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CHEADLE  
Rural District Council




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ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
Medical Officer  
of Health



1964



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# REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ending December 31st, 1964

1. A record of the year's events and achievements.
2. A chapter in the history of the community.
3. A source of information of the local affairs connected with the promotion of health and prevention of disease.

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**To the Chairman and Members of the Cheadle Rural District Council**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The three purposes of this report have been shown above the list of contents.

As a record of the year's activities the report to the Council is a statutory obligation, and copies must be sent to various central government Ministries and Departments. The Minister of Health lays down the general matters which should be referred to and details some of the information and figures which are required.

As a historical document it is perhaps unique in that the reports can provide a ready source of information of the changes and development in the community over the years. As a source of information on local affairs connected with health and the parts played by the Council and other bodies, it is hoped it may be of use to the interested reader. For this reason you have instructed me this year to obtain more copies and aim at a wider circulation.

New readers may be confused to find comment on housing, for example, distributed through three different sections (10, 11 and 12). The reason for this is that the Chief Public Health Inspector and the Surveyor deal with different aspects of housing and I think should each have the opportunity of making report and comment, as they think fit, while I myself have a responsibility for comment on the subject as a whole.

In the body of the report I would especially draw your attention to the following matters :

1. The Council's co-operation with voluntary bodies in matters of welfare and social service (Section 3)
2. The falling incidence of tuberculosis (Section 4)
3. The increase in water supplies over the past twenty years (Section 8)
4. Changes in character of household refuse and the desirability of the co-operation of the Public (Section 9 and 12)
5. The tracing of an underground water course (Section 11)
6. The new Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act (Section 11)
7. Development within the district as shown in the Surveyor's report (Section 12)

I would conclude my introduction by offering my thanks to my colleagues and also to both present and past members of the Council for the help they have extended to me.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

E. H. TOMLIN,  
Medical Officer of Health

Council Offices,  
Leek Road,  
Cheadle, Staffs.

Telephone : Cheadle 2157  
Private Telephone : Leek 948

## 2. GENERAL INFORMATION

Chairman of the Rural District Council,  
Mr. N. HEATHCOTE

Vice-Chairman of the Rural District Council,  
Mr. J. JOHNSON

Clerk of the Council,  
Mr. H. W. HENSON, Barrister at Law

### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1964**

Chairman : **Mr. J. A. Berresford**

Members : Mrs. E. Barnett, Mrs. H. M. Gardner, Mrs. M. K. Harris, Mrs. D. Horton, Miss A. S. Makeig-Jones, Mrs. S. A. Ratcliffe, Mrs. J. C. Slinn, Messrs J. J. Ainsworth, S. Alexander, F. Bartlett, A. Bevington, F. J. Blakeman, J. E. Brassington, W. Brown, B. O. Buckle, R. T. Buckle, J. Byatt, J. J. Chapman, P. Clowes, J. C. Cope, F. H. Dale, S. Dawson, A. Dulson, G. S. Eyre, W. Fanthom, J. W. Forbes, F. R. Ford, A. E. Foreman, J. R. Goodwin, S. E. Goodwin, H. Haynes, T. P. Horan, J. E. Horton, N. Heathcote, J. Johnson, W. Jones, J. A. Keates, J. Moffatt, W. Podmore, R. Porter, J. Price, J. A. Rushton, J. Shirley, J. H. Simcock, G. Snow, D. G. Spooner, F. G. Taylor, P. Tonkinson, W. C. Washburn, R. White, T. H. Willis, S. Worsdale.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

E. H. TOMLIN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health  
R. COMLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector and  
Housing Officer  
D. N. DUNLOP, M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector  
W. D. DAVIS, M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector  
A. RYLAND, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector  
S. R. CHAPMAN, Clerk  
M. J. PARRY, Clerk  
H. E. MOSLEY, Rodent Operative

## STAFF — ENGINEER AND SURVEYORS DEPARTMENT

J. W. BURTON, M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H., Engineer and Surveyor  
A. GRANT, A.M.I.Mun.E., Deputy Engineer and Surveyor (Resigned  
31.1.64)  
P. THORP, A.M.I.Mun. E., Deputy Engineer and Surveyor (Com-  
menced May, 1964)  
H. POINTON, Architectural and Town Planning Assistant  
H. F. PARRINGTON, A.I.M.S., Town Planning Assistant  
G. D. BIRKS, Architectural Assistant  
E. CHALLINOR, A.M.I.S.P., M.R.S.H., Engineering Assistant  
M. H. J. EVANS, Grad.I.C.E., A.M.C.T., Stud.I.Mun.E.,  
Engineering Assistant  
W. LOCKER, Pro. R.I.C.S., Engineering Assistant  
G. GIBSON, Building Inspector  
R. L. DAVIES, Junior Engineering Assistant (Resigned 30.5.64)  
G. GOODALL, Junior Engineering Assistant  
W. HARRISON, Junior Engineering Assistant (Commenced 3.2.64)  
W. H. HOBSON, Clerk  
J. W. SHAW, Clerk  
T. W. EARDLEY-COOKE, Clerk  
R. GRICE, Clerk  
M. REEVES, Shorthand Typist  
J. LOVATT, Shorthand Typist (commenced 22.6.64)  
J. A. EDWARDS, Shorthand Typist  
J. MORRIS, Shorthand Typist (resigned 20.6.64)

## CIVIL DEFENCE

G. HETHERINGTON, Administrative Assistant

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres ... ..	60,291
Registrar General's Estimate of Population ... ..	41,680
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book	12,099
Rateable Value ... ..	£1,147,256 0 0
Sum represented a penny rate ... ..	£4,707 12 8

### 3. SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE DISTRICT

Considering "health" not simply as "absence of illness" but in its more widely defined aspect as "a complete state of physical, mental and social well being" the factors in every day life which may affect health are countless and in this section I can only touch on those which seemed prominent in 1964.

#### **PROSPERITY AND EMPLOYMENT**

The general level of prosperity and employment showed no obvious changes and remained satisfactory, although financial difficulties at a light engineering works near Cheadle led to some redundancies.

The Council's plans for its Industrial Site at Brookhouses, Cheadle, showed progress with the acceptance of tenders for street work and sewerage.

#### **CHANGES IN POPULATION DISTRIBUTION**

Building development continued in and around Blythe Bridge, Werrington, Cheddleton and Cheadle itself. A new Secondary School built by the County Council was opened to meet local needs at Blythe Bridge.

#### **THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963**

This Act requires anyone who employs persons in offices, shops, etc., to register the premises with the Authority, and subsequent inspections are made to ensure the provision for health, safety and welfare which is required by this Act.

Detail of the administration of this Act are given in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report (Section 11) but it is worth comment that almost 1,000 persons are employed in these offices, shops, etc., and for the first time we have accurate knowledge both of numbers and of places and working conditions.

#### **VOLUNTARY WELFARE BODIES**

During the year the Council convened meetings to initiate a Meals on Wheels Service and to enquire into the possibility of establishing a Family Planning Clinic in Cheadle. The outcome of these ventures came in the following year, but it can be recorded that the Meals on Wheels Service came into being, while the Family Planning Clinic did not, although the Council had offered a grant of £100 per annum to the Family Planning Association if they were to establish a clinic locally.

The Council also gave support to a public meeting at which the North Staffs. Old Persons Welfare Association set up a Leek and Cheadle Old Persons Co-ordinating Committee and gave support to the opening of a Citizen's Advice Bureau in Cheadle.

#### **RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL FACILITIES**

The Council made a site available to the Swimming Bath Supporters Committee at a nominal rent and made a contribution to the



Victoria Theatre at Hanley.

## **PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION**

In one instance only did it prove necessary to seek a Court Order for removal to hospital of a person in need of care and attention.

## **CIVIL DEFENCE**

Civil Defence is to me an important matter involving thought about unpleasant eventualities which could, but we hope, never will arise.

Too many people appear to prefer to remain blind to such eventualities, but surely it is just as wise to have some ideas of what we should do in the event of a major catastrophe as it is for the individual to have some ideas of what he should do if his house caught on fire.

I would thank the Council's Civil Defence Assistant, Mr. Hetherington, for the notes which follow.

## **NOTES ON CIVIL DEFENCE IN CHEADLE**

As more operational information has been made available by the various Ministries and the Home Office, both administrative and operational planning has gone ahead by leaps and bounds.

The present planning leaves only the smaller details of individual staff appointments to bring the operational plan to its fulfilment.

This always necessitates the enrolment of many more volunteers. In recent years lack of suitable premises has at times brought enrolment of volunteers to a complete halt, as facilities existing in hired premises were not suitable for the purpose of Civil Defence Training.

We have, however, at last reached our final goal in the erection of a training and recreational Headquarters in Cheadle which by the time this report goes to print should be available for use.

## **PEACETIME DISASTER SCHEME**

The co-operation of the Civil Defence Corps with the County Constabulary is a necessity and our present Chief Constable in co-operation with our Senior Civil Defence County Officers has designed a scheme for peacetime emergencies. The scheme incorporates a system of Call-Out by which Civil Defence members can be brought to a central point in the shortest period of time, and having been briefed would come under the direct control of the Chief Constable's organisation. The same type of system would be used in the event of a national emergency.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

We have been fortunate in having transferred to us from Lincolnshire Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Sparham who now reside at Kingsley. Mr. Sparham is a fully qualified Warden Instructor and has offered his services to the County Civil Defence Authorities who have appointed Mr. Sparham as a Senior Warden. Mrs. Sparham has completed a full Welfare Course to the Standard Welfare level. This again is a great advantage to us as at the moment our whole Welfare Structure has been the function of our Cheadle W.V.S. Ladies who are already en-

rolled members of the Civil Defence. It is now essential that a full programme of Welfare Standard and Advanced Training be put into being, and sufficient ladies be enrolled.

### CONTROL STRUCTURE

It has been decided by the County Authorities that Cheadle should become a Sub-County Control, which will necessitate provision in the near future for a suitable building which would be self contained as an operational unit, distinct from the functions of the County District Control. It is anticipated however, that the maintaining and staffing of such a Sub-County Control would be placed on the shoulders of the Cheadle Rural District, and that all policy matters relating to the said buildings would be retained in the hands of the County Civil Defence Authorities.

### PUBLICITY

Many adverse criticisms and statements in the national press relating to the future of Civil Defence have been made from time to time throughout the year. This has had little or no damaging effect to recruitment to Civil Defence or to the present members. It has been officially stated by the Director General of Civil Defence, that no attention should be paid to any remarks so published and that he would give advance warning of any changes in future policy or structure relating to Civil Defence.

## 4. HEALTH STATISTICS

These statistics as in previous years are as called for by the Ministry of Health.

Table 1 comprises statistics supplied by the Registrar General with various birth and death rates based thereon.

Table 2 lists deaths from certain specified causes.

Table 3 shown later in the report lists the numbers, sex and age incidences of cases of notifiable disease.

TABLE 1

<b>Population of Rural District (Mid Year estimate) ... ..</b>	41,680
<b>Live Births</b>	
Number — 354 males, 372 females ... ..	726
*Rate per 1,000 population ... ..	16.8
Illegitimate Live Birth per cent. of total live births ... ..	2.4
<b>Stillbirths</b>	
Number ... ..	10
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... ..	13.7
<b>Total live and still births ... ..</b>	736
<b>Infant Deaths (under 1 year) ... ..</b>	17
<b>Infant Mortality Rates</b>	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ... ..	23.5

Legitimate infant death per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	24.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	Nil
<b>Neo-Natal Mortality Rate</b> (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ... ..	19.5
<b>Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate</b> (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) ... ..	17.8
<b>Perinatal Mortality Rate</b> (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births ...	31.0
<b>Maternal Mortality</b> (including abortion)	
Number of deaths ... ..	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... ..	Nil
<b>Deaths at all ages</b> 229 males and 241 females ... ..	470
*Death rate per 1,000 of population ... ..	11.0
*Registrar General's Comparability Factor used in estimation of this rate — Births 0.97, Deaths 0.96	

## TABLE 2. DEATHS FROM SPECIFIC DISEASES

Infectious diseases other than tuberculosis ... ..	1	0
Cancer of stomach ... ..	11	4
Cancer of lung ... ..	12	4
Cancer of uterus ... ..	—	1
Cancer of breast ... ..	—	12
Leukaemia ... ..	5	3
Other malignant disease ... ..	24	23
Diabetes ... ..	2	0
Strokes, etc. ... ..	11	34
Coronary heart disease and angina ... ..	37	20
Other heart diseases ... ..	42	71
Influenza ... ..	2	3
Pneumonia ... ..	9	9
Bronchitis ... ..	12	5
Other respiratory diseases ... ..	4	0
Ulcer of stomach, etc. ... ..	1	0
Gastro-enteritis ... ..	0	1
Nephritis ... ..	1	2
Disease of Prostrate ... ..	1	0
Congenital Malformations ... ..	3	4
Motor Accidents ... ..	10	3
All other Accidents ... ..	10	6
Suicide ... ..	1	2

## COMMENT ON HEALTH STATISTICS

Seven hundred and twenty six live births showed four more than in the previous year. Four hundred and seventy deaths was exactly the same number.

We had no deaths connected with child-birth, a lowering of our infant mortality rates, and an illegitimacy rate of less than half the probable average for the North Midlands.

The various infant mortality rates shown in Table 1 may appear confusing. What they amount to is that we had 726 children born alive, of whom thirteen died within a week of birth, one died in the following three weeks and three more died within their first year.

What is not shown in the table is that in the following four years (i.e. from the age of one to school age) only three more died, and in children of school age (i.e. five to fifteen) there was only one death, but in the following ten years (i.e. fifteen to twenty five) there were seven deaths, five of these being due to accidents.

It is questionable whether we should congratulate ourselves on having had only two accidental deaths among infants and children up to the age of fifteen or whether we should blame ourselves for not having instilled more caution into the teenagers and young adults.

Certainly from this year's figures it would seem that 15 — 25 is the vulnerable age.

## 5. PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF DISEASE

### INCIDENCE OF INFECTION AS SHOWN BY NOTIFICATIONS FROM MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease is shown in Statistical Table 3 and with the exception of dysentery calls for no special comment.

The dysentery cases were nearly all from the Weston Coyney area and occurred in December. The outbreak continued throughout the first quarter of 1965 and the epidemic as a whole will be more fully described in my report for that year.

### INFORMATION AS TO INFECTION RECEIVED FROM SCHOOL

Reports from head teachers showed the following cases of non-notifiable infectious disease :

Chicken Pox ... ..	346
Mumps ... ..	272
German measles ... ..	28
Influenza ... ..	2
Vomiting ... ..	2
Ring Worm ... ..	1

### NON-SPECIFIC INFECTIOUS DIARRHOEA

In the summer eighty cases of diarrhoea appeared suddenly among patients in St. Edward's Hospital. At first sight this appeared possibly to be serious as there had been difficulties with the hospital water supply (referred to later in this report) and this was naturally open to suspicion as a cause of the diarrhoea.

Further enquiry however exonerated the water supply as the cases were found to be confined to certain wards. Bacteriological tests showed no disease causing germs, and the outbreak was considered to be a mild but infectious non-specific diarrhoea. At the same time a few cases of the same disease were found in Cheddleton village.

### **LIABILITY FOR LOSS OF EARNINGS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1961.**

Under Section 4 (2) of this Act the Council is responsible for making good any loss of earnings where a person has been kept from his work by the Medical Officer of Health in the interest of preventing spreading of infectious disease.

In 1964 the Council decided to take up insurance against such an eventuality and within a year the wisdom of this was proved when food handlers who were home contacts of dysentery cases had to be kept from work.

### **IMMUNISATIONS AND VACCINATIONS, 1964**

(Figures in brackets are those for the previous year)

Diphtheria	Primary immunisations ... ..	413	(357)
	Reinforcements ... ..	245	( 58)
Whooping Cough	Primary immunisations ... ..	387	(326)
	Reinforcements ... ..	63	( 22)
Smallpox	Primary immunisations ... ..	236	(281)
	Reinforcements ... ..	45	

(of the primary immunisation 100 were under the age of one year and 107 were from 1 — 4 years)

Tetanus	Primary immunisations ... ..	295	(300)
	Reinforcements ... ..	304	( 26)
Poliomyelitis	Figures obtainable from the County Council do not allow a break-down to show what has been done in the Cheadle Rural District but the level of immunisation is believed to be satisfactory.		

Although the numbers are slightly better than in the previous year we still find about 40 per cent of our children have not received primary protection against diphtheria, and about 66 per cent of our infants are not protected against smallpox.

### **INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS IN THE RURAL DISTRICT**

In my report for 1959 I commented that in England and Wales there had, in the preceding ten years, been a decrease of 50 per cent in notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis but this decrease had not been found in the Cheadle Rural District.

This high incidence could have been due either to a high proportion of people infected or to a high proportion of cases diagnosed.

Taking the notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis over three year periods starting in 1950 we have 61 cases, 56 cases, 51 cases, 32 cases and in the period 1962-64 only 16 cases.

It is satisfactory to be able to record this fall in incidence. The reason that it reached us later than in the country as a whole may be that it was not until 1953 that we had the help of the Mass Radiography Unit in detecting unrecognised cases and the resultant successful drug treatment of them.

Statistical Table III

	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles (excluding rubella)		Dysentery	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified (all ages)	5	4	12	17	70	74	48	38
Final No's after correction								
Under 1	0	0	1	3	2	3	4	1
1	0	0	2	0	5	6	2	0
2	0	1	2	2	11	11	5	1
3	0	1	2	3	11	11	1	3
4	2	1	0	1	14	10	2	2
5-9	1	1	3	7	24	32	10	8
10-14	2	0	2	1	2	1	8	3
15-24	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1
25 and over	0	0	0	0	1	0	10	19
Age unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (all ages)	5	4	12	17	70	74	48	38

	Acute Pneumonia		Post Infective Encephalitis		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified (all ages)	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	6
Final No's after correction								
Under 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-44	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	2
45-64	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Age unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (all ages)	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	3

TUBERCULOSIS	Respiratory		Other Forms		Puerperal Pyrexia
	M	F	M	F	F
Numbers originally notified (all ages)	2	3	0	1	1
Final No's after correction					
Under 5	0	0	0	0	
5-14	0	0	0	1	
15-24	0	1	0	0	
25-44	1	2	0	0	
45-64	1	0	0	0	
65 and over	0	0	0	0	
Age unknown	0	0	0	0	
Total (all ages)	2	3	0	1	1

## 6. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

### GENERAL, MEDICAL, DENTAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES

These services under the National Health Service Act are locally administered by a special body — the Staffordshire Executive Council, 6 Eastgate Street, Stafford.

Fourteen general medical practitioners were resident and practising within the Rural District and others from Stoke-on-Trent, Leek, Uttoxeter and Ashbourne have patients living in this district. There were general practitioners resident in the town of Cheadle and villages of Alton, Blythe Bridge, Tean, Waterhouses, Werrington and Weston Coyney. There were branch surgeries at Cheddleton, Ipstones and Wetley Rocks.

General medical practitioner cover would appear adequate.

Two dental surgeons were in practice in Cheadle, taking patients both privately and under National Health Service arrangements. In addition the County Council opened a school dental surgery at the Cheadle Well Street Clinic. This is an improvement on things in recent years when we had only one dental surgeon.

There are dispensing chemists and pharmacists in Cheadle town, (three) Weston Coyney and Cheddleton.

### LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

These services under the National Health Service Act are provided and administered by the Staffordshire County Council. Day to day administration of many of them is delegated to the Leek Area Health Committee which covers the Urban Districts of Leek and Bidulph and the Rural Districts of Leek and Cheadle. Despite its name, this Committee has offices in Chapel Street, Cheadle, its Clerk and Chief Financial Officer is Clerk to the Rural District Council and its administrative Medical Officer is Medical Officer of Health to the Rural District Council.

Domiciliary Midwifery and General Nursing was undertaken by twelve District Nurse/Midwives of whom five also undertook Health Visiting and School Nursing Work.

There were four full-time Health Visitors who besides being qualified in nursing and mid-wifery have had special training in medico-social work and in health education. This is a great improvement on the conditions of 1956 when we had only one full-time Health Visitor.

Infant Welfare Clinics were held in Cheadle, Blythe Bridge, Weston Coyney, Werrington and Cheddleton and during the year a new one commenced in Tean.

Chiropody Clinics were held in Cheadle and also for a time at Weston Coyney and Wetley Rocks. A mid-wife's ante-natal clinic and relaxation classes were held in Cheadle as were clinics for eye and ear, nose and throat cases and minor ailments in school children.

While the number of Home Helps and persons receiving this service varies from time to time it can be said that at any one time in 1964 there were roughly 36 part-time Home Helps attending about 100 cases.

A care and after-care service is provided and nursing appliances, wheel chairs, etc., are made available, on loan, with much appreciated help from the St. John and Red Cross Organisation voluntary workers who maintain Nursing Comforts Depots.

Welfare Foods were made available at all Infant Welfare Centres, through the W.V.S. in Cheadle, and by van delivery to the more remote villages.

Other responsibilities under the N.H.S. Act included the provision of an Ambulance Service based on the Cheadle Ambulance Station but under operational control from Newcastle, and the administration and arrangements for securing vaccination and immunisation against certain infectious diseases.

In addition under the Mental Health Act the County has a responsibility for helping with the domiciliary care, supervision, training, etc., of the mentally sick and mentally handicapped.

#### **HOSPITALS AND CONSULTANT SERVICES, BIRMINGHAM**

These are the responsibility of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board with local administration by the appropriate Hospital Management Committee.

For acute general medical and surgical conditions and for specialities such as orthopaedic, paediatric, ophthalmic, etc., cases, we are dependent on travel to the Stoke-on-Trent Hospitals and their out patient departments.

In the Rural District itself we have St. Edward's Hospital (for psychiatric cases) which in recent years attained a "new look" and has been unbelievably brightened, and the Cheadle and Rakeway Hospitals which take chronic sick cases.

Maternity cases requiring hospitalisation still unfortunately have to travel either to Leek or the Potteries and I remain of the opinion that in planning for the future it would be worth considering the building of a maternity hospital in open surroundings to the East of Stoke-on-Trent at Werrington.

#### **LABORATORY FACILITIES**

Public Health bacteriology is undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory Service at its Stafford Laboratory and chemical analyses are undertaken by the Staffordshire County Analyst, both with the fullest co-operation.

## **7. FOOD AND NUTRITION**

### **NUTRITION**

The nutrition of the school child has improved out of all know-



ledge with the availability of the necessary variety of foods at a price which can be afforded.

The teaching of domestic science in our Secondary schools will, I am sure, produce a future generation that will be knowledgeable about the buying and preparation of a wholesome diet. The increasing availability of satisfactory pre-cooked dishes will improve the diet in those homes where the housewife is not domestically inclined or has not the time to prepare elaborate meals.

Among the older people there are some who do not have a diet which is all that it might be. Too little meat and green vegetables or fruit and too much bread or potatoes or sweet biscuit in a diet may be due to financial restriction but it may also be due to eating habits acquired many years ago.

Among the really elderly we have a few whose nutrition is definitely faulty. Either they feel they cannot afford the necessary variety of diet or more often they fail to make the effort to prepare it. For this last class the Meals on Wheels Service already referred to will prove a blessing.

## **FOOD INSPECTION AND FOOD PREMISES**

The Health Department's efforts to ensure the purchaser receives clean and good food is well shown in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report (Section 11)

I would especially refer to this, as it is not generally realised how much time and effort goes into this work.

The C.P.H.I. reports that 16,371 animals were "inspected" by his staff during the year after their slaughter. This inspection is not just a matter of a casual glance but a full post-mortem investigation, involving a systematic examination of the carcass as a whole, with inspection, palpation, and perhaps incision of every part of each organ and its associated lymph glands.

The C.P.H.I. also reports briefly on his staff's work following the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak. He records that 600 visits were paid to shops and 173 tins of suspect corned beef were withdrawn. But he does not say that the great majority of these visits were completed within thirty six hours of our having received the warning, or that this prompt and well planned round up may have prevented illness and death.

For the rest I would refer you to Section 11.

## **SAFETY AND CLEANLINESS OF MILK**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Samples tested for tuberculosis ... ..	41	Nil
Samples tested for general cleanliness	473	25

The responsibility for ensuring cleanliness on the farm is no longer the Council's responsibility as it passed on to the Ministry of Agriculture several years ago.

The collection of samples is undertaken by the County Council and the bacteriology is done by the Area Public Health Laboratory.

The District Council however has the responsibility of controlling the sale of milk which is suspected of being liable to transmit infectious disease to man.

## 8. WATER SUPPLIES

### ADEQUACY OF SUPPLY

The only actual breakdown of supply was for a period of six hours after electrical pumping equipment had been struck by lightning.

In Section 12 the Surveyor reports on his endeavours to meet the increasing needs of the district. The increased post-war demand and the way it has been met is shown by the fact that the amounts pumped, to the nearest million gallons, were in 1944 one hundred and eighteen million, and in 1954 one hundred and ninety four million and in 1964 three hundred and forty six million.

### PURITY OF SUPPLIES

Chemical and bacteriological testing of our public supplies showed these to be satisfactory. A table giving details is shown.

The Chief Public Health Inspector's Report (Section 11) contains an account of examination and checking of the water supply to St. Edward's Hospital whose difficulties I reported on last year.

### NEW WORKS

The Surveyor's report records the completion of the new 200,000 gallon reservoir at Counslow, and the progress in work on the 1,000,000 gallon Rangemoor Reservoir as well as minor mains extensions.

### RE-GROUPING OF WATER UNDERTAKINGS

No further progress was made during the year.

### FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

I am pleased to record that the Council again considered this question and resolved "that this Council is in favour of fluoridation of water supplies". It would seem we now await the action of the County Council, which as local Health Authority is the body to implement any decisions.

**CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER, 1964**

	Blackbank	Cauldon	Cheadle	Ganderwell	Teanford	Sheepwash/ Wallmyres	Staffs. Potteries Water Board
P.H. Value	6.9	6.2	6.9	6.4	7.3	7.7	7.2
Total solids dried at 212°F	195.0	145.0	405.0	170.0	319.0	218.0	260.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.004	0.024	Nil	Nil	0.004	Nil	0.016
Albuminoid Ammonia	Nil	0.004	Nil	0.064	Nil	Nil	0.008
Nitric Nitrogen	4.0	Nil	13.3	1.0	4.0	4.0	2.5
Chlorine	14.0	13.0	28.0	16.0	29.0	12.6	21.0
Oxygen absorbed in 4hrs at 80° F.	Nil	0.1	0.016	0.21	Nil	Nil	Nil
Appearance	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless
Injurious Metallic contamination	Nil	Nil	0.18	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

**BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION — WATER SAMPLES, 1964**

	Blackbank	Cauldon	Cheadle	Ganderwell	Teanford	Staffs Potteries Water Board	Wallmyres
Probable number coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37 deg. C.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Probable number of faecal coli.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

### NEW SEWERAGE PROJECTS

During the year, the new Alton Sewerage and Disposal works were put into commission, work on the Froghall Purification Works was almost completed and the schemes for sewerage at Oakamoor, Waterhouses and Whiston had been prepared. Details of these works along with those of other minor works effected or proposed are given in the Surveyor's Report.

The Chief Public Health Inspector's report contains an interesting account of attempts to trace an underground water course or "shake" into which it has been suggested, sewage from Cauldon Lowe might be discharged.

### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

In his report the Surveyor draws attention to the altered character of household refuse — less ash and more tin cans. This of course means that there is more difficulty in burying refuse on the tip to seal it off, and the tip does not consolidate so readily.

Boy scouts know that tins should be squashed flat before being buried. If every household acted on this principal and flattened its tins or cartons before putting them in the dust bins, the cost of refuse disposal would be less and the refuse tips less likely to become sources of complaint.

Unfortunately, as in the prevention of street litter, it is unlikely this will come about for some time.

### AIR POLLUTION

Last year I had expressed hopes that the dust nuisance from the Cement Works at Waterhouses and from the Cauldon Lowe Quarry would decrease.

The annual rate of deposit at one gauge did in fact show a fall from 876 tons per square mile to 627 tons per square mile, but the variations due to climatic conditions are such that the total annual deposit is of little interest to the people affected by the dust. They do not appreciate having 16 fairly dust free days instead of 12, but they have cause for complaint on the other 14 when the dust really is a nuisance.

Conditions will I think improve, but slowly.

### SPRAY DISPOSAL OF FARM EFFLUENTS

A new process of disposing of farm effluents by spraying over the land is giving rise to complaints of nuisance from the smell. The process involves a very fine spray over a wide area and this naturally aggravates the smell of the effluent.

The process is probably good farming and the smell is probably only a good farm yard smell, but it can be a real source of worry to persons in the vicinity.

I have been unable to obtain evidence that the process can lead to disease in man, but I think any method of disposal of animal excreta needs watching, and I hope legislation will come into being to regulate the way the procedure is carried out.

## 10. HOUSING

I would again bring up to date the table which shows the trend of housing activities in the district.

	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
1. Population of District ..	41680	41120	40130	38660	37760	36790
2. Number of inhabited houses ....	12099	12009	11887	11109	10702	10446
3. Total built during year .	356	314	329	517	435	276
4. Number built by Council ....	21	26	8	50	18	2
5. Number built by private enterprise ....	335	288	321	476	417	274
6. Number of improvement grants made ....	67	53	53	80	77	42
7. Number of houses repaired following action by Health Department under Public Health Acts ....	132	235	129	157	203	143
8. Number of grants for closet conversion ....	66	59	79	117	45	63
9. Number of unfit properties dealt with by Demolition Order, Closing Order or Undertaking ....	28	29	23	19	49	44
10. Guarantees to Building Societies	45	102	87			

The Surveyor's report gives detail of whereabouts building has taken place, and the Chief Public Health Inspector writes of his work in the capacity of Housing Officer.

In both reports there is reference to the Caravan site in Cheadle. This is now an orderly little residential area, and provides for those who for one reason or another chose this type of dwelling.

Residential van dwellers must be provided for, but I think it is regrettable that these relatively cheap small mobile homes must be based on the concept of a van designed for travelling. It should be possible to build small dwellings which can be portable and also capable of extension to meet individual requirements. True, they may be "sub-standard dwellings" but I think that they would be more convenient to live in, more adaptable to individual requirements and less costly to manufacture if the designer was not tied to the idea of wheels, springs and chassis.

## 11. REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1964.

There have been no changes in the staff of Inspectors during the year, but Miss Chapman, the Senior Clerk has, through family misfortune been away for three months.

The upset in an office of this type when one of the clerical staff is absent has to be experienced to be appreciated. I must express my thanks to Miss Parry for the way she has coped with the office work during this trying period.

Looking back over the year the most important piece of legislation to affect the Department has been the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963. The main provisions of which were brought into force on 1st August, 1964. In reading through the report the reader may note that I have again this year included a statistical summary of work done during the year. The form of this has been somewhat changed from that of the previous years, it is more detailed, and I hope, more informative.

### TESTING OF UNDERGROUND WATER COURSE

The Council proposed to site a Sewage Disposal Plant at Hof-tens Cross, Cauldon Lowe, the effluent from the works was to be discharged into a fissure in the limestone. The fissure or shake, as it is known locally was already taking surface water from a considerable area of land surrounding. Within a mile of the fissure there were six known sources of water, one of which was the Council's bore at New House Farm, Cotton. It was felt that some investigation ought to be made to ascertain if there was any likelihood of future contamination of the water sources. The advice of the District Geologist was sought and the advice was — The fissure marked on the plan at Hof-tens Cross is on the line of a fault running North North West to South South East, with carboniferous lime stone on the eastern side. On the western or

downthrow side of the fault are beds low in the millstone grit series; it is in these that the Council's bore is situated at a depth of 220 feet. As regards the ground west of the fault, there seems little possibility of contamination of the borehole though there is, I suppose, a minute chance of this if one of the water bearing sandstones in the borehole should continue eastwards to the fault instead of out-cropping.

Conditions on the east side of the fault are quite different and it must be assumed that most of the effluent will remain this side. Underground water is known to travel surprising distances in limestone areas and there is a serious risk of pollution of the existing borehole supplies at the Cauldon Lowe Works (cement manufacturers) and of any future boreholes in the vicinity.

It was seen that this did not completely discount the possibility of contamination of the Council's bore and it was decided to attempt to trace the underground water.

For this purpose check samples were taken at six water sources within a mile of the fissure and 36 of these were taken over three months.

The fissure was then dosed with one ton of salt and sampling continued for another twelve days. The results were plotted on a graph and one source appeared inconclusively to show an increase in saline content.

The results, although inconclusive raised further doubts and the advice of the County Analyst, Mr. A. Houlbrooke, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., was sought on other means of tracing. Ammonium Sulphate was considered, but finally it was decided to use Fluoresceine dye and three lbs. of this dye was used. Suspicious but not definite results were obtained from a land spring at Ribden and also at the Council's bore.

It was concluded that to prove conclusively the possibility of contamination of water supplies in the area would mean further extensive testing, but the doubts already raised were enough to make the Council think very seriously on their proposals. The conclusion was that the Council's Engineer and Surveyor prepared a scheme to link up Hoftens Cross and the district around with a scheme of sewage disposal for Waterhouses. My views on this are that although my department had not proved conclusively the probability of contamination of water sources by the discharge of effluent into the fissure at Hoftens Cross we had sufficient evidence to cast doubts, and in Public Health there should be no room for doubt.

#### **WATER SUPPLY — ST. EDWARD'S HOSPITAL, CHEDDLETON**

This brief report of the water supply at St. Edward's Hospital, Cheddleton, will show the usefulness of routine check sampling of water supplies.

In November, 1962, routine samples were taken from the water supplies serving the St. Edward's Hospital and it was found that bac-

teriologicaly the water supplies were unsatisfactory, in fact that from a deep well was grossly polluted but fortunately this well was not in use at the time.

The Hospital Authorities were informed of the result of these samples and a letter was received from the Assistant Senior Medical Officer of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board asking for full information on the matter.

In February, 1963, the two sources of drinking water supplied to the Hospital were from a piped supply from the Council's own main supply and the other from a shallow well, known as the Tramway Well, situated in the Hospital grounds. Without doubt the Tramway well was liable to contamination and on the recommendation of my Department chlorination of this water supply was instituted.

The adequacy of dosage of the chlorine was confirmed by daily testing by the Hospital staff, a further check was made by a weekly submission of a sample of the water to the Public Health Laboratory by my Department. The Birmingham Regional Hospital Board through their engineers then commenced to investigate alternate supplies of water for the Hospital and proposals were examined, one of which was to take a supply of water from the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board and raise it to the Council's reservoir at Cheddleton which the Hospital Board would take over for their own use. Throughout this period, regular sampling of the water supply was being made by my Department with a considerable drain on the time of the Inspectors, as all these samples had to be conveyed to Stafford, and when it is considered that Cheddleton is roughly 10 miles from the office and the laboratory a further 18 miles from the office it can well be imagined the amount of time which this took up each week.

Regular sampling continued throughout the year and the final result was a decision to sink another bore in the Hospital grounds in close proximity to the Tramway well.

My Department have assisted in check samples of the water supplies throughout this period, check samples of the new bore before it was put into commission and the new bore was finally put into operation on the 20th October, 1964. The appreciation of the Senior Administrative Medical Officer of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board has been expressed for the help I have given in this matter.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1963**

### **REPAIR OF HOUSES**

132 houses have been repaired, 126 as a result of informal action and 6 as a result of formal action. Court action was initiated in one case, but the defects were remedied before the matter reached the Court



## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936 — SECTIONS 39 and 47

I include under this section numerous works of re-drainage and the replacement of privies by waterclosets.

Details of work carried out under contract are listed.

21 Cheadle Road, Tean — replacement of privy by water closet ... ..	£104	18	3d
Sandfields, Cellarhead Road, Cellarhead — drainage ...	£162	0	0d
1, 3 and 5 New Hall Street, Kingsley — re-drainage ...	£75	0	0d
109 Washerwall Lane, Werrington — new drainage and replacement of privy by water closet ... ..	£50	0	0d
7 and 9 Draycott Road, Tean — main drain ... ..	£109	0	0d
19 Station Road, Cheadle — re-guttering ... ..	£8	5	0d
“The Bank”, Alton — replacement of privies and “Heathfield”, Tythe Barn, Alton — drainage	£416	10	0d
Privies replaced by owners ... ..	60		
Privies replaced by Council ... ..	6		
Notices served under Section 47 ... ..	41		

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

### WATER ACT 1945

Notices were served requiring 14 houses at Cheddleton, taking their water supply from a private supply which was found to be of doubtful quality. These are all now connected to the Council's main water supply.

A table is given elsewhere in the report on the results of Chemical Analyses and Bacteriological Examination of the various public water supplied in the area.

During the year 124 samples were submitted for chemical analysis and 99 for bacteriological examination.

In addition to the sampling of the public water supplies numerous samples were taken from private sources.

There has been a need for such samples where applications are made for Improvement Grants, and the source of water is from private supply and the property cannot be connected to a main supply. In all instances the quality of the water must be proved and if this is not satisfactory, I require a form of treatment of the water to render it safe before grant is made. The Council make a charge for the chemical analysis of all private supplies.

To break down the number of samples taken might prove of interest, of those submitted for chemical analyses, 105 were from private sources and 19 from public supplies: of those submitted for bacteriological examination, 67 were from private supplies and 32 from public supplies.

The number of analyses submitted for chemical analyses from private supplies might appear to be rather great, but in these are included those samples which were taken from the sources of water surrounding the rock fissure which is mentioned in another section of my report.

### **RENT ACT 1957**

No applications were received for the certificate of disrepair.

One application was received for the cancellation of the certificate of disrepair, and this was granted.

### **HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT 1958**

### **HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959**

### **HOUSING ACT 1961 — 1964**

#### **Discretionary Improvement Grants**

66 applications were received for Discretionary Improvement Grant and of these 57 were approved, 4 refused and 5 deferred.

The amount of grant undertaken to be paid amounted to £14,079 10s. an average of £247 0 2d. This compares with an average of £246 11 5d for last year.

During the year, applications were made for Discretionary Improvement Grants for the conversion of buildings not used as dwellings to be converted into dwellings. My experience has been that many of the structures for which proposals have been submitted are completely unsuited for use as dwellings even when extensive works have been carried out. The submission of these proposals, which in the main, were extremely expensive projects caused the Council to make a policy decision that no grant be made for the conversion of structures not now dwellings to form dwellings.

#### **Standard Grants.**

12 applications were received for Standard Grant. 10 were approved and 2 were refused.

The amount of Grant undertaken to be paid amounted to £1,510 8s 7d. The total amount of Grant paid during the year amounted to £981 8s 7d. in respect of 10 dwellings, an average of £98 2s 10d per dwelling.

### **HOUSING ACT 1957 — 1961**

Demolition Orders have been made in respect of 20 houses and Closing Orders in respect of 8.

The properties affected were :

“Iselwyn”, Brookhouse Lane, Bucknall

1 Gorstyhill Road, Tean

2 Gorstyhill Road, Tean

Roughcote Hall Farm, Roughcote Lane, Caverswall

Roughcote Hall Cottage, Roughcote Lane, Caverswall

73 High Street, Kingsley  
Cottage, Hazles Cross, Kingsley  
Woodcock Cottage, Whiston Bank, Froghall  
10 Brookhouses, Cheadle  
12 Brookhouses, Cheadle  
2 Old Road, Tean  
2 St. Thomas' Road, Tean  
4 St. Thomas' Road, Tean  
Upper Brund, Brund Lane, Cheddleton  
1 Churchill Road, Cheadle  
3 Churchill Road, Cheadle  
133 Washerwall Lane, Werrington  
11 The Bungalow, Oakamoor  
12 The Bungalow, Oakamoor  
13 The Bungalow, Oakamoor

**Closing Orders :**

40a Cheadle Road, Forsbrook  
Hazles Farm Cottage, Kingsley  
Brewery House, Cheddleton  
370 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge  
Cottage, Castlehill, Alton  
2 The Bungalows, Oakamoor  
3 The Bungalows, Oakamoor

**HOUSES UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION**

Again during the year a survey was made by a small Sub-Committee of the Council to ascertain the need in certain Parishes for the demolition of unfit properties.

I finally submitted to the Council, in August, a list of the number of houses considered unfit in each Parish, restricting myself to those which I considered ought to be dealt with within the next five years. The total number of houses recommended to the Council as unfit for human habitation throughout the area was 130.

**CHEADLE No. 4 CLEARANCE ORDER**

This Order was made by the Council on the 29th May, 1964, and approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on 28th October, 1964, the Order related to a small area of four houses situated in Sunnyside, Kingsley.

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955**

Several complaints have been received concerning foreign objects in food and dirty milk bottles.

We have had a piece of perspex in butter, a piece of cloth 12 ins. x 3 ins. in a tin of tomatoes, oil and metal in a loaf and two complaints concerning dirty milk bottles.

Court action was taken concerning the sale of apple tarts in a mouldy condition. The Court fined the offender £1 and costs.

I feel that I ought to comment on dirty milk bottles. The greatest care is taken at the dairy to see that bottles are cleansed, but when dealing with the number of bottles that the large dairy does, it does not surprise me that a bottle escapes detection on very rare occasions. If the Public could see the state of some of the bottles when they are returned to the dairy, I am sure that they would have a sense of shock that others could use bottles intended for containing food in such a foul manner. I believe, that as in many Public Health matters, education is needed, and I sometimes think that if it were possible, action ought to be taken against a person misusing a bottle. A thought which I doubt could be implemented.

### **FOOD HYGIENE**

The reader will see from my Statistical Summary that Food Premises have been listed under sixteen headings. 575 visits have been made to these premises. There is little cause for comment except that the public can themselves insist on hygienic practices in the front shop — my Department will and is watching their interest at the rear of the shop. As an aside, it is interesting to watch an assistant juggle with a pair of tongs, drop the food and catch it with the other hand.

### **CANNED MEAT AND THE ABERDEEN TYPHOID OUTBREAK**

On the 2nd June a letter was received from the Ministry of Health stating that the epidemic of Typhoid Fever in Aberdeen was thought to be associated with cold cooked meat purchased from one store. It was suggested that a check should be made on all stores and feeding establishments which used certain tins of cooked meat and advise the withdrawal of any tins bearing a certain mark and imported between certain dates. On the 3rd June another letter was received from the Ministry giving further details of the tins to be withdrawn from supply. The history of this outbreak is now widely known by the community and it is mentioned in this Report to indicate the amount of work in which it involved my Department. Every food establishment in the district was visited, some on several occasions and the total number of visits made was approximately 600. As a result of these visits, 173 tins bearing the suspect identification mark were found and arrangements made for the return of these to the wholesalers.

### **OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963**

To quote the Act "this is an Act to make fresh provisions for securing the Health and Safety and Welfare of persons employed to work in office or shop premises and provision for securing the Health, Safety and Welfare of persons employed to work in certain railway premises".

The main provision of the Act came into force on the 1st August 1964, but on and after the 1st May, 1964, anyone intending to employ people in office, shop or railway premises was required to send notification to the Authority responsible for enforcing the Act in those premises. Premises already in use had to be registered in this way between

the 1st May and 31st July, 1964, and a Form O.S.R.I. was issued for this purpose.

Despite National publicity, Forms O.S.R.I. were not sent to my Department by many known premises and I decided that a visit must be made to all premises to which it was believed the Act applied.

The table below indicates the number and type of premises registered. Table 'C' gives the number of persons employed in the different types of premises.

**Table 'A' Registrations and General Inspections**

Class of premises	No. of Premises registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No of registered premises receiving a general inspection during year
Offices	26	26	22
Retail shops	124	121	109
Wholesale shops, warehouses	2	2	0
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	23	23	13
Fuel storage depots	0	0	0

**Table 'B' Number of visits of all kinds made by Inspectors to registered premises ... .. 296**

**Table 'C' Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace**

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	344
Retail shops	441
Wholesale departments, warehouses	10
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	180
Fuel storage depots	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>975</b>
<b>Total Males: 324</b>	
<b>Total Females: 651</b>	

The initial inspections brought to my attention the relatively minor infringements and mainly concerned shops other than foods shops.

The defects found are listed in order of prevalence.

First-aid box not supplied or insufficient in 51 premises;

The washing facilities unsuitable or inadequate in 15 premises;

A reasonable temperature not maintained in 12 premises;

Toilet accommodation unsatisfactory in 13 premises;

Dirty condition in premises 3;

Overcrowding in an office 2.

Although several sections of the Act did not become operative until a future date, for instance — overcrowding provisions on the 1st August, 1967: insufficient toilet accomodation 1st January, 1966, we were obliged to notify owners of infringements under the relevant sections in order that the premises can be put in order before the operative date. This has been done in all cases and many have already been remedied.

## HOUSING

Again, this year, a considerable amount of time has been spent on Housing and this year the Council have seen fit to give me the title "Housing Officer". I don't think that I am doing any more on housing than I have done in the past but it is nice to know that the work I am carrying out in this sphere is officially recognised.

I have again provided each member of the Council together with representatives of the Parish Councils on the House Letting Committee with a complete report on all applicants re re-housing.

This work does take up a considerable amount of my time and not a little of it in interviewing applicants for Council houses. I believe that the people needing houses ought to have the opportunity of seeing a responsible person, to whom they can explain their particular circumstances and unburden themselves. The need for a house is a very real and personal problem and although the Council cannot satisfy all applicants, if the applicants feel that their problem is being sympathetically considered, the feeling of frustration is lessened.

In addition to the Letting of houses, I have the responsibility of dealing with the granting of permission to tenants to take lodgers into their Council houses. In some instances I have direct power to agree lodgers and in doubtful cases applications are referred to the Housing Committee; I also deal with the letting of garages and it will be seen that 45 of these have been let during 1964.

The Council are in progress of reconstructing the Caravan Site. The old caravan site was not very satisfactory and it was felt that if a private developer put forward a scheme for a caravan site the Council ought to be able to point to theirs and say that this was the type of site that would be required. The site is planned to take 20 caravans and it is my responsibility, through the Letting Committee, to allocate the plots on this site. In order that the site shall be kept in a reasonable state, no caravan is allowed on the site until it has been inspected by me.

It is regretful that in the past caravans have been allowed onto the Council's site which were completely unsuitable for use as permanent dwellings.

Number of new houses let ... ..	18
Number of houses re-let ... ..	41
Number of lodgers approved ... ..	32
Number of garages let ... ..	45

During the year I submitted two lists to the Council concerning Housing needs. One was the need for Bungalows for aged persons. To give some guidance to the Council on the need for the Welfare Assisted type Bungalows, I made some assessment of the needs for the different types of Bungalow and the result was that the Council was informed that there were probably 76 people in need of Welfare Bungalow accommodation and 80 in need of ordinary Bungalow accommodation.

It is very difficult to assess need throughout the area as I find that immediately the Council start building in a particular area we have an increase in the number of applications for the type of accommodation being erected in that area, and I have no doubt that when the Council's scheme of building bungalows is in progress, there will be additional numbers of applicants for each type.

### **THE PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACT 1928 AND 1936**

The Council's new conditions of licence are now in operation and we have a copy of a plan of each installation. There are 79 installations in the area and 206 visits have been made to these. Licenses have been issued for the storage of 136,978 gallons of petroleum and petroleum mixtures. Nearly all the installations can now be said to be satisfactory and of a fairly high standard. The greatest difficulty experienced has been to bring about the fixing of limiting devices to the pumps.

### **THEATRES ACT 1843**

### **CINEMATOGRAPH ACTS 1909 — 1952**

Responsibility for the licensing of the Theatres and Cinemas in this District has been delegated by the County Council to the District Council and it is my duty to act as authorised Officer for the Council. There has been little cause for complaint during the year and visits have been made together with the representative of the Chief Fire Officer to all licensed premises, both for routine annual licence renewal purposes and during the course of the use of the premises in the evening.

### **SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT 1958**

There remain 16 slaughterhouses in the District. All have been inspected by the Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Minor defects continue to arise and are put right without any difficulty. This year has seen the full implementation of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 and my Department has performed 100 per cent meat inspection. This is not new as full meat inspection has been carried out by the Department since decontrol. This is a duty I have insisted must be performed before all others. The income derived from the charge on butchers has amounted during the year to £683.

### **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT**

37 Slaughtermen's Licenses have been issued during the year.

## CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed ....	1602	528	1150	10923	2188
Number Inspected ....	1602	528	1150	10923	2188
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCOSIS.	1	1	4	6	1
Whole Carcasses condemned Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemn- ed. ....	197	179	8	552	148
Percentage affected with disease other than Tubercu- losis or Cystercercosis. ....	11.04	.28.0	.1.0	.5.1	6.8
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY Whole Carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage infected with Tuberculosis ....	—	—	—	—	2.1
CYSTICERCOSIS Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemn- ed. ....	14	5	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	2	—	—	—	—
Generalised Cystercercosis and Carcasses totally con- demned. ....	—	—	—	—	—



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following Table shows the number of inspections carried out to the various types of properties within the District.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural
No. of Properties in Local Authority's District ... ..	29	11220	1413	879
No. of Properties inspected as a result of notification ... ..	13	454	108	33
No. of such properties found to be infested by—				
Common rat ... Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	13	802	41	14
House Mouse ... Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	23	9	1
No. of Properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act ... ..	76	279	60	56
No. of such properties found to be infested by—				
Common rat ... Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	76	110	50	14
House mouse ... Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	12	—
No. of infested properties treated by the Local Authority ... ..	89	441	112	31
No. of "Block" control schemes carried out ...	6 covering 60 properties			
<hr/>				
Number of Contracts ...	29			
Amount of Contracts ...	£159 10 0d			
Number of properties treated (chargeable) ..	30			
Amount of Charge ... ..	£57 0 0d			

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Number on Register ... ..	131
Number using Mechanical Power ... ..	77
Number of Inspections ... ..	13

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

PREMISES	Number on Register	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
1.—Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority .. . . . .	54	—	—	—
2 Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. . . . .	77	13	2	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) .. . . . .	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL .. . . .</b>	131	13	2	—

2. Cases in which defects were found to exist.

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	which prosecutions were instituted
Ineffective drainage of floors Sanitary Conveniences (S7).	—	—	—	—	—
(a) insufficient .. . . .	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	4	2	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work) .. . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL .. . . .</b>	4	2	—	—	—

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY

<b>No. of Houses made fit</b>	<b>Total</b>
After Informal Action ... ..	95
By Owner after Statutory Notice ... ..	31
By Council after Statutory Notice ... ..	6

## Visits

Complaints — Houses	158
Complaints — Others	115
1st Visits Conversions	148
Revisits Conversions	418
No. Conversions Completed	108
1st Visits Drainage	295
Revisits Drainage	375
Levelling	15
Water Samples — Public	51
Water Samples — Private	172
Water Supplies	28
Deposit Gauges	24
Bacteriological Specimens	148
Infectious Disease	532
Food Samples	18
Improvement Grants	517
Completed Standard	11
Completed Discretionary	33
Revisits and other Visits	622

## Housing Act

Unfit Houses	407
Revisits	211
Interviews	122
Certificate of Disrepair	4
Houses — Multiple Occupation	1

## Food Inspection

Meat at Slaughterhouses	2301
Meat at Shops	18
Canned Foods	4

## Notices

	Served		Complied	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Public Health Act	70	81	34	89
Housing Act	—	2	—	—
Food and Drugs Act	—	32	—	50
Shops Act	—	48	—	11
Factory Act	—	—	—	10
Petroleum Regulations	—	9	—	71
Cinemas and Theatres	—	19	—	1
Slaughterhouse Regulations	—	26	—	9
Animal Board Establishments	4	3	—	2

Special Inspections	Visits	Contraventions	
		Abated	Found
Housing Applicants	586	—	—
Tenancy Exchange	53	—	—
Tenancy Transfers	60	—	—
Lodgers	42	—	—
Theatres & Cinemas	11	—	—
Hairdressers	3	—	—
Tips	6	—	—
Pet Shops	1	—	—
Boarding Kennels	28	2	2
Petroleum	206	33	3
Caravan Site	6	—	—
Clean Air	13	—	—
Clean Air (Factory)	2	—	—
Gut Scraper	23	—	—
Knacker	11	—	—
Rodent Control	5	—	—

Food Premises	Visits	Contraventions	
		Abated	Found
Butechers	81	10	8
Bakeries	14	1	—
Canteens	10	10	13
Confectioners	57	4	2
Fishmongers	12	—	—
Fish Fryers	17	5	5
Grocers	121	10	17
Greengrocers	29	—	3
Ice Cheam	11	—	—
Licensed Premises	93	6	30
Market	53	2	—
Mobile Shops	3	—	—
Slaughterhouses	32	—	—
Warehouses	2	—	—
Restaurants	40	—	—

## 12. SURVEYOR'S REPORT

### HOUSING

The number of houses completed during the year was :

by Local Authority ... ..	21
by Private Enterprise ... ..	335
Total ... ..	356

## **Local Authority Housing**

### **Blythe Bridge**

The contract providing for 12 dwelling houses and 6 bungalows as an extension to Bridgwood Road has been finally completed. The work involved also included the final street works to complete the old aged persons estate in Brook Close. Tree and shrub planting has been carried out and in due course this will mature into a very attractive estate.

### **Blythe Bridge**

A further contract for one pair and one single two bedroom bungalows completed the development in Brook Close. These are now erected and occupied.

### **Oakamoor**

A scheme for 5 bungalows started last year has been completed. The site is situated in School Lane, opposite to the existing Council House. The bungalows are now occupied.

### **Tean**

The Council have acquired approximately 6.75 acres of land off Hollington Road, which will eventually accommodate 74 dwellings with 55 lock-up garages. The Contract has been let for the street works and sewers also tenders approved for building the first 42 dwellings on the site. The preliminary street works have been laid and building work on the dwellings is now in progress.

### **Weston Coyney**

Following considerable discussions the Council have decided to build 3 detached bungalows on the corner site fronting Weston Road and Park Hall Road. The tender for the Contract has been accepted and the bungalows erected and occupied.

The frontage to the bungalows have been provided with beds of shrubs together with 2 seats to make an attractive feature on the cross roads

### **Kingsley**

The Council acquired approximately 0.75 acres of land fronting the west side of Barnfields Lane. A contract has been accepted and the erection of 8 houses are now in course of construction.

## **GARAGES**

- (1) A block of 3 lock-up garages have been erected at the Wentlows Housing Site, Tean adjoining the existing garages and making a total of 13 garages on the site.
- (2) At Froghall Road, Cheadle a range of 13 garages have been started and completed. The site is at the rear of the existing Council houses between the children's playground and Froghall Road.
- (3) A contract for 14 lock-up garages has been started and completed on a site off the Moat, Weston Coyney at the rear of the existing Council houses.
- (4) A block of 6 garages have been started and completed off Bridgwood Road, Blythe Bridge.

## **PUBLIC CONVENIENCE**

The public convenience at the rear of the Reading Room, High Street, Kingsley has now been completed, this providing for separate accommodation for both men and women

## **PRIVATE ENTERPRISE HOUSING**

The number of houses and bungalows within the Rural District being erected by private enterprise and now under construction at the end of the year is 257.

During the year there have been 335 dwellings built for private ownership.

An estate of 117 dwellings at Cheadle was completed during 1964.

At present under construction are estates at Tean for 24 dwellings; Forsbrook 78 and 45, Werrington 204 and 69, Blythe Bridge 40, Cheadle 94, Cellarhead 136, Cheddleton 264 and 29, Kingsley 78.

## **PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

During the year 1,230 plans and applications have been submitted for the consideration of the Council as required by the provision of the Town and Country Planning Acts and the Building Byelaws.

Of this number 1,094 were approved by the Council and 136 were refused.

## **WATER SCHEMES**

### **COUNSLOW RESERVOIR**

The new 200,000 gallon reservoir was completed and brought into commission in the early part of the year and will provide necessary additional storage capacity on the Hollington Regional Water Scheme.

### **RANGEMOOR RESERVOIR**

The new 1,000,000 gallon reservoir designed by the Council's Consulting Engineers to supplement the storage capacity on the Cheddleton Water Scheme has been commenced and is now 90 per cent complete. A visit by the Council in September to inspect the work in progress was well attended.

### **CAULDON LOWE WATER SCHEME**

The demand for water on this Scheme has now almost reached the maximum supply available from the Cauldon source and although the recently sunk borehole at Ramsor will eventually augment this to a small extent, it is extremely urgent for an additional source to be found in the near future.

A borehole has been put down and a pumping test carried out at Keywood, near Whiston. This trial bore proved abortive and has been abandoned.

Following this failure, preliminary investigations have been made in the East Wall area to find a suitable site for a further borehole and it is proposed to sink an exploratory borehole in the vicinity of East Wall Farm as soon as permission is received.

## ALTERATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS

1. The water main in Ash Grove, Werrington, was found to be very shallow following the making up of this street by the County Council and has been re-laid and the services re-connected.
2. The old 3inch water main at Waterhouses was made very shallow by the trunk road Improvement Scheme and water services have been transferred to the new 4 inch diameter water main.

## EXTENSIONS TO NEW HOUSING ESTATES

Mains extensions are being provided on the following Private Housing Estates as development proceeds.

1. Moss Park Farm Estate, Werrington
2. Dalehouse Farm Estate, Cheddleton
3. Estate off Armshead Road, Werrington

## TOTAL AMOUNT OF WATER PUMPED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31-12-64

Water Scheme	Pumping Station	Total Gals.	Av. Gals per Day
Cheddleton	Sheepwash/Wallmires	201702000	551100
Teaen	Teaenford	31834000	86978
Hollington	Teaenford	60578000	165513
Cauldon Lowe	Cauldon	33873000	92549
Foxt & Ipstones	Black Bank	18416000	50316
	Totals	346403000	946456

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES

### Alton Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme

The Sewers and Purification Works were commissioned during the summer and officially opened by the Chairman of the Cheddle Rural District Council, Mr. N. Heathcote, on the 3rd December.

After the completion of the main scheme, Alton Towers Limited requested permission to connect their drainage system with the village scheme, this was granted on the understanding that all surface water be removed prior to its entry into their drainage system. This stipulation was made because the village area receiving the sewage from the Tower has to be pumped to the Purification Works for treatment.

The Works give full biological treatment to six times dry weather flow and are maturing rapidly, giving a final effluent well within the standards set by the Trent River Authority.

Experiments have been carried out with an upward flow clarifier in one of the Humus tanks with a view to polishing the final effluent further prior to discharging into the River Churnet.

At the same time as the sewerage scheme was being carried out the Royal Oak surface water sewerage scheme was constructed to allev-

iate flooding in this low lying area.

The relative costs of the two schemes were £84,939 and £5,298 respectively.

### **Froghall Sewage Purification Works**

The Purification Works are virtually completed and it is anticipated that they will be brought into operation early in 1965 to deal with sewage from Kingsley Holt, Froghall and Messrs. Boltons factory.

A length of sewer has been laid at the Purification Works from the Detritus Tanks to just outside the works boundary in order that the sewers from the village of Whiston can be connected to the Works without causing any disruption of the Purification Works.

### **Ash Bank Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme**

The laying of the sewers and construction of the Purification Works commenced in February and it is hoped that the scheme will be operative in the summer of 1965.

When the new works is commissioned, the old Ash Bank works, which is located near the Stoke-on-Trent boundary will become obsolete and the men engaged there transferred to the new one.

Drainage from property fronting onto Ash Bank and located between Ash Grove and the City boundary cannot be drained to the new works and at the request of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Stoke Corporation were approached to see if they were agreeable to the conveyance and treatment of the drainage from these properties. After protracted negotiations agreement was reached and a link sewer will be laid between the existing Cheadle and Stoke-on-Trent sewerage systems.

The new Purification Works will deal with the drainage from properties at Overmoor, Cellarhead, Withystakes and all development down to Ash Grove and is designed to give full biological treatment to flows up to six times the dry weather flow.

### **Oakamoor Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme**

The Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme for Oakamoor designed by the Council's Consulting Engineers and estimated to cost £63,700 was the subject of an Informal Enquiry by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in January of this year and approval given to advertise for tenders for the scheme in the latter part of the year.

### **Waterhouses Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme**

This scheme has been prepared by the Consulting Engineers and an Informal Enquiry was held by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in November. It is anticipated that approval in principle to the scheme will be issued in the near future.

The difficulties experienced with the means of disposal of the final effluent from the proposed Hoftens Cross Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme have not been resolved and consideration is being given to combining this scheme with the Waterhouses Scheme and



although this will involve a considerable length of link sewer between the two schemes, Caudon Village and the Stoney Lane area can in addition be served by the proposal.

The estimated cost of this comprehensive scheme is £98,500.

### **Whiston Sewerage Scheme**

Detailed investigations have been completed and a scheme prepared for the scattered community of Whiston. Briefly it is proposed to drain this area to the new Froghall Purification Works which were designed with adequate capacity for this proposal.

The number of properties to be served by the scheme is 88 and the total cost estimated at £34,000.

The scheme will be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in the early part of 1965.

### **Hollington Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme**

Preliminary investigations are being carried out on the preparation of a main drainage scheme for the village of Hollington.

### **Minor Sewerage Schemes**

Detailed surveys and plans have been prepared for the following schemes and work will be commenced during 1965.

#### **1. Wetley Rocks**

Over a period of years complaints have been received concerning the discharge of septic tank drainage on to agricultural land from the Police House at Wetley Rocks and a scheme was prepared by the County Council to overcome this problem by constructing a drain from the property to the Public Sewer in Mill Lane. In view of other properties in this area being without main drainage facilities a more comprehensive scheme was prepared to serve these properties in addition to the Police House with the County Council making a contribution towards the cost.

The cost of the scheme is estimated to be £2,370 and the number of properties which will be provided with main drainage is 8.

#### **2. Brookhouses**

A section of the sewer at Brookhouses laid in 1960 and forming part of the Regional Cheadle to Blithe Valley Scheme was affected by mining subsidence during shallow workings of the Foxfield Colliery. The effect was to form a "backfall" in this section and cause "backing-up" of sewage in the system.

Detailed levels were taken and consultations made with the National Coal Board as to the responsibility for bearing the cost of making good the defects. After considerable correspondence the Coal Board accepted liability and the costs will be recharge to them on completion.

The cost of the remedial works is estimated to be £3,584.

#### **3. Forsbrook**

The extensive housing development now taking place and proposed in Forsbrook would cause serious overloading of the foul sewers,

particularly in Chapel Street where the major portion of development will be connected. To provide some relief to this sewer a diversion sewer has been designed to divert the drainage from Forsbrook Park and the Dilhorne Road area into Cheadle Road. This scheme must be regarded as a partial expedient and consideration will have to be given at a later date as development proceeds to the duplication of the main outfall from Forsbrook to the Blithe Valley Sewer.

The estimated cost of these initial works is £650.

#### **4. Ostlers Lane, Cheddleton**

Complaints over a considerable period concerning the discharge of sewage have been received both from the land owner on whose land the sewage discharges and from adjoining house-holders at Sunny-side.

A scheme to alleviate this nuisance has been prepared and will serve a further 5 properties. The estimated cost of the scheme is £2,050.

#### **5. Ipstones**

Following completion of the sewerage scheme for the village of Ipstones, an outfall sewer which formed part of the old scheme and now only deals with surface water, discharges onto agricultural land and after heavy rainfall causes considerable wastage of agricultural land. The County Council have been approached with a view to them taking over this sewer and subject to the extension of the sewer to a proper outfall in a nearby watercourse, they will adopt this as a Highway Drain.

The cost of extending this sewer as required by the County Council before adoption is £369.

#### **6. Weston Coyney**

The existing main outfall sewer serving this recently developed extensive residential area is found to be inadequate to deal with the flows in times of heavy rainfall. This is caused principally by the fact that many of the older parts of the area are drained by a sewer taking both foul and surface water.

It is proposed, therefore, to lay a 12 inch diameter relief sewer into the Blithe Valley Scheme to alleviate the flooding which now occurs.

The cost of the scheme is estimated to be £2,000.

#### **7 Totmonslow**

Requests have been received from several residents in the Totmonslow area for consideration to be given to providing main drainage facilities. The properties concerned have septic tank drainage, many of which cause nuisance to adjoining land.

A scheme to alleviate this nuisance has been prepared and will serve 8 properties at an estimated cost of £5,200.

#### **CARAVAN SITE**

Work on the former W.A.A.F. site at Woodhead acquired by the Council for use as a Caravan site has been commenced. As a first

stage development, sites for 15 caravans are being prepared, i.e. roadways, concrete hardstandings, drainage, shed and electricity supplies and grass areas are being provided and the existing caravans will be moved on to these sites as soon as they are completed. Further sites will be prepared as the demand arises.

This first stage development has shown that a caravan site can be made quite attractive and the Council's decision to develop this site on model lines will go far to filling a need. The development of this site serves a useful purpose to indicate what is required by private site developers.

### **HOUSEHOLD REFUSE COLLECTION**

The Council operate a refuse collection service throughout the Rural District on a weekly basis to all but the isolated properties where the cost of a weekly collection travelling over long occupation roads would be extremely uneconomical, but in many cases a bi-monthly collection is made.

The new compression type vehicles which have a large capacity are proving their worth particularly in the built-up areas of Urban character in reducing travelling time from the collection areas to the tips.

Disposal of refuse is carried out by controlled tipping on several tips within the area and the capacities of these tips is adequate for some years to come.

Although we are perhaps fortunate in this mineralised area to have worked out quarries etcetera which form ready made tipping areas, the present day character of household refuse has changed over the past ten years and difficulty is experienced in consolidating the material to obtain satisfactory compaction. Many Rural Authorities are now faced with the problem of having to install Disposal Plants to deal with refuse and the initial and operational costs of these is high. Although many articles can be salvaged, the market for such articles is uncertain and prices subject to considerable fluctuation.

### **INDUSTRIAL ESTATE**

As part of the Development Plan for Cheadle town, eleven acres of land were purchased by the Council at Brookhouses some time ago for use as an industrial site and the design of road works required for this development has been completed. It is hoped to commence road works on the site during 1965 and so make available sites for industry to provide local employment for people now moving into Cheadle.

### **'BUS SHELTERS**

The total number of 'bus shelters erected by the Council is 77 and these are maintained and regularly cleaned by the Council having engaged a man with a van who cleans all the 'bus shelters weekly and at the same time executes repairs caused by vandalism. Since regular attendance has been in operation much of the damage previously experienced has decreased.

