

**[Report 1939] / Medical Officer of Health, Cheadle & Gatley U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Cheadle and Gatley (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1939

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/hvkkjy3h>

**License and attribution**

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

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

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



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

18th November, 1940.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
CHEADLE & GATLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Lady and Gentlemen,

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1939.

I have the honour to present to you my annual report on the health of the district for the year 1939. In accordance with Circular 2067 of the Ministry of Health, the report is an interim one and confined to matters of urgency and alterations owing to the war. Records are being preserved in order that a full report may be made after the cessation of hostilities.

During the year the Medical Officer of Health has relinquished his post as part time Assistant School Medical Officer under the Cheshire County Council, and has taken the posts of Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Councils of Alderley Edge and Wilmslow, he has also under arrangement with the County Council become Clinical Medical Officer to the Child Welfare Centres in the district.

The pressure of special work both in preparation for and due to the war has been particularly marked in this district as it is both a specified and a reception area.

About 6,000 evacuees were received into this district in September, but by the end of the year, due to the Evacuation area being too easy of access, the number was greatly depleted by evacuees, especially mothers and accompanied children returning to their homes.

To cope with the extra work the following services were brought into being or augmented.

(a) A temporary isolation Hospital was opened with 25 beds and has been continued. This hospital (consisting of two semi-detached houses) is primarily for the reception of the infectious diseases which are normally nursed at home, but in the absence of such cases the premises have been used as a sick bay for the treatment of impetigo, scabies and the like. Cases have been admitted from surrounding districts and only evacuees have been treated. The hospital is approved by the Ministry of Health.

(b) Two Civil Nursing Reserve nurses were appointed to assist in the treatment of evacuees at home and to give assistance at the school clinics. This number was reduced to one as the number of evacuees declined.

(c) Extra sessions were worked at the School Minor Ailment Clinics at Cheadle and Cheadle Hulme, sessions being held daily. An extra clinic was commenced at Heald Green. The clinic at Heald Green was later closed and the number of sessions at the other clinics reverted to thrice weekly.

Assistance was given by Manchester in the seconding to this area of school (part-time) nurses for the school clinics, and of a Sister and later a night nurse for the temporary isolation hospital.

The Maternity & Child Welfare clinics were not augmented. These clinics are only held fortnightly and the attendances are heavy. The need for a Maternity Home other than those provided by private enterprise continues to be felt.

The Sanitary Circumstances of the area during the year remained satisfactory but there was a considerable diminution in the work done both on account of air raid precaution and evacuation activities and there being an unavoidable gap between the resignation of the Assistant Sanitary Inspector and his successor taking up duties.

The general provision of health services for the area was altered as above and also in one other particular :-

Cases of infectious disease occurring in children under 16 years of age were removed to Westhulme Hospital, Oldham from the outbreak of hostilities. This arrangement ceased at the end of the year, and cases are admitted, as in peacetime, to Monsall Hospital.

The Sanitary Inspection of the district is dealt with by the Senior Sanitary Inspector in his report which is presented herewith :-

Public Health Department,  
CHEADLE,  
Cheshire.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS  
OF THE CHEADLE & GATLEY  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

16th November, 1940.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1939.

Lady and Gentlemen,

In co-operation with your Medical Officer of Health I have the honour to present my report for the year in accordance with the requirements of Circular 2067 of the Ministry of Health.

During the early part of the year considerable time was spent on the preparation of the scheme for the reception of evacuees, to enable the Council to supply the returns asked for by the Central authority.

Routine inspections were carried out, but after the outbreak of war and consequent additional duties, it became increasingly difficult to carry out the majority of these inspections, activity was therefore confined to places where foods were prepared for sale, slaughter houses and shops.

The refuse collection system was changed during the year, a completely mechanised system being brought into use in lieu of the Pagefield System of horses and motor.

HOUSING. 10 houses were demolished in Clearance Areas thus practically completing demolitions of property in areas which have been the subject of confirmed Clearance Orders.

Report under Article X I X of the Sanitary Officers' Order 1926.

(see table overleaf)

<u>Nature of Inspection.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections.</u>	<u>Informal Notices.</u>	<u>Statutory Notices</u>	<u>Notices Complied With.</u>
Public Health Acts.	369	253	-	253
Housing Acts.	76	15	-	15
Factory and Workshop Act.	39	-	-	-
Slaughter Houses.	936	-	-	-
Bakehouses.	47	3	-	3
Dairies and Cowsheds.	33	-	-	-
Schools.	17	-	-	-
Water Supplies.	3	-	-	-
Infectious Diseases.	153	-	-	-
Shops.	239	-	-	-
Food Premises (other than above).	87	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Visits.	497	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>2496</u>	<u>271</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>271</u>

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. HAYES.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Housing, a preliminary inspection of further houses was commenced in order that a list of those which require early inspection might be presented, but this will have to be recommenced after the cessation of hostilities.

Infectious Diseases, the total number of notifications during the year was 103, as against 160 in 1938, in spite of the influx of evacuees and the increase in population, this low incidence was common to the country as a whole. The cases consisted of Diphtheria 29: Scarlet Fever 24: Pneumonia 14: Erysipelas 8: Puerperal Pyrexia 6: Acute Poliomyelitis 1: Measles (only notifiable in last quarter) 1: Pulmonary Tuberculosis 15: Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis 5.

Diphtheria was the only disease which showed an increased prevalence. Eleven of the 29 notified cases occurred in one residential school over a period of 7 days, none of these cases was of a severe type, though the causal organism was of the gravis type. The children had been extensively immunised.

A policy of immediate admission of cases to hospital, even where doubtful, was pursued, the diagnosis of 7 notified cases was not confirmed in hospital. There were no deaths.

The incidence of the other diseases requires no comment.

The subject of Diphtheria Immunisation was fully dealt with in my monthly report dated 9th March, 1940, and the position may be summarised as follows :-

(1) The Prophylactics used are Alum precipitated toxoid and toxin antitoxin floccules according to the age of the child or the choice of the practitioner.

(2) The facilities are available free of charge at the Public Health Offices and at the Cheadle Hulme Infant Welfare Centre, the Medical Officer of Health carrying out the immunisations.

(3) The materials are available to practitioners free of cost for the immunisation of children resident in the district.

The total number of children immunised since the first inception of the scheme in late 1936 to 31st December 1939 was 1181.

The figures for the year 1939 were :-

Under 5 years of age .....	190.
5 years of age & over .....	367.
Age not recorded .....	<u>10.</u>

Total 567.

Serum for use in pneumonia, and convalescent serum or immune globulins for use in measles have not been used, nor have there been any special steps taken as regards whooping cough.

In conclusion I desire to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for the encouragement they have given me in working for the health of the district. I also wish to acknowledge the help and co-operation given me by the Clerk to the Council and the work done by the Sanitary Inspectors, both of whom have given unsparingly in carrying on the work of the Public Health Department along with the added duties of war time. My thanks are due too, to Dr. Bean for deputising for me and for his great interest in the progress of both public health and air raid precaution work.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D.G. ANDERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.