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Contributors

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**CHELMSFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**



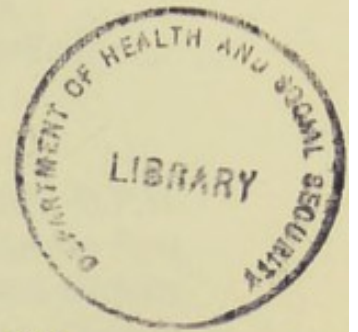
Annual Reports

OF
MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

AND
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR
1972






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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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STAFF

Clerk of the Rural District Council: C. A. Bohannon.

Deputy Clerk of the Rural District Council: F. R. Jones, Solicitor.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health: B. V. Hassan, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
(also Medical Officer of Health to Borough of Maldon and Maldon Port Health Authority, Urban District of Burnham-on-Crouch, Rural District of Maldon, and Assistant County Medical Officer, Essex County Council.

Clerk to Medical Officer of Health:

Mrs. E. Seymer

CHIEF HEALTH INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT

Chief Health Inspector and Director of Public Cleansing:

T. H. C. Bartrop, F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Health Inspector:

L. G. Smart, F.R.S.H., F.I.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

Health Inspectors:

R. F. S. Musgrave, M.A.P.H.I. (Senior Assistant)

F. B. Brewster, M.A.P.H.I.

G. D. Clare, M.A.P.H.I.

M. F. Lee, M.A.P.H.I.

R. A. Gates, M.A.P.H.I.

M. Salmon, M.A.P.H.I.

Meat Inspectors:

A. Philip

I. Lovie

Public Cleansing Superintendent:

C. Parker

Public Cleansing Inspector:

E. J. Moore

Clerical Staff:

R. H. Hawkes (Senior Clerk)

Mrs. A. B. Fleming (Secretary)

Miss C. Upshall (Clerk)

Mrs. M. Lovie (Clerk/Typist (Part-time))

E. Parmenter (Public Cleansing Depot Clerk)

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Public Health Committee consists of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council and sixteen other members.

Chairman of Public Health Committee:

Mrs. J. C. Norton

Vice-Chairman of Public Health Committee:

Mr. D. Ashford

Members of Public Health Committee:

Mrs. M. E. Clarke

Mr. H. G. Copsey

Mr. J. N. Foxon (Vice-Chairman of the Council)

Mr. A. A. E. Hammond

Mr. H. P. Liberty

Mr. J. A. Matthews

Mr. G. Millington

Mr. W. H. Orr (Chairman of the Council)

Mr. H. S. H. Preston

Mr. G. T. H. Richards

Mr. B. Scarce

The Rev. W. J. T. Smith

Mr. E. J. C. Speakman

Mr. F. B. Speakman

Mrs. M. B. Walker

Mrs. J. Wood

To the Chairman and Members of the Chelmsford Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present for your information the Annual Report on the health of the rural district for 1972, compiled in accordance with the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959 and the Circular 1/73 of the Department of Health and Social Security.

The statistics once again show a generally satisfactory state of health in the district, and no serious epidemic occurred during the year.

Notifications of measles in the district totalled 16, by far the lowest for any year since the disease was recorded. While there has, over the last few decades, been a slow fall in cases of measles this great decline must be attributed to the advent of a vaccine which protects against the disease. However the time for complacency has not yet come and a greater acceptance rate for the vaccination must be achieved before ultimate eradication is in sight.

Two other diseases are worthy of mention. A number of dysentery cases were notified from one parish and investigation revealed a connection with the primary school. Advice on personal and general hygiene was given and complied with and as a result the disease soon declined. The single reported case of anthrax is interesting. This is a condition which usually occurs in persons handling imported animal products such as wool or hides. However the patient was a housewife and in spite of careful investigations no source of infection was found.

Live births in the district totalled 1,155 slightly fewer than in 1971. As a result the crude and adjusted rates were also lower and the latter was below the rate for England and Wales. Illegitimate live births only comprised 3 per cent of the total which contrasted with the figure of 9 per cent for the whole country. There was a small reduction in the still birth rate compared to the previous year.

There were 666 deaths recorded in the district, just six fewer than in 1971. This gave a lower crude death rate but when calculations were made to take into account the make-up of the population by age and sex a slightly increased adjusted rate was the result. This was, however, only three quarters of the national rate. The infant mortality rates, as shown in the tables, were also well below the national rates. Once again there were no deaths of women attributed to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

Of the total deaths 326 (49 per cent) were the result of diseases of the heart and circulation (including strokes) and this conforms to the general pattern seen over the last few years. Deaths due to cancers totalled 141 (over 21 per cent of all deaths) and one in five of these were due to cancers of the lung or bronchus. There were 16 accidental deaths, exactly half of which involved motor vehicles. Almost half of those dying were aged 75 or more.

The natural increase in population (the excess of births over deaths) was 489 which is considerably below the 1971 figure of 564. This is

mainly accounted for by the fewer births during the year under review. According to the Registrar General's mid-year population estimates the overall increase in population was 2,600 or 3.6 per cent. The figure of 2,111 new residents entering the district accords with the situation throughout the south-east of England.

On the first of April 1974 two momentous changes will have taken place. A new District Council will have been born of the union of most of the present Chelmsford Rural District Council and the whole of the Chelmsford Borough Council. The same date sees the emergence of a reorganised National Health Service in which the present tripartite system (General Practice, Hospitals and Preventive Medicine) will be merged into one integrated structure. At the time of writing the indications are good for an easy delivery for the lusty Chelmsford District Council, though care will be required in the first years of infancy. The new National Health Service may have a much more difficult parturition as preparations for the event are less advanced but it is to be hoped that the eventual outcome will be, in the words of the Secretary of State for Social Services, "a better, more sensitive, service to the public". I would here make a plea for the new District Council to select with particular care those members who will represent it on the Community Health Council in order that the health needs and hopes of the people of the district may be adequately and forcefully brought to the notice of the new Area Health Authority.

As one result of this double reorganisation District Councils will no longer employ their own Medical Officers of Health, and in fact this title, which dates back to 1847 when Dr. William Henry Duncan took up the appointment in Liverpool, will disappear.

This is therefore the last Annual Report that I will present as your Medical Officer of Health, and I feel a short account of the history of the office in Chelmsford Rural District will not be inappropriate. By far the major source of my information is a review presented by Dr. J. F. Macdonald in 1946.

The Public Health Act of 1872 created Rural Sanitary Authorities and the first meeting of the Chelmsford R.S.A. took place at the Union House, Chelmsford on the 3rd September of that year. The Chelmsford Rural District Council, with wider powers, was formed in January 1895 under the Local Government Act of 1894.

The appointment of a Medical Officer of Health to Rural Sanitary Districts was not made compulsory until the Public Health Act of 1875 but nevertheless the Chelmsford, Maldon and Billericay R.S.A.'s agreed jointly to appoint such an officer, Dr. C. B. Fox, in 1873. He remained in office until 1879, when Billericay withdrew from the combination, whereupon Chelmsford and Maldon R.S.A.'s appointed Dr. A. H. Downes to serve the two districts. In 1889, on appointment as Medical Inspector to the Local Government Board, he was succeeded by Dr. J. C. Thresh. In 1895 the latter became County Medical Officer of Health for Essex but was allowed to continue to act for the Chelmsford and Maldon Rural District Councils. In 1914 a new combination of Chelmsford, Maldon and Rochford Rural Districts appointed Dr. J. F.

Macdonald as their Medical Officer of Health. Rochford withdrew in 1948 and he continued in office for the other two districts. Dr. Macdonald only retired on 28th February 1954 having served Chelmsford Rural District with devotion and distinction for 40 years.

In 1954 Dr. T. D. Blott was appointed as Medical Officer of Health to Chelmsford and Maldon Rural Districts together with the Borough and Port of Maldon and the Urban District of Burnham-on-Crouch. This combination of districts has continued until the present. After 10 years service Dr. Blott was succeeded by Dr. J. A. Slattery in 1964, and when the latter took up appointment as Area Medical Officer I assumed duty as your Medical Officer of Health in 1968.

I very much regret that my time as an officer of Chelmsford Rural District will terminate in 1974. I am grateful for the consideration shown to me by the Council, by the Public Health Committee and by individual Councillors. I hope that the new District Council will serve the people of the district as faithfully as the Rural District Council will have served them for over 79 years.

I would like to thank the Chief Engineer (Distribution) of the Essex Water Company for providing information about the water supply. My thanks are also due to the Chief Officers and staff of the Council for their cooperation; to all personnel of the Public Health Department for their help; and to my personal secretary for her assistance in compiling this report.

Finally my gratitude is particularly due to Mr. T. H. C. Bartrop and Mr. L. G. Smart who will be retiring in 1974. Without their unfailing help my duties would have been more onerous, and I wish them well.

And so, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I subscribe my self for the last time on an Annual Report to you,

Your obedient servant,

B. V. HASSAN, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(For comparison, figures in brackets refer to 1971)

General Data

Area (in acres)	86,506	(86,506)
No. of Houses	25,514	(23,941)
No. of persons per house (average)	2.93	(2.93)
Rateable value	£2,625,545	(£2,554,402)
Product of a 1p rate	£25,679	(£24,924)

Population

Resident Population (Reg. Gen's mid-year estimate)	74,580	(71,980)
Increase over previous year	2,600	(5,360)
Percentage increase	3.61	(8.00)
Natural increase (excess of births over deaths)	489	(564)
Increase due to immigration	2,111	(4,796)

BIRTHS

(a) Live births	M	F	Total
Legitimate	559 (612)	557 (575)	1,116 (1,187)
Illegitimate	24 (30)	15 (19)	39 (49)
Total	583 (642)	572 (594)	1,155 (1,236)

Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	15.5 (17.2)
Adjusted birth rate	14.6 (16.9)
Birth rate — England and Wales	14.8 (16.0)
Ratio of adjusted birth rate to National Rate	0.98 (1.05)
Illegitimate live births — % of total live births	3 (4)

(b) Still births

Legitimate	2 (7)	10 (7)	12 (14)
Illegitimate	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Total	2 (7)	10 (7)	12 (14)

Still birth rate per 1,000 total births	10 (11)
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ England and Wales . . .	12 (12)

(c) Total births (Live and Still)

Legitimate	561 (619)	567 (582)	1,128 (1,201)
Illegitimate	24 (30)	15 (19)	39 (49)
Total	585 (649)	582 (601)	1,167 (1,250)

DEATHS

(a) All ages	M	F	Total
	318 (331)	348 (341)	666 (672)

Crude death rate per 1,000 population	8.9 (9.3)
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 population	9.2 (8.5)
England and Wales per 1,000 population	12.1 (11.6)
Ratio of adjusted death rate to National Rate	0.76 (0.73)

(b) Deaths of Infants

(1) Under one year of age (Infants deaths)

Legitimate	7 (8)	5 (5)	12 (13)
Illegitimate	1 (1)	— (—)	1 (1)
Total	8 (9)	5 (5)	13 (14)

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births 11 (11)

" " " " " " England and Wales 17 (18)

(2) Under four weeks of age (Neonatal deaths)

Legitimate	4 (7)	2 (4)	6 (11)
Illegitimate	— (1)	— (—)	— (1)
Total	4 (8)	2 (4)	6 (12)

Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births 5 (10)

" " " " " " England and Wales . . . 12 (12)

(3) Under one week of age (Early neonatal deaths)

Legitimate	4 (4)	2 (4)	6 (8)
Illegitimate	— (1)	— (—)	— (1)
Total	4 (5)	2 (4)	6 (9)

Early Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births 5 (7)

" " " " " " England and Wales . . 10 (10)

(4) Perinatal mortality (Stillbirths and deaths
under one week of age combined)

Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000

live and still births 15 (18)

England and Wales 22 (22)

(c) Maternal mortality (deaths of women ascribed to
pregnancy or childbirth, including abortion)

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000

live and still births — (—)

England and Wales* 0.17 (0.17)

*Calculated from the last four available quarters.

CAUSES OF DEATH

		Male	Female	Total
B4	Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
B5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1 (1)	- (-)	1 (1)
B18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1 (1)	- (-)	1 (1)
B19(1)	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. . . .	1 (1)	- (2)	1 (3)
B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	2 (1)	2 (3)	4 (4)
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4 (2)	2 (6)	6 (8)
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	11 (8)	11 (8)	22 (16)
B19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	21 (25)	6 (8)	27 (33)
B19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1 (-)	19 (17)	20 (17)
B19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	- (-)	1 (1)	1 (1)
B19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	12 (4)	- (-)	12 (4)
B19(10)	Leukaemia	1 (2)	3 (2)	4 (4)
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	21 (18)	22 (17)	43 (35)
B20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	- (1)	1 (2)	1 (3)
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	4 (4)	3 (7)	7 (11)
B46(1)	Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	- (-)	1 (2)	1 (2)
B23	Anaemias	- (-)	1 (3)	1 (3)
B46(3)	Mental Disorders	2 (2)	3 (3)	5 (5)
B24	Meningitis	- (1)	1 (-)	1 (1)
B46(4)	Multiple Sclerosis	1 (1)	1 (2)	2 (3)
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	1 (2)	5 (4)	6 (6)
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1 (5)	5 (7)	6 (12)
B27	Hypertensive Disease	4 (6)	4 (6)	8 (12)
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	99 (93)	73 (69)	172 (162)
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	13 (8)	19 (20)	32 (28)
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	28 (39)	47 (51)	75 (90)
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	11 (12)	22 (23)	33 (35)
B31	Influenza	1 (1)	2 (-)	3 (1)
B32	Pneumonia	33 (26)	51 (25)	84 (51)
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	18 (15)	2 (7)	20 (22)
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1 (5)	2 (3)	3 (8)
B34	Peptic Ulcer	2 (6)	2 (3)	4 (9)
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	- (3)	3 (3)	3 (6)
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver	- (-)	2 (2)	2 (2)
B46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	3 (3)	6 (5)	9 (8)
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1 (-)	- (1)	1 (1)
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1 (1)	- (-)	1 (1)
B46(9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	- (3)	2 (4)	2 (7)
B46(10)	Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	1 (-)	2 (1)	3 (1)
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	- (1)	4 (2)	4 (3)
B42	Congenital Anomalies	2 (3)	3 (3)	5 (6)
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	3 (1)	1 (-)	4 (1)
B45	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1 (3)	4 (4)	5 (7)
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	3 (7)	5 (2)	8 (9)
BE48	All Other Accidents	4 (5)	4 (9)	8 (14)
BE49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	4 (3)	- (3)	4 (6)
TOTAL ALL CAUSES		318 (331)	348 (341)	666 (672)

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

	Notifications According to Age Groups							Incidence Rate per 10,000 Population	
	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 & over	Total	Chelmsford Rural District	England & Wales
Measles	—	9	2	—	3	1	16*	2.1	29.7
Dysentery	—	3	—	5	—	12	20	2.7	1.8
Scarlet Fever	—	2	10	1	—	—	14*	1.9	2.2
Whooping Cough	2	1	1	—	—	1	5	0.7	0.4
Infective Jaundice	—	2	6	8	4	8	28	3.8	2.4
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	—	—	—	—	1	10	11	1.5	1.7
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.001
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.02
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.03
Food Poisoning	—	1	—	—	3	1	5	0.7	1.1
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0.1	0.0008

*Total includes 1 case age not known.

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to the Chief Engineer (Distribution) of the Essex Water Company for the following information on the water supply:

"The water supply of the district in 1972 has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. No contamination has been shown by the bacteriological and chemical tests of the supply which have been carried out regularly during the year. The number of dwellings supplied by standpipe is negligible. The fluoride content of the water varies between 0.22 and 0.30 mgm/litre."

Bacteriological Results on Final Water Leaving River Works. 1972

	Total Number of Samples	Average* Plate Count per ml 24h/37°C	Coliform Organisms		E.coli	
			Maximum MPN/100ml	Absent in 100ml % of Samples	Maximum MPN/100ml	Absent in 100ml % of Samples
Langham	312	17	3	99.0	3	99.0
Layer	312	17	0	100	0	100
Hanningfield	312	8	2	99.1	2	99.1

SEWERAGE

(The following information has been provided by the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

Public sewers are provided in the more populous areas of the following parishes:-

Great Baddow	Pleshey
Little Baddow	Rettendon (part)
Boreham	Roxwell
Broomfield	Runwell
Danbury	Sandon
Good Easter	Stock
South Hanningfield	Great Waltham
(Ramsden Heath and	Little Waltham
Downham area)	Woodham Ferrers and
Highwood and Loves Green	Bicknacre
Ingatestone and Fryerning	Writtle
Mountnessing	
Margaretting	

Schemes are being prepared for the Parishes of Great and Little Leighs, the Ford End and Howe Street area of Great Waltham, East Hanningfield, Rettendon Bell area, West Hanningfield and North Springfield area.

**NUMBER OF DWELLINGS AND ESTIMATED
POPULATION IN EACH PARISH AT
31st DECEMBER, 1972**

Parish	Number of Dwellings	Estimated Population
Great Baddow	6,823	19,347
Little Baddow	552	1,561
Boreham	901	2,994
Broomfield	1,232	3,760
Chignal	125	353
Danbury	1,863	5,307
Good Easter	162	458
East Hanningfield	249	747
South Hanningfield	849	2,492
West Hanningfield	555	1,569
Highwood	256	724
Ingatestone and Fryerning	1,809	5,187
Great and Little Leighs	364	1,029
Margaretting	383	1,083
Mashbury	40	113
Mountnessing	476	1,346
Pleshey	118	334
Rettendon	527	1,490
Roxwell	418	1,182
Runwell	1,271	4,771
Sandon	427	1,332
Springfield	390	1,103
Stock	650	1,881
Great Waltham	804	2,273
Little Waltham	499	1,411
Woodham Ferrers	1,759	4,996
Writtle	2,012	5,899
 TOTAL	 25,514	 74,742

ANNUAL REPORT
of
Chief Health Inspector,
Director of Public Cleansing
and Petroleum Inspector

To the Chairman and Members of the Chelmsford Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1972.

The pattern of our work took its usual form, with the meat inspection and the public cleansing services continuing to be the dominant factors. An over-riding consideration throughout the year, however, was the forthcoming re-organisation of local government — the impact of which was still, at the end of the year, indeterminate.

I record my appreciation of thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the continued support and encouragement to me and to the work of the department. To Dr. Hassan, I express my thanks for his help and guidance at all times and to Mr. Smart, my Deputy, and to all other members of the staff, my appreciation is due for their work in such a wide range of duties.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. H. C. BARTROP

INSPECTION WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE HEALTH INSPECTORS

The following table gives details of the housing work carried out during the year.

1.	Inspection of Dwelling-Houses:-	
	(1) Number of inspections for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	270
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
	(3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation . . .	29
2.	Remedy of defects without service of formal notices:-	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	16
3.	Action under statutory powers:-	
	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied . . .	2
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
	By Owners	2
	Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing Act, 1957:-	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
	(2) Number of houses closed as a result of Closing Orders	Nil
	(3) Number of part-houses (underground room) closed as a result of Closing Orders	Nil
	(4) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders:-	
	By Owners	Nil
	(5) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit for human habitation as a result of owners complying with undertakings to carry out works of repair	11
	(6) Number of houses demolished by owners as a result of informal action	4

PARTICULARS OF INSPECTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1972

HOUSING

Closet Conversions	89
Drainage — Non-Sewer	832
Drainage — Sewer	191
Sewer Connections	40
Surface Water	64
Grants — Standard	174
Grants — Special	5
Housing Inspections —	
Housing Acts	870
Housing Inspections —	
Public Health Acts	62
Housing Reinspections —	
Housing Acts	236
Housing Reinspections —	
Public Health Acts	116
Multiple Occupation	2
Overcrowding	1
Water — Mains	43
Water — Non-Mains	19
Water — Sampling	49
Water Closets	13

SPECIAL PREMISES

Factory — Power	98
Farm/Sanitary Accommodation	1
Moveable Dwellings	33
Moveable Dwelling Sites	70
Offices and Shops	422
Outworkers	1
Piggeries	42
Poultry/Broiler Houses	20
Schools	7
Swimming Pools — School	53
Swimming Pools — Private	—
Swimming Pools — Testing	42
Waste Foods Order	9

FOOD

Bakery	22
Butcher	59
Canteen/Catering	112

Confectioner/Baker	25
Fish Shop — Wet	5
Fish Shop — Fried	6
Food Factory	5
Food Poisoning	1
Greengrocer	25
Grocer/General Provisions	161
Ice Cream — Samples	22
Ice Cream — General	7
Licensed Premises	137
Meat Inspection	1,402
Miscellaneous Food Visits	29
Poultry — Inspection	1
Poultry — Processing Plant	9
School Catering	118
Slaughterhouse Inspection	21
Stalls, Mobile Shops	15
Unfit Food Surrender	61
Unsatisfactory Food	64

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Administration	134
Collection	88
Disposal	114
Civic Amenities	217

MISCELLANEOUS

Air Pollution — Clean Air	174
Air Pollution — National Survey	60
Infectious Disease	7
Insect Pests	47
Keeping Animals	55
Miscellaneous	599
Noise	220
Pests Act	72
Petroleum	296

Total 8,198

PARTICULARS OF NOTICES FOR THE YEAR 1972

	SERVED		COMPLIED WITH OR CANCELLED	
	STATUTORY	INFORMAL	STATUTORY	INFORMAL
Structural Defects . .	—	23	—	18
Water Closets	3	1	16	—
House Drainage	—	17	4	10
Other Drainage	—	5	—	3
Urinals	—	—	—	1
Pests	—	1	—	1
Moveable Dwellings	—	4	—	1
Slaughterhouses . . .	—	2	—	—
Food Premises	—	66	—	84
Power Factories . . .	—	3	—	2
Ashbins	—	—	—	2
Miscellaneous	—	12	—	12
TOTALS	3	134	20	134

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Section 47 (Closet Conversions)

The construction of sewers in areas of older development leads to the necessity of converting various types of closets to water closets and the Council is in these cases able to make grants under section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, towards the cost. Alternatively, this work may be included in an application for an improvement grant. During the year, two pail/chemical closets were noted on our records as converted to water closets and connected to the main sewer as a result of action under section 47.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS

Discretionary Improvement Grants continued to be the concern of the Engineer and Surveyor's Department and Standard Grants of this Department.

The following table gives information on the use made of this scheme during the year:-

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Applications received	183
Applications approved —	
Owner/occupiers	104
Others	46
Amount approved	£112,872

STANDARD GRANTS

Applications received	47
Applications approved —	
Owner/occupiers	24
Others	9
Grants paid	32
Amount paid	£6,498
Standard amenities provided —	
Bathrooms	8
Fixed bath or shower in a bathroom	20
Wash basin	23
Sinks	1
Hot water supply	27
Water closet	21
Septic Tank/Cesspool	9
Piped Water Supply	1

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

During the year, twenty-eight Site Licences were in force.

The conditions attached to these licences are based on the Model Conditions, modified where necessary in respect of individual sites.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Site Licences</i>	<i>No. of Caravans</i>
Gt. Baddow	1	1
Boreham	2	24
West Hanningfield	5	296
Highwood	1	4
Margaretting	2	4
Mashbury	1	1
Mountnessing	1	1
Rettendon	3	18
Sandon	2	7
Springfield	1	1
Lt. Waltham	1	2
Woodham Ferrers	3	3
Writtle	2	3
	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 365

Sites licensed for summer months only

Little Baddow	1	20
Rettendon	2	177
	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 197

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1933

Ice Cream

The number of registered premises at the end of 1972 was 127.

The retailers' sources of supply and premises are investigated before certificates are issued.

Ice Cream Sampling

The following is a summary of the results obtained from the examination of 86 samples of ice cream and ice lollies during 1972.

Ice Cream

Ministry of Health Provisional Grading

I	II	III	IV	Total
62	6	1	—	69

Ice Lollies and Cream Lollies:

Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
17	—	17

Of these samples, 66 were obtained from fixed premises and 20 from mobile vans.

CONDEMNED FOODSTUFFS

During 1972, the following food (other than meat and offal in slaughterhouses) was condemned as unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered by the owners concerned.

	Pounds
Cooked meat, preserved meat and other meat products21
Canned meat	1,199
Canned fruit and vegetables671
Fish35
Apples	8,940
Jam7
Sage3
Frozen food	1,185 packs
Yoghurt	6 cartons
Yeast	15 packets

WATER SAMPLING

During 1972, a total of 57 samples of mains, well and spring water were taken as follows:

Samples for bacteriological examination from mains supplies	35
Samples for chemical and bacteriological examination from mains supplies	3
Samples for bacteriological examination from well or spring supply	18
Samples for chemical and bacteriological examination from well or spring supply	1

The number of mains samples now taken is much fewer because the Essex Water Company undertake their own sampling of new and replacement mains.

MILK SUPPLY

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is responsible for the supervision of dairy farms. This Council, under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, is responsible for the registration of distributors of milk and for the registration of dairy premises. The Essex County Council, under the Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Regulations, 1963, is responsible for issuing dealer's licences and supplementary licences.

BAKEHOUSES

The following table shows the number of bakehouses in use at the end of the year:-

Great Baddow	Carters (Gt. Baddow) Ltd.
Broomfield	G. H. Follett.
Ingatstone and Fryerning	E. Warder.
	S. Raven.
Rettendon	H. and E. Benson.
Great Waltham	Bigg Bros.
Little Waltham	E. W. Amos, Ltd.
Woodham Ferrers	Taylor and Woodland.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1970

Regulation 18 requires the provision of wash-hand basins together with an adequate supply either of hot and cold water or of hot water at a suitably controlled temperature (except that cold water only is required when no open food handled) and soap (or detergent), nail brushes and drying facilities.

Regulation 21 requires the provision of facilities for washing food and equipment by means of sinks provided (with certain exceptions) with either hot and cold water or of hot water at a suitably controlled temperature, together with soap (or detergent) and clean cloths or other adequate and suitable cleaning and drying facilities.

	Number of Premises
Bakery	11
Confectioner/Baker	37
Canteen/Catering	98
Butcher	28
Fish Shops	7
Grocer/General Provisions	101
Greengrocer	15
Licensed Premises	119
Miscellaneous	17
TOTAL	433

All the premises comply with Regulations 18 and 21.

SWIMMING POOLS

There is no public swimming pool in the District. The number of small, private swimming pools (often pre-fabricated) continues to grow and although there is no control over these, we have been pleased to advise on sterilisation and other problems in some cases. A number of schools, state and private, are also being provided with swimming pools. Regular testing (for chlorine content and pH) is carried out at these pools.

POULTRY INSPECTION

The difficulties of providing a local authority-based inspection service for poultry may be gauged by the fact that the output from one premises alone is nearly 7,000,000 birds a year. At these premises, the firm's own inspection and quality control service is checked from time to time and considered to be a satisfactory one. The premises were purpose-built and the standard of the equipment and hygiene is of a high order. The percentage of birds rejected was 0.20.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following information is taken from the Annual Report for 1972 submitted to the Ministry of Labour under section 60 of the Act. The figures for 1971 are given in brackets.

Registrations and General Inspections:

	No. of premises registered during the year		No. of registered premises at end of the year		No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection	
Offices	15	(14)	88	(75)	28	(22)
Retail shops	27	(38)	185	(190)	56	(124)
Wholesale shops, warehouses	10	(1)	14	(9)	11	(4)
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	11	(7)	43	(38)	17	(12)
Fuel storage depots	1	(-)	2	(1)	1	(1)
	64	(60)	332	(313)	113	(163)

The number of visits of all kinds to registered premises was 422 (431).

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace:

Class of Workplace	Persons Employed
Offices	787
Retail shops	690
Wholesale departments, warehouses	90
Catering establishments open to the public	260
Canteens	27
Fuel storage depots	8
	<hr/> 1,862 <hr/>

This total is made up of 973 males and 889 females.

Two accidents (non-fatal) were reported and investigated during the year.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health including inspections made by Health Inspectors.

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	245	98	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority) excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	245	98	3	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Insufficient	3	2	—	—	—
Conveniences Unsuitable or defective (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	2	—	—	—

OUTWORK

	Section 133				Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole-some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)	
(1)							
Drapery & Furnishing ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	
Wearing apparel	4	—	—	—	—	—	
Miscellaneous	6	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTAL	15	—	—	—	—	—	

AIR POLLUTION

1972 was the eighth full year in which the semi-automatic smoke and sulphur dioxide recording instrument at the Water Tower, Mountnessing, was in operation. The readings for the month of October, 1971, were incomplete owing to a technical fault in the apparatus and have to be disregarded. The readings for the months of February and March, 1972, were incomplete owing to the disruption of the power supply as a result of the coal-miners strike; consequently, the yearly average cannot be calculated and used for comparative purposes.

All that one can say is that the smoke concentrations showed similarities with those in 1971 and that the sulphur dioxide concentrations showed a number of significant reductions.

The mean daily recordings for each month of these years is set out below, from which it will be seen that the seasonal pattern of smoke and sulphur dioxide concentrations continues.

Arithmetic Means of Daily concentrations in micrograms per cubic metre.

Smoke	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
January	45	53	43	35	30	36	28	27
February	41	26	36	31	72	38	28	-
March	37	33	13	17	22	15	16	-
April	19	17	13	17	11	13	12	5
May	14	13	10	11	6	11	8	8
June	10	12	10	9	6	8	8	9
July	9	10	10	8	7	8	8	8
August	13	12	10	10	8	9	9	11
September	24	18	15	12	11	11	20	19
October	34	21	14	18	24	17	-	13
November	46	42	33	43	24	20	23	24
December	59	23	46	25	37	33	25	22
Year	29	23	21	20	21	18	17	-
Sulphur Dioxide	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
January	82	75	101	89	91	74	99	76
February	52	62	81	78	95	79	92	-
March	84	86	60	56	53	64	65	-
April	48	50	44	65	52	63	50	39
May	45	47	56	47	57	49	49	41
June	36	47	60	52	51	71	43	50
July	38	41	70	45	68	48	54	46
August	41	41	62	43	56	52	58	42
September	60	50	49	47	49	63	69	45
October	39	47	56	60	66	61	-	49
November	56	75	76	50	71	75	76	79
December	110	91	104	66	95	84	78	71
Year	58	59	68	58	67	65	67	-

MEAT INSPECTION

The meat inspection service was again maintained throughout the year and every animal slaughtered in the District for human consumption received a detailed inspection in accordance with the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963. The total number of animals slaughtered and inspected was 109,445 (113,267 in 1971) and the amount of meat and edible offal found diseased, unsound or unfit for human consumption totalled 83 tons 70 lb (85 tons 3 cwt 82 lb in 1971).

The number of animals inspected and affected with disease, etc., are set out in the following Table I, the figures in brackets relating to the year 1971.

TABLE I — Animals inspected and number affected with disease, etc.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number inspected	7,769 (6,599)	897 (1,988)	46 (188)	28,226 (29,782)	72,505 (74,710)	2 (—)
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS						
Whole carcasses condemned	1 (5)	3 (2)	6 (5)	1 (12)	144 (145)	— (—)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,064 (1,814)	413 (903)	1 (4)	5,905 (4,045)	29,223 (24,460)	— (—)
Percentage of the number inspected affected	26.6 (27.3)	46.4 (45.5)	15.2 (4.8)	20.9 (13.6)	40.5 (32.9)	— (—)
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses condemned	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	5 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1,066* (1,141*)	— (—)
Percentage of the number inspected affected	0.06 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	1.5* (1.5*)	— (—)

*This figure includes reference to cases of *Corynebacterium equi*, which is difficult to distinguish from tuberculosis with the resources available.

The amount of tubercular meat (4 tons 18 cwts. 65 lb) was approximately 6.4% of the total, compared with 6.5% in 1971.

After four successive years in which no evidence of tuberculosis in adult cattle was found, there were five cases in which evidence of tuberculosis was found in the sub-maxillary lymph glands. This necessitated the condemnation of the affected heads and tongues, a total weight of 120 lb. The earlier continuing decline in the incidence of disease generally, which was noted in last year's report, was halted and there were, in fact, some increases. To put these into perspective, the following table indicates the percentage of the number of animals inspected which were affected with diseases, etc., other than tuberculosis:

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
1972	26.6	46.4	15.2	20.9	40.5
1971	27.3	45.5	4.8	13.6	32.9
1970	40.0	45.7	5.3	17.4	40.7
1969	40.0	60.0	8.4	27.5	42.5
1968	38.0	45.8	4.4	25.5	40.0

Four bovine carcasses were found to be affected with the viable parasite *Cysticercus bovis* which causes the condition commonly known as "measly beef".

All the meat condemned was voluntarily surrendered by those concerned and it was not necessary to resort to any legal action.

The inspection staff continued to keep detailed records of the amount and reasons for condemnations and I am grateful to them for their care and thoroughness in this matter. The annual survey of the causes for the various condemnations is set out in the following Table II.

TABLE II — Number of condemnations and reasons therefor.

CATTLE, INCLUDING COWS

No. of whole or parts		No. of whole or parts	
HEAD		LUNGS	
Abscesses	3	Abscesses	23
Actinobacillosis/ Actinomycosis	9	Actinomycosis	1
Blood splashing	1	Congestion	17
Contamination	7	Contamination	49
Cysticercus bovis	5	Cysts	10
Melanosis	1	Distomatosis	18
Tuberculosis	5	Emphysema	15
Tumour	1	Melanosis	3
		Pleurisy	126
		Pneumonia	95
		Tumour	1
HEART		SKIRT	
Blood splashing	1	Abscesses	3
Contamination	2	Blood splashing	9
Cysticercus bovis	3	Contamination	11
Endocarditis	1	Cysticercus bovis	2
Melanosis	1	Interstitial myositis	1
Parasites (other)	1	Peritonitis	22
Pericarditis	24		
Xanthosis	1	TAIL	
		Contamination	1
KIDNEY		TONGUE	
Abscesses	1	Abscesses	2
Congestion	2	Actinobacillosis/ Actinomycosis	9
Cysts	12	Cysticercus bovis	5
Hydrophrenosis	3	Melanosis	1
Nephritis	75	Traumatism	3
Petechial haemorrhage	2	Tuberculosis	5
		Tumours	1
LIVER		PARTS OF CARCASSES	
Abscesses	583	Arthritis	7
Bacterial necrosis	1	Bruising	5
Cirrhosis	8	Fat Necrosis	1
Contamination	3	Fracture	1
Cysts	2	Oedema	1
Degeneration	37		
Distomatosis	1,273	CARCASSES AND ALL ORGANS	
Hepatitis	6	Fevered	1
Melanosis	3	Lymphosarcoma	1
Parasites (other)	30	Odour	1
Telangiectasis	78	Oedema	1

CALVES

PARTS OF CARCASSES

Pneumonia1

CARCASSES AND ALL ORGANS

Jaundice1
Joint Ill2
Odour1
Oedema1
Septicaemia1

SHEEP AND LAMBS

HEART

Blood splashing29
Cysticercus ovis20
Pericarditis1

PLUCKS

Contamination25
Inflammation38
Parasites20

LIVER

Distomatosis535
Parasites (other)4,364

PARTS OF CARCASSES

Abscesses6
Arthritis2
Blood splashing1
Bruising1
Oedema2

LUNGS

Contamination5
Parasites1,066
Pneumonia214

CARCASSES AND ALL ORGANS

Emaciation1

PIGS

FLARE

Abscesses44
Contamination54
Inflammation3,028

KIDNEY

Cysts450
Infarcts40
Nephritis546
Pyelonephritis6
Petechial haemorrhage22

HEAD AND TONGUE

Abscesses72
Bruising3
Tuberculosis881

LIVER

Ascarides15,865
Cirrhosis2,576

HEART

Endocarditis7
Pericarditis721

LUNGS

Congestion5,937
Pleurisy1,260
Pneumonia9,707

PIGS *continued*

No. of whole or parts		No. of whole or parts	
MESENTERY		CARCASES AND ALL ORGANS	
Abscesses	.4	Abscesses, multiple	.7
Odour	.25	Bruising, extensive	.3
Peritonitis	2,082	Congestion	.11
Tuberculosis	.486	Cysticercus cellulosae	.2
PLUCKS		Emaciation	.30
Inflammation	3,043	Fever	.8
Odour	.25	Jaundice	.3
PARTS OF CARCASSES		Lymphosarcoma	.2
Abscesses	.261	Odour	.2
Arthritis	.532	Oedema	.24
Atrophy	.2	Pyæmia	.26
Bruising	.63	Septic arthritis	.2
Contamination	.1	Septic metritis	.1
Fracture	.23	Septic pericarditis	.1
Interstitial myositis	.2	Septic peritonitis	.5
Oedema	.2	Septic pleurisy	.1
Peritonitis	.8	Septic pneumonia	.8
Pleurisy	.6	Swine erysipelas	.2
Pneumonia	.1	Uraemia	.6
Skin rash	.25		
Swine erysipelas	.8		

This report shows, in my opinion, that the high standard of this Council's meat inspection service has been maintained and the Council, and the consumer public, may be assured that all meat that goes out of this District is inspected by a qualified inspectorate working with a skill and thoroughness that such an essential public service demands.

Slaughterhouses

J. Copsey and Sons Ltd., "Rothmans", High Street,
Great Baddow.

F. D. Mahoney, Ltd., Ramsden Heath.

Slaughtermen's Licences

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958, the department is responsible for the issue of licences to and the supervision of slaughtermen practising within the District. In 1972 nineteen licences were issued.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1950

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

This Order prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste foods to certain animals or to poultry and requires, in general, all premises where waste food boiling is carried out to be licensed with the local authority. The Order also contains other controls designed to prevent the spread of foot-and-mouth and other diseases.

There are four licensed boiling plants in this District.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT, 1963

This Act provides, with a few exceptions, for the annual licensing of boarding establishments for cats and dogs.

Conditions are attached to each licence and these have regard to the accommodation, control of infection, food and drink, fire precautions, exercising facilities and other allied matters.

The Council has appointed Messrs. Fairhead, Felgate, and Smith, M's.R.C.V.S., as Veterinary Officers. All the premises, prior to and after licensing, are inspected and reported upon by the Veterinary Officers.

At the end of the year, fifteen licences were in force, distributed as follows:-

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Aston, Longmead, Stock Road, Galleywood.
Mrs. J. M. Lee, Springwood Boarding Cattery, Chignal.
Mr. J. L. Marfleet, Bonteel Cattery, Old Barn Lane,
Rettendon Common. (East Hanningfield parish)
Mr. J. H. Bailey, Ladybird Kennels, Roman Road, Ingatestone.
Mr. and Mrs. L. Seager, Disney Kennels, Main Road, Widford.
(Margaretting parish)
Messrs. P. Blow and T. D. Lockett, Eastfields, Main Road, Margaretting.
Mrs. M. Neave and Miss P. M. Neave, Buckhatch Farm,
Rettendon Common, Rettendon.
Mr. and Mrs. G. Lindsey, Gayfields Kennels, Woodham Road,
Battlesbridge, Rettendon.
Mr. and Mrs. I. Frith, Salcombe Kennels, Chalk Street, Rettendon.
Mr. R. O. Goodrich and Mrs. R. L. Goodrich, Chelmerton Kennels,
Roxwell Road, Roxwell.
Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Burrell, 66 Church End Lane, Runwell.
Miss J. E. Heard, Jeaneves Kennels, Hall Lane, Sandon.
Mrs. C. Swift, Greenwoods Farm, Stock.
Mrs. M. Bailey, Fairybridge Kennels, Domsey Lane, Little Waltham.
Mrs. M. R. Iggulden, Beguinette Poodles, The Hickerage,
Roxwell Road, Writtle.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

The refuse collection service continued to expand to meet the new development throughout the District. At the end of the year, approximately 109 (460 in 1971) premises were receiving a fortnightly service, 26,317 (26,365) a weekly service and 189 (160) a twice-weekly service. The figures for 1972 relate to actual premises.

It was not possible to maintain a fixed day collection service throughout the year due to an increase in the amount of labour lost through sickness and other causes. We were able to recruit six students as temporary collectors during the holiday season.

A work study scheme was introduced in May, 1972, which incorporated changes in the routes and crew sizes. From the first week of implementation of the scheme, difficulties were experienced resulting in some 2,500 dwellings not receiving a collection service during the first week. In spite of overtime working, this situation prevailed during the ensuing weeks, resulting in a withdrawal of labour by refuse collectors during the tenth week of implementation.

In view of the adverse effect on the service and increasing concern within the department, it was decided to abandon the fundamental changes of a reduced number of routes with increased team sizes and remodel the work study scheme along the previous lines of two and three men crews.

The skip (bin-site) system of collection still operated generally throughout the District, but the trial scheme in the parish of Roxwell utilising plastic sacks as bin liners continued satisfactorily.

The collection service was improved in some parishes by replacing a fortnightly service with a weekly service. With the exception of some 109 isolated properties, all areas received a weekly service.

Collections from fenced compounds containing refuse sacks on stands sited on certain unmade roads in the parishes of Woodham Ferrers, Rettendon and Runwell continued.

The system of collection of refuse sacks from a purpose built compound to serve Runwell Hospital continued.

The bulk container system continued to expand and at the end of the year 149 containers (1½ cubic yards) on hire from the Council and a further 13 containers publicly or privately-owned were serviced regularly, in many cases twice-weekly. These containers are sited to serve schools, flats, offices, shops and trade premises.

The special collection service continued and 2,324 requests were dealt with during the year. Requests from householders for the special collection of any bulky item of refuse, including unwanted furniture, washing machines, refrigerators and the like were dealt with within a few days, free-of-charge, using a vehicle specially allocated for the purpose. This service is greatly appreciated by the public and helps to reduce indiscriminate dumping.

Tribute is paid to the success of the Joint Works Committee in maintaining good industrial relations with the refuse collection workmen. This Committee, which is formed from the elected men's representatives, shop stewards and members of the staff, meets to discuss day-to-day problems and possible grievances. The establishment at the end of 1972 was as follows:

- 24 Heavy Refuse Collection Vehicle Drivers
- 25 Refuse Collectors
- 1 Tip Attendant
- 1 Mechanical Shovel Driver
- 2 Fitter/Mechanics
- Depot Clerk
- Depot Hand
- Public Cleansing Inspector
- Public Cleansing Depot Superintendent.

Public Cleansing Depot

The accommodation includes garages, workshop, stores, offices, workmen's messroom, locker room, clothes drying room, sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, vehicle washdown bay, deisel storage tank and electric pump and parking areas for workmen's cars and collection vehicles.

The workshop is fully equipped with heavy duty vehicle lift, compressed air equipment, steam cleaner and welding equipment.

Improvements carried out during the year included the installation of an underground diesel storage tank and electric pump on an island site; a heavy duty vehicle steam cleaning ramp; extension of the workmen's car park and extension of the office facilities by way of a mobile office transferred from the Council's Engineering Depot.

Refuse Disposal

Most of the refuse collection was disposed of by controlled tipping in a worked-out gravel pit off Little Waltham Road, Broomfield, purchased by the Council in 1960. A small quantity, mostly arising from the parishes of Roxwell and Writtle, was also disposed of at Boyton Cross gravel pits by arrangement with the Chelmsford Borough Council.

Refuse arriving at the tip is not weighed as a routine practice, but using the formula of 265 tons per 1,000 population per year, a figure of 19,080 tons is obtained.

The facilities for disposal at Broomfield tip are nearly exhausted and it is doubtful if any capacity will be available beyond April, 1974.

The procedures specified in the Code of Practice are, with one or two minor exceptions, adopted at the Council's tip. The only difficulties which have arisen were in respect of windborne paper and litter and vehicle access to the tip face during inclement weather.

The continued development in the District has produced an increasing volume of trade refuse to be disposed of and stricter controls were imposed.

No radioactive waste or abandoned vehicle bodies were disposed of at the tip but carcasses of dogs, cats and other small animals from veterinary surgeons practices and from road accidents were satisfactorily dealt with.

Transport

The transport for the public cleansing service is set out in Table I. The fleet was augmented during the year by a Norba/Dennis 60, an S. & D. Revopak, a Ford Transit lightweight tipper, a Bedford 16 ton g.v.w. with Sheppard Rolonoff equipment and a Dennis/Paxit 70 fitted with bulk container lifting equipment hydraulics.

Vehicle No. 23, an S. & D. Fore-and-Aft tipper, was taken out of service and sold as scrap and vehicle No. 24, a Bedford 15 cwt. truck, was taken out of service and sold.

All repairs and maintenance of the vehicles operated by the Department, with the exception of major overhauls to the packer-box assemblies on the Pakamatic vehicles, are carried out in the Depot workshop.

Radio Communication

Overall communications have been considerably improved by the introduction of radio communication and, in particular, between the Depot in Baddow Road and the tip at Broomfield. Not only have savings in both time and mileage been effected in the day-to-day running of the section, but it has also been possible in small ways to improve the service — by being able to leave messages for vehicle drivers at the tip, as well as to summon aid to any vehicle in trouble.

Traffic Accidents

It is very pleasing to be able to report that traffic accidents, despite an increased mileage, have not increased; in fact, the total number reported was 16, one less than in 1971. When operating on our present scale, under present conditions, some mishaps are inevitable but I feel that the number is minimal in the circumstances. Only one case of serious damage occurred and no blame whatsoever was attached to our driver.

The Indiscriminate Dumping of Refuse

No real solution has been found to the problem of the indiscriminate dumping of refuse and litter on waste land, roadside verges and laybys, in spite of the expansion of the free service and facilities offered by the Council.

Any dumps or accumulations of litter brought to the notice of the Department by Parish Councils, local organisations or individual members of the public are dealt with as expeditiously as possible. Large warning notices have been erected on many troublesome spots. Litter containers are provided and serviced on laybys, utilising paper sacks on purpose-made stands. A warning notice prohibiting dumping alongside the stands is erected at each layby.

Several parishes took advantage of the Council's offer to station a collection vehicle on a selected site on a pre-arranged date to which members of the public could take their bulky items of refuse for disposal.

The refuse tip at Broomfield was available to members of the public from the Chelmsford Rural District to deposit bulky house refuse from Monday to Friday and on Saturday mornings. Some restrictions were imposed in an attempt to prevent dumping of trade and domestic waste arising from other areas.

In addition, large capacity bulk containers are provided on eight sites in the parishes of Broomfield, Ingatestone, Boreham, Great Baddow, Little Waltham, Writtle and Woodham Ferrers. These containers, which vary in size from 14 cubic yards to 20 cubic yards, are available to the local residents and are serviced by private contractors on a weekly or twice-weekly basis. It is hoped to introduce a direct labour scheme using Council-owned equipment during 1973.

TABLE I — PUBLIC CLEANSING TRANSPORT

Fleet No.	Type	Carrying Capacity cu. yds	Date purchased	Mileage 1972
22	Shelvoke and Drewry Fore-and-Aft Tipper	25	1964	5,511
23*	Shelvoke and Drewry Fore-and-Aft Tipper	25	1964	440
24*	Bedford 15 cwt. Truck	—	1965	1,361
25	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1965	2,632
26	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1966	5,128
28	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1967	5,679
29	Shelvoke and Drewry Fore-and-Aft Tipping bulk loader	25	1968	4,303
30	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1968	5,733
31	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1968	7,810
32	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1968	7,093
33	B.M.C. Eagle Body Side Loader	7	1968	11,642
34	B.M.C. Mini Pick-up Truck	—	1969	7,783
35	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1969	5,547
36	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1969	8,130
37	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1969	7,387
38	Landrover Truck	—	1970	6,870
39	B.M.C. Mini Pick-up Truck	—	1970	8,457
40	Ford Transit Truck	—	1970	14,741
41	Norba/Dennis	50	1970	6,775
42	Norba/Dennis	50	1970	7,350
43	Dennis Paxit 70	70	1971	10,231
44	Norba/Dennis	60	1971	6,023
45	Norba/Dennis	60	1971	6,993
46†	Norba/Dennis	60	1972	3,270
47†	S. & D. Revopak	18 (actual)	1972	4,747
48†	Ford Transit Tipmaster	3 (actual)	1972	2,532
49†	Bedford Sheppard Rolonoff	—	1972	38
50†	Dennis Paxit	70	1972	—
TOTAL				164,206
* Taken out of service during 1972				
† Brought into service during 1972				
Total Mileage 1971				161,119

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

During 1972, 517 applications for the cesspool emptying service were received, distributed as follows:

Great Baddow	10
Little Baddow	41
Boreham	10
Broomfield	3
Chignal	11
Danbury	26
Good Easter	3
East Hanningfield	33
South Hanningfield	43
West Hanningfield	16
Highwood	12
Ingatestone & Fryerning	16
Great & Little Leighs	23
Margaretting	10
Mashbury	2
Mountnessing	14
Pleshey	7
Rettendon	23
Roxwell	15
Runwell	7
Sandon	17
Springfield	7
Stock	78
Great Waltham	54
Little Waltham	6
Woodham Ferrers	11
Writtle	19

517

Since the inception of the scheme on the 18th February, 1963, to the 31st December, 1972, 4,339 applications have been received.

The number received during 1971 was 377.

Nightsoil Collection

A weekly collection of nightsoil from fourteen premises in the Battlesbridge area of Rettendon is carried out by a private contractor, Mr. G. Barker of Steeple.

PEST DESTRUCTION — RATS AND MICE

The number of recorded complaints regarding the presence of rats and mice during 1972 totalled 502, of which 399 related to rats and 103 to mice. This represents an increase of 31% on the 1971 figures. 78 of the complaints referred to Council houses.

The complaints were referred to the Council's contractors (The West Essex Rabbit Clearance Society Limited) for the necessary treatment.

The free issue of poisoned bait from the office has continued and during the year some 200 people used this service.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 & 1936

The programme of routine tests to those petroleum storage tanks which required them due to their age was completed as planned.

There was one incident reported during the year, and this is referred to later.

Table I	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Pressure tests on new tanks	25	10	10	6	6	8
Pressure tests on old tanks	-	19	3	5	5	19
Ullage tests on old tanks	1	3	28	15	19	9
Incidents	2	2	-	-	-	1
General inspections	*	*	46	104	26	81
Number of letters sent concerning contraventions of conditions	*	*	*	5	2	15
Number of visits for all purposes	80	132	211	278	276	296
Number of licences granted during the year	186	178	170	171	166	167

*Records not easily available

Table II

Results of tests carried out on existing petroleum tanks

Number of tanks 20 years old	6	Passed test	6
Number of tanks 25 years old	1	Passed test	1
Number of tanks 32 years old	1	Passed test	1
Number of tanks 34 years old	2	Passed test	2
Number of tanks 36 years old	2	Passed test	2
Number of tanks 38 years old	1	Passed test	1
Number of tanks 42 years old	2	Passed test	-
Number of tanks 44 years old	6	Passed test	5
	21		18

The tanks which failed the test, together with eleven others taken out of use, have been or are to be rendered safe in accordance with the statutory requirements.

The incident mentioned above where petroleum spirit is believed to have been involved was reported to us by the Essex County Fire Brigade as a result of a fire at a house in Runwell.

The house is built with an integral garage and it is believed that petrol fumes within the garage may have been ignited by a spark from an electric drill or by the gas boiler which is also situated in the garage.

