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RURAL DISTRICT OF CHELTENHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1963

Public Health Staff:

STEPHEN KNIGHT

M.B., B.S.(Lond)., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Lexham Lodge, Copt Elm Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.

Telephone: Cheltenham 25746

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector:

E. H. ROSSER

M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.H.E.

Deputy Surveyor/Public Health Inspector

L. GROGAN

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

Additional Public Health Inspectors/Assistant Surveyors

F. H. LEWIS

M.A.P.H.I.

M. M. WIDDOWS

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

R. E. JONES



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CHELTENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the
Cheltenham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report for 1963 on the health, environmental, hygiene and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District. The Report is prepared as required by the Public Health Officers Regulations 1955 and Circular 1/64 of the Ministry of Health.

I am indebted to other officers for many of the particulars contained in the Report, and especially to Mr. E. H. Rosser, the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector, for sections dealing with the work of his department.

The health statistics, such as birth rate, death rate and infant mortality, again are favourable to the District in all respects, and reflect on the well-being of the community.

The District continued free from outbreaks of serious infectious disease, due in no small measure to the excellent response on the part of parents to schemes for immunisation and vaccination.

Considerable progress was made in the Council's programme for providing main sewerage in the villages. At Dumbleton main sewers and disposal works were completed; at Staverton main sewers were laid; and at Ashchurch improvements were made to the disposal works.

The Council built another block of sixteen self-contained flats especially designed to meet the needs of elderly people. Accommodation is provided for a warden, together with communal rooms, suitably modified fittings and such features as an emergency bell system. Housing of this type is invaluable, as it enables the frail and elderly to maintain their independence and carry on in their own homes.


I am grateful to the members of the Council for their continued support and to my colleagues for their ready co-operation throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT.

Medical Officer of Health.



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CHELTENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	81,940
Registrar-General's estimate of mid-year population (including members of the Armed Forces) ..	34,030
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1963)	10,992
Rateable Value (at 31.12.63)	£1,249,696
Sum represented by a penny rate	£5,271

VITAL STATISTICS

These statistics give particulars of the births and deaths in the Rural District.

1. LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	688	344	344
Illegitimate	30	15	15
Total:	<u>718</u>	<u>359</u>	<u>359</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	21.1
Area Comparability Factory (Births)	0.99
Corrected Birth Rate (21.1 x 0.99)	20.9

2. ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS (per cent of Total Live Births) 4.2

3. STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	5	3	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total:	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births: 8.3

4. TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS 724

5. INFANT DEATHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
(i) Deaths of infants under 1 year			
Number: Legitimate	9	5	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>

(ii) Neo-natal Deaths under 4 weeks

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	7	4	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

(iii) Early neo-natal Deaths of infants under 1 week

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	7	4	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

6. INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	.. ..	12.5
Legitimate " " " " Legitimate live births	.. ..	13.1
Illegitimate " " " " Illegitimate live births	.. ..	Nil

7. NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) 9.7

8. EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) 9.7

9. PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) 18.0

10. MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of Deaths.. .. .	None
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil

11. DEATHS

Number	<u>Total</u> 314	<u>Male</u> 156	<u>Female</u> 158
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population			9.2
Area Comparability Factors (Deaths)			1.15
Corrected Death Rate (9.2 x 1.15)			10.6

POPULATION

The population estimated by the Registrar General for mid-1963 is 34,030, as compared with 32,440 for the previous year; the annual increase in population 1,590 becomes larger each year.

BIRTH RATE

Live births numbered 718; thus the Birth Rate is 21.1 per 1,000 population, which compares favourably with the national rate 18.2.

DEATH RATE

314 people died during the year, the Death Rate being 9.2 per 1,000 population, which is lower than 12.2 for England and Wales.

INFANT MORTALITY

Only nine infants under one year of age died during the year, so that the Infant Mortality is at the rate of 12.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, much lower than the national average 21.1.

CANCER

Death Rates from cancer per 1,000 population:

	<u>England & Wales</u>		<u>Cheltenham R.D.</u>	
	<u>Persons</u>		<u>Persons</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cancer of the Lung	0.908	0.152	0.353	0.118
Other cancer	1.508	1.709	1.053	1.647

There is no undue incidence of cancer of the lung or other forms of cancer in the Rural District, as compared with England and Wales.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The causes of death in the following table are classified under the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classification:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasms, stomach	2	3
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	16
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1
16. Diabetes	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	15	23
18. Coronary disease, angina	45	19
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	3
20. Other heart disease	18	26
21. Other circulatory diseases	9	5
22. Influenza	-	2
23. Pneumonia	8	9
24. Bronchitis	8	6
25. Other disease of the respiratory system	1	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	16
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	2
34. All other accidents	6	3
35. Suicide	3	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
Total:	<u>156</u>	<u>158</u>

BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES
IN THE DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
<u>Birth Rate</u> (per 1,000 population)	19.0	19.8	18.8	19.1	21.1
<u>Death Rate</u> (per 1,000 population)	9.7	9.2	9.2	9.0	9.2
<u>Infantile Mortality Rate</u> (per 1,000 live births) (Deaths of infants under 1 year)	18.0	23.5	20.5	29.0	12.5
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate</u> (per 1,000 live births) (Deaths of infants under 1 month)	16.1	18.5	15.3	22.5	9.7

COMPARISON WITH THE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES ETC. FOR 1963

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>County of Glos.</u>	<u>Cheltenham R.D.</u>
<u>Live Birth Rate</u>	18.2	19.25	21.1
<u>Still Birth Rate</u> (per 1,000 total Live and Still Births)	17.3	11.66	8.3
<u>Infantile Mortality Rate</u> (per 1,000 Live Births - deaths of infants under 1 year)	21.1	18.20	12.5
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate</u> (per 1,000 Live Births - deaths of infants under 1 month)	14.2	12.70	9.7
<u>Death Rate</u> (per 1,000 population)	12.2	11.43	9.2

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTION AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1963
(excluding Tuberculosis)

	Under		1 - 4		5 - 14		15 - 24		25 and over		Age unknown		Total	
	1 year													
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	4	2	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	5
Whooping Cough	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
Poliomyelitis, paralytic, non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	4	7	99	95	114	91	3	1	3	1	4	2	227	197
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Under		5 - 14		15 - 44		45 - 64		65 and over		Total	
	5 years											
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	3	1	7
Encephalitis, infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6

Scarlet Fever Only fourteen cases were notified. Nowadays the disease is exceptionally light in incidence and mild in character.

Diphtheria No case has occurred in the District since 1949.

Whooping Cough Only six cases were notified, a tribute to the success of the vaccination campaign.

Measles 424 cases were notified, but there were no deaths. Although the disease has a biennial incidence in a particular locality, as the Rural District is so widely scattered, this feature is lost.

Poliomyelitis No cases were notified.

Food poisoning There were no cases of food poisoning notified, which reflects most favourably upon the high standards of the food trade and the work of the Public Health Inspectors.

Dysentery Only one case of dysentery of a mild type occurred.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the number of children immunised against diphtheria during 1963:

Age at 31.12.63: i.e. born in year	Under		2-4 yrs. 1961-59	5-14 yrs. 1958-49	Under 15 yrs. Total
	1 yr. 1963	1 year 1962			
Primary Immunisation	308	225	29	11	573
Re-inforcing injection	2	153	227	253	635

Table of comparison showing the number of children immunised in 1960, 1961, 1962 and 1963, and the number of births in 1963.

No. of Live Births 1963	Primary Immunisation				Re-inforcing Injection			
	1960	1961	1962	1963	1960	1961	1962	1963
718	504	608	499	573	510	540	766	635

There was a substantial improvement in the number of children immunised in 1963, being approximately 80% of the number of births.

VACCINATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH

Primary Vaccination

Age at 31.12.63 i.e. born in year	Under 1 yr. 1963	1 year 1962	2-4 yrs. 1961-59	5-14 yrs. 1958-49	Under 15 yrs. Total
	307	125	26	5	463

Protection against whooping cough is of the greatest importance in early infancy.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following table sets out the details of the records of vaccination received during the year:-

	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15 or over	Total
Vaccination	38	71	8	14	5	136
Re-vaccination	-	-	-	-	1	1

Vaccination against smallpox is now recommended in the second year.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases

Children

	0-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	All persons
Respiratory	-	-	5
Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-	-
Other forms	-	-	1
			Total: 6

Deaths

	Male	Female
Respiratory	-	-
Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-
Other forms	-	-

Tuberculosis Register

The number of cases on the register at 31st December, 1963, was as follows:-

Male	Pulmonary		Total	Male	Non-pulmonary		Total	All forms Total
	Female	Total			Female	Total		
48	34	82	2	9	11	93		

There were no deaths from either respiratory or other forms of tuberculosis, but six new cases were notified, demonstrating that sources of infection in the community do exist. Treatment today is rapid and effective and tuberculosis could be eliminated if the preventive measures were fully implemented. Full support for Mass Radiography, tracing contacts and B.C.G. vaccination is essential.

Food and Drugs Act 1938 - Clean Food and Food Hygiene

Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are in force for securing hygienic methods in the handling, wrapping and delivery of food for sale in the open air. The Food Hygiene Regulations require that clean food should be dealt with only by clean persons in clean premises, using clean equipment.

Food shops and similar establishments are inspected regularly to ensure that food is wholesome and that the premises comply with requirements.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47 - Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons
in need of care and attention

National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951 - Section 1

These Acts give local authorities power to apply to the Courts for the compulsory removal of aged or sick persons who are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people, proper care and attention. It was not necessary to take action for the compulsory removal of any person to hospital, but a number of persons were kept under observation.

The Home Help Service and Old People's Welfare Committee have been of great assistance to many elderly people, enabling them to carry on in their own homes.

Old People's Welfare Committee

The Council have set up an Old People's Welfare Committee to co ordinate the efforts of voluntary workers on behalf of old people in the Rural District. This Committee has proved most useful, it meets quarterly and is attended by representatives from each parish, who report on the local situation.

Problem Families

The scheme agreed between the County Council and District Council for the rehabilitation of problem families, continued to operate during the year. Under the scheme, the County Council guarantee 75% of the rent if the case is accepted. When arrears of rent are such as to render a family liable to eviction from a Council house, the circumstances are reported to the County Social Welfare Officer.

There were 40 families under supervision at the beginning of the year. Eighteen families were successfully rehabilitated, the arrears of rent being cleared and the problems in the home resolved. Eleven new cases were accepted and at the end of the year, thirty three families were being supervised.

By means of this scheme, active measures are taken to help problem families towards rehabilitation.

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

Samples of water, milk and ice-cream and pathological specimens are sent for bacteriological analysis to the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford. The laboratory is part of the Public Health Laboratory Service of the Ministry of Health and no charge is made for making use of its services.

Specimens for chemical examination are submitted to the City Analyst, Bristol or to the County and City Analyst, Worcester.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This service is organised by the County Council and a charge is made according to a scale of assessment.

The Home Help takes over the running of the home where the housewife is temporarily incapacitated through illness. As noted elsewhere, the Service is very useful to old people who can no longer manage because of infirmity.

Appeals for assistance from the Home Help Service should be made to the Divisional Health Office, Council Offices, Copt Elm Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. Telephone number:- Cheltenham 25746 and 25747.

Nursing in the Home

The area is covered by the District Nursing Association under the control of the County Council. Information is available from the Council Offices or the Divisional Health Office, Charlton Kings.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

Gloucestershire County Council

Apperley	2nd Wednesday and last Thursday
Ashchurch	Alternate Tuesdays
Bishops Cleeve	Each Wednesday
Dumbleton	4th Friday
Leckhampton	Each Friday
Prestbury	Each Tuesday
The Reddings	2nd and 4th Thursdays
Shurdington	1st and 3rd Wednesdays
Stanway	2nd Friday
Twynning	2nd Thursday
Warden Hill	Each Tuesday
Winchcombe	1st and 3rd Tuesdays
Witcombe & Bentham	1st and 3rd Tuesdays
Gotherington (Mobile Unit)	1st Wednesday
Swindon Village (Mobile Unit)	2nd Tuesday

These centres are under the administration of the County Council. Nearly all mothers and babies attend. The bulk of the work falls upon the ladies of the local Voluntary Committees and the thanks of the community are due to them for their devotion to this work.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

Stanton Open air Pool

This concrete lined pool has a capacity of 70,000 gallons and is situated a few hundred yards to the east of the village. During the summer months it is in constant use, not only by bathers from Stanton and the surrounding villages, but also by visitors to the Gloucestershire Education Authority's Summer Youth Camp, close by.

While the pool is maintained and administered by the Parish Council, the water is supplied by the Rural District Council, at a reduced rate. Chlorination is carried out by means of sulphate of ammonia and chloros and the pool is emptied, thoroughly cleansed and re filled at approximately fortnightly intervals. Samples for bacteriological examination are taken periodically.

WATER SUPPLY

A considerable part of the Rural District is within the statutory supply area of the Gloucester and Cheltenham Corporations' water undertakings. The Council's supply was satisfactory in quantity and quality throughout the year. All these supplies are chlorinated. Eighteen samples were taken for bacteriological analysis from public supplies and twenty-three from private supplies. None of the waters are liable to have plumbo solvent action. Contamination did not occur in any form.

	<u>No. of houses</u>	<u>Estimated population</u>	<u>No. of houses supplied direct into houses</u>	<u>Population supplied direct into houses</u>	<u>Population supplied by means of standpipe</u>
Alderton	187	547	187	547	-
Ashchurch	579	2,182	579	2,182	-
Badgeworth	567	1,820	565	1,814	-
Bishops Cleeve	1,752	5,962	1,752	5,962	-
Boddington	84	269	84	269	-
* Buckland	76	222	76	222	-
Coberley	84	306	84	306	-
* Cowley	99	311	99	311	-
Deerhurst	179	570	166	529	-
* Dumbleton	151	483	148	474	-
Elmstone Hardwicke	67	250	67	250	-
Gotherington	202	619	201	616	3
* Great Witcombe	34	108	34	108	-
Hawling	49	168	49	168	-
Leckhampton	1,256	3,876	1,256	3,876	-
Leigh	89	279	89	279	-
Oxenton	53	157	50	148	9
* Prescott	27	90	27	90	-
Prestbury	1,503	4,766	1,503	4,766	-
Shurdington	541	1,692	541	1,692	-
Snowhill	64	221	64	221	-
Southam	180	512	177	512	-
Stanton	93	262	93	262	-
Stanway	134	415	134	415	-
Staverton	247	692	247	692	-
Stoke Orchard	85	273	85	273	-
* Sudeley	37	140	37	140	-
Swindon	246	833	246	833	-
Teddington	68	197	67	194	3
Toddington	117	398	117	398	-
Twynning	276	882	261	834	-
Uckington	111	370	111	370	-
Up Hatherley	263	720	263	720	-
Walton Cardiff	19	57	19	57	-
Winchcombe	1,082	3,295	1,078	3,283	12
Woodmancote	391	1,258	391	1,258	-
	<u>10,992</u>	<u>35,202</u>	<u>10,947</u>	<u>35,071</u>	<u>27</u>

* Private or part-private supplies

CHELTEMHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report by Public Health Inspector and Surveyor on the
work of his Department for the year 1963

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have again the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Department for which I am responsible to the Council.

The activities of the Council have continued to increase and in the succeeding part of the report it is proposed to deal with various duties under separate headings, unless they have already been dealt with by the Medical Officer of Health.

HOUSING

The majority of dwellings erected in the district were by private enterprise and these were quickly purchased, contracts for many of them being signed before foundations were completed. The number of dwellings completed in the district during the year totalled 522, and of these 505 were erected by private enterprise and 17 by the Council. Included in the private enterprise figures are 28 by the Bishops Cleeve Housing Association bringing the total number of dwellings owned by them to 566.

Many of the houses erected by private enterprise during the year were purchased and occupied by persons from areas beyond the Rural District and with the increasing number of residents, there follows the increased demand for other services such as water supply, sewerage and refuse collection. With a few exceptions, the houses contained two or three bedrooms and by taking a figure of slightly over three persons per house, this means that approximately 1,600 persons were provided with permanent accommodation.

During the year, the Council completed a group of dwellings for aged persons at Ashchurch. This scheme gives accommodation for sixteen separate persons, with a warden in charge.

The Council has maintained its activities regarding improvement grants and owners of property are encouraged to make applications and every assistance is given to applicants. There are still many properties in need of improvement and it is hoped that in course of time, the majority, if not all, will take advantage of the benefits of the scheme.

Repairs to Council Houses

Repairs to Council houses are generally carried out by direct labour, and at the end of the year, we employed a total of eleven men upon this work (not including part time of the Foreman). The following figures show the work carried out:-

	Year ending:	<u>31.12.62</u>	<u>31.12.63</u>
No. of houses repairable by the Council at the end of the year (others will be released from Contractors from time to time).		<u>1,544</u>	<u>1,577</u>
No. of repair orders completed by the Council's staff (an order may contain several items).		1,419	1,571
No. of repair orders completed by Contractors including electricity and gas		<u>944</u>	<u>1,637</u>
Total:		<u>2,363</u>	<u>3,208</u>

No. of Council houses reconditioned (by contract) - 4
No. of Council houses reconditioning in progress - 4

No. of houses overhauled and redecorated externally (by contract)	266	370
No. of tiled surround fireplaces fitted	10	20
No. of defective draining boards replaced	41	41
No. of defective firebaskets replaced	33	51
No. of defective sinks replaced	8	7
No. of defective sanitary pails replaced	1	5
No. of W.C. pans replaced	34	112
No. of defective taps replaced	34	17
No. of defective flush boxes replaced	14	19
No. of defective chimney pots replaced	12	7
No. of defective lavatory basins replaced	8	34
No. of defective W.C. seats replaced	52	52
No. of gate-posts renewed	61	36
No. of roofs repaired	137	123
No. of eaves gutters and/or downpipes repaired	82	249
No. of visits to Council houses for various purposes	4,948	5,139
No. of cases where damage has been repaired at the tenant's expense	21	13
No. of applications to erect television aerials dealt with	53	33

It will be noted that there is an increase in the number of replacements of W.C. pans, lavatory basins, gutters. This was due to the severe weather at the beginning of 1963 and the cost of most of these items was received from the Insurance Company under the terms of the policy.

Other activities in housing

As a result of the active programme in dealing with unfit houses during the previous six to seven years, the number of properties not reaching a satisfactory standard is very small, and action was taken against these as follows:-

Demolition Orders	2
Closing Orders	Nil
Undertakings to execute works to render fit for habitation	2
Undertakings not to use for human habitation until rendered fit	1

Whilst there are still certain duties to be carried out such as following up undertakings to see they are complied with, the programme for dealing with unfit houses is practically at an end in this area. In stating this, it is recognised that it will occasionally be necessary to take action in individual cases where it is found that by neglect or deterioration the standard has not been maintained.

Housing Act, 1957

A. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas, unfit for Human Habitation	Nil
Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas but as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1)	Nil
B. Unfit houses closed under Section 16(4), 17 (1) and 35 (1)	6
C. Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied	
(1) After informal action	42
(2) After formal notice under Public Health Acts	Nil
(3) After formal notice under Sections 9 & 16	3
(4) Under Section 24 - Housing Act, 1957	Nil
No. of housing inspections or re-visits	245

Improvement Grants

The provisions of the House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 have been fully implemented as regards Standard Grants. For a number of years the Council have fully operated the provisions of the regulations regarding Discretionary Grants and there is now a steady flow of applications under both headings.

During the year 35 applications for Discretionary Grants affecting 39 properties and 13 applications for Standard Grants affecting 18 properties were approved. The total number of Discretionary Grants approved since the Council became the authority for dealing with these cases has risen to 481 cases affecting 563 properties and the amount of grants approved totals £174,632 up to the end of 1963. The total number of Standard Grants so far approved affected 77 properties and the estimated amount of grants involved was £9,454.

The results have in all instances been very satisfactory and there is no doubt that this scheme has not only enabled properties to be brought up to a good standard, but it has been the means of retaining properties which possess features that are not present in modern houses. In addition, it has enabled accommodation to be retained and thus avoided the Council having to provide more houses for the occupants.

	Year ending:	<u>31.12.62</u>	<u>31.12.63</u>
No. of houses in respect of which Discretionary Improvement Grants were approved:-			
(a) Improvements		37	34
(b) Conversions		5	5
No. of houses in respect of which Standard Improvement Grants were approved:-		9	18
No. of inspections regarding Improvement Grants:-		444	389

Building Byelaws

The work in connection with the Building Byelaws is as follows:

New houses completed:	<u>31.12.62</u>	<u>31.12.63</u>
Council houses/flats	33	17
Private Enterprise	531	477
Gloucestershire County Council	-	-
Bishops Cleeve Housing Association	<u>48</u>	<u>28</u>
	612	522

	<u>31.12.62</u>	<u>31.12.63</u>
No. of dwellings provided by conversion of existing buildings and dwellings	7	7
No. of houses in course of erection at:	<u>31.12.62</u>	<u>31.12.63</u>
Council	21	33
Private Enterprise	377	300
Bishops Cleeve Housing Association	<u>28</u>	<u>-</u>
	426	333
Total number of plans received and considered	659	713
Number of plans resubmitted	99	84
Total considered by Committee	758	797
Total number of plans approved - permanent	731	752
Total number of plans approved - temporary	-	3
Total number of plans disapproved	27	42
Temporary approvals renewed	20	28
Plans declared of no effect	-	-
Temporary buildings removed	-	3
Number of informal notices sent	8	6
No. of recommendations to Area Planning Officer	379	424
No. of visits to properties and sites	3,810	3,316

Each plan when received is checked and acknowledged and if there is any discrepancy and time permits, the owner's or architect's attention is drawn to this with a view to the necessary alterations being made prior to consideration by the Committee.

Every endeavour is made to inspect work at the following stages - excavation of foundations; completion of concrete foundations; dampcourse; roofing; testing of drains; installation of fittings; and completion.

In a number of cases, the owners of houses have obtained loans through the Council under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958, (as amended), and in such cases more frequent inspections are made and the work is closely checked before certificates are issued for payments.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Under this heading has been included the work in connection with milk supply, infectious diseases, water supply, nuisances, disinfections, tents, vans and sheds, factories and workshops, pollution of streams, inspection of food premises, public conveniences and sewage disposal etc.

The following figures show the activities during the year:-

	<u>Year ending</u>	<u>31.12.62</u>	<u>31.12.63</u>
No. of complaints received or nuisances discovered		48	68
Nuisances abated		41	57
Complaints not justified		7	11
Informal notices sent		17	32
Statutory Notices served		-	1
Number of premises disinfested		15	14
Number of visits in connection with the above items		216	301
Number of new drainage systems installed		56	50
Visits to new drainage systems		124	182
Number of visits to public conveniences		63	59
Infectious disease visits		64	33
Number of visits in connection with street numbering		378	306

Inspection of foods

The following foodstuffs have been condemned:-

	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>
Canned fish		1	14	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Canned meat	2	3	22	0
Fruit juice			24	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tomatoes		1	7	3
Tinned fruit	5	3	7	6
Vegetables		3	10	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fruit Pie Filling		2	0	9
Semolina and Rice			8	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Total:	11 cwts.	0 qrs.	11 lbs.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ozs.

Tinned milk:	23 $\frac{1}{8}$ pints
Soup:	82 fl.ozs.
Cream	75 pints

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep & Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Horses</u>
Number killed	235	2	823	218	-
Number inspected	235	2	823	218	-
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	11	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	2.5%	-	1.3%	0.4%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercosis	0.4%	-	-	-	-

Total amount of meat condemned: 1 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs.

Methods of disposal of Condemned Food

Condemned food is disposed of as follows:-

- (a) By burial in lime.
- (b) In suitable cases by disposal to knackers' yards by arrangements with the adjoining Public Health Authority.

No. of Special Examinations of a Stock or Consignment of food - 1.
No. of visits to Slaughterhouses - 117.

Food Hygiene Regulations

Inspections are carried out periodically at food premises and no prosecutions were made.

The number of food premises in the District is as follows:

Bakers	8	Sweet Retailers	2
Butchers	12	Hotels	13
Cafes	11	Public Houses	43
Confectioners	9	Factory Canteens	11
Fishmongers	1	Clubs	11
General stores	44	Mobile General Stores	5
Greengrocers	9	" Butchers	3
Grocers	10		

Food and Drugs Act 1955 (Section 16) (1)

Number of premises registered for the sale and storage of ice-cream	87
Number of applications considered and licences issued during the year	2
Number of premises registered for the preparation of preserved foods intended for sale	4
Total number of visits in connection with the Food and Drugs Acts	223

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960

The following figures show the activity during the year:-

Number of applications dealt with in respect of:

New sites	14 relating to 18 caravans
" " (seasonal)	1 " " 60 "
Additions to existing sites	4 " " 6 "
" " " " (seasonal)	Nil
Reduction to sites	Nil
Renewal of site licences	3 relating to 3 caravans

Action was taken in respect of the following:

Unlicensed sites:	5
Licensed sites - conditions not kept:	13

At the end of the year, the number of sites totalled 135 covering 754 (including 127 seasonal) caravans,

No. of recommendations to Planning Officer	14
No. of visits to sites	572
No. of informal notices served	7

Factories Act 1961

	Year ending: 31.12.62	31.12.63
Number of visits to factories	104	202
Number of informal notices served	Nil	2

See also additional information annexed to this report.

Sewage Disposal

Improvements to the Sewage Disposal Works at Ashchurch were completed.

Sewers and disposal works were provided at Dumbleton.

The Scheme for the provision of sewers in the Parish of Staverton was completed.

Work was in progress on the enlargement of the Sewage Works at Brockhampton and the provision of sewers at Up Hatherley and Toddington.

Schemes were in course of preparation for the enlargement of the Sewage Works at Winchcombe and the provision of sewers at Coberley and Twynning.

Samples of sewage effluents were taken periodically at the Council's sewerage works and 16 samples were submitted for analysis.

The most urgent need is the enlargement of the sewage disposal works at Brockhampton and Badgeworth in order to deal with the drainage from the extensive development taking place in the area.

Number of visits to Sewage Disposal Works etc. - 1,665.

Water Supplies

A new 6" water main was laid from The Newlands, Prestbury to Two Hedges Road, Woodmancote to supplement the supply in the Woodmancote area.

The number of new connections made to the mains during the year totalled 485 and of these, 288 connections were made to the Council's mains, 194 to the Cheltenham Corporation's mains and 3 to the Gloucester City mains.

Number of visits to supplies, mains, etc. 151.

Particulars of Water Mains owned by the Council on 31st December, 1963

Cast Iron and Asbestos

2"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,965 yards
3"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90,380 yards
												of which 4,700 are supply mains
4"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86,185 yards
												of which 26,710 yards are supply and pumping mains
5"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,895 yards
												of which 1,770 yards are supply and pumping mains
6"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30,725 yards
												of which 4,820 yards are supply and pumping mains
7"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,250 yards
9"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	920 yards

Galvanised, Asbestos and Copper

2"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,165 yards
1½"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,050 yards
1¼"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,475 yards
1"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,040 yards
¾"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16,015 yards
												Total: 275,065 yards
												= 156 miles, 505 yards

Refuse and Salvage

Built up areas receive two collections and the remainder of the district one collection approximately every fortnight. This arrangement is satisfactory and has overcome previous difficulties which had been encountered especially at holiday times.

The controlled method of tipping is undertaken and refuse is tipped at Shurdington, Winchcombe and Twynning.

Number of visits to tips etc. 511.

Vehicles: 1 Eagle Compressmore 12/24 cu.yd.
3 Shelvoke & Drewry 16/20 cu.yd. fore and aft tippers.
2 Karrier 12 cu.yd. side loading tippers.

	<u>31.12.61</u>	<u>31.12.62</u>	<u>31.12.63</u>
No. of dwellings	9,688	10,273	10,992
Quantity of Refuse collected (approx. cu.yds.)	38,500	45,000	47,388
Distance travelled by vehicles (miles)	43,393	49,358	53,590

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Number of visits	115
No. of informal notices sent	2

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS 1928 AND 1936

No. of informal notices served	3
No. of licences issued to store petroleum	90
No. of visits	155

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The visits and treatments made during the year by the Pests Operator are as follows:

	<u>No. of premises treated</u>	<u>No. of visits</u>	<u>No. of premises inspected (incl. clearing of baits).</u>
Cheltenham R.D.C. premises	111	296	84
Other premises in the Cheltenham Rural District	<u>384</u>	<u>957</u>	<u>343</u>
.. Total:	<u>495</u>	<u>1,253</u>	<u>427</u>

Total number of complaints received and visited	76
No. of informal notices served	2
No. of visits by other members of the staff	63

Treatment of Sewers

Treatment of the Council sewers were undertaken during June, the results were as follows:-

	<u>Infested Nov. '62</u>	<u>Treated June '63</u>	<u>Infested June, '63</u>
Shurdington	1	7	1
Winchcombe	1	7	1

Test baiting of all the Council's sewers was in progress at the termination of the year.

LOANS FOR HOUSE PURCHASE

This is another heading under which there is increased activity. The work involved is first in checking the plans and specifications prior to loan sanction and afterwards inspection of the work to see that it is satisfactory, and certifying payment at the appropriate stages.

During the year advances were made in 151 cases, these totalling £364,176; the total advances to the end of 1963 was 617, the amount loaned being £1,105,614. These figures do not include those relating to the Bishops Cleeve Housing Association and the Dowty Housing Association.

Number of visits - 338.

S U M M A R Y

The foregoing report deals with the principal sections, but during the year there were other fields of activity such as dangerous structures, Milk and Dairies Regulations, Street Numbering, inspection of housing sites etc. These have entailed many visits and inspections.

The summary of the visits apart from the maintenance of the Council's Water supplies, or the Clerk of Works on Housing, Water or Sewerage Schemes, is as follows:-

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Temporary housing	91	-	-
Council House repairs	5140	4948	5139
Housing Act inspections	886	663	245
Improvement Grants	353	444	389
Building Byelaws	3150	3810	3316
<u>Public Health</u>			
Nuisances, Statutory Notices etc.	226	216	301
New drainage systems	266	124	182
Public conveniences	64	63	59
Infectious diseases	11	64	33
Street numbering	100	378	306
Slaughterhouse	164	152	117
Food and Drugs Acts	122	128	223
Tents, vans and sheds, etc.	439	510	572
Factories and Workshops Act	166	104	202
Sewage Disposal Works etc.	1755	2074	1665
Water supplies	152	132	151
Refuse and Salvage	453	274	511
Public Rights of Way	122	125	115
Petroleum Act 1928 & 1936	106	108	155
Pest Destruction	1597	1654	1743
Loans for House Purchase		152	338
Miscellaneous Visits	323	409	287
	<u>15,774</u>	<u>16,614</u>	<u>16,049</u>

No. of communications despatched from the office during the year 4,959

The year has again been one of increased activity and I wish to thank all members of the Council's staff for the good work they have done during the year and for the friendly and close co operation which has prevailed throughout with all departments.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the kindness and consideration which they have afforded when dealing with the work of the Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. ROSSER.

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor.

APPENDIX

Factories Act 1961

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
in respect of the year 1963 for the Rural District
of Cheltenham in the County of Gloucestershire.

Prescribed particulars on
the Administration of the
Factories Act 1961

Part 1 of the Act

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

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	35	15	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	88	142	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	13	45	-	-
Total:	136	202	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

Section 110

Section 111

Nature of work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for not supplying lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

