40	
May	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	2	4	2	3	7	1	1	1	2	0	15	11	26	
June	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	2	4	6	2	2	-	-	16	11	27	
July	2	4	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	7	5	3	2	2	-	-	18	16	34	
August	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	4	2	4	2	5	4	4	-	-	22	14	36	
Sept.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	2	4	2	3	2	3	-	-	14	12	26	
Oct.	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	5	5	4	4	4	-	-	16	20	36	
Nov.	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	5	4	1	5	4	5	8	3	-	-	22	17	39	
Dec.	1	-	-	1	-	2	1	1	1	-	2	4	5	-	4	7	10	12	6	4	-	31	25	56	
TOTALS	8	10	2	-	-	2	8	1	3	3	5	14	20	44	37	66	77	46	43	2	5	238	203	441	
	18		2	2	2	9	9	6	19	65	81	143	89	7	441										

This Table is compiled from Information supplied by the Local Registrar





