

**[Report 1956] / Medical Officer of Health, Chertsey U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Chertsey (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1956

**Persistent URL**

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

**License and attribution**

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

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

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



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

441363

Library (F)

URBAN DISTRICT OF  
CHERTSEY *Surrey*

HEALTH  
A-3 OCT 57  
G.P.  
28



---

---

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

---

---

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1956

LONDON SCHOOL OF  
LIBRARY  
-5 MAR 1957  
AND TROPICAL MEDICINE

Printed by  
Charles Burrell & Son  
The Castle Printing Works  
Chertsey, Surrey

*Ans*



URBAN DISTRICT OF  
CHERTSEY

---

---

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

---

---

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH


TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1956



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29103095>

# ANNUAL REPORT

Council Offices, Weybridge.

July, 1957.

To the Chairman and Members of the Chertsey Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for 1956. The Report has been prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health given in Circular 19/56.

The population of the Urban District at mid-year 1956 is estimated by the Registrar General to be 34,910, an increase of one thousand two hundred and fifty from the previous year. The natural increase of population from the excess of births over deaths was three hundred and one, so that nine hundred and forty-nine of the increase represented an influx of new population.

There was a remarkable increase in the birth-rate for the year. The birth-rate, corrected for age and sex distribution in the local population which differs from England and Wales, was 16.04 per 1,000 of the resident population, as compared with 14.96 in 1955, and 15.7 for England and Wales.

There was an appreciable fall in the death rate to 9.96 per 1,000 of the resident population, as compared with 10.31 in the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 11.7. The death rate from the acute infectious diseases, including tuberculosis, was very similar to the previous year which was the lowest ever recorded in the district. The infant mortality rate was 16.42 per 1,000 live births as compared with 23.8 for England and Wales. Out of fifty-nine deaths from malignant disease, thirteen, or twenty-two per cent., were due to cancer of the lung or bronchus. This gives a death rate of 0.37 per 1,000 as compared with 0.48 for the County in 1955. It has been noted that the urban rate is constantly higher than the rural rate in the County.

There has been a gradual fall over the last few years in the mortality from tuberculosis, being 0.17 per 1,000 of the population for 1956 as compared with a mean of 0.19 over the previous five years. Many factors, in addition to improving social conditions and recent advances in treatment, have contributed to this fall, such as mass radiography control resulting in more efficient notification and further examination and preventive treatment of contacts.

There were no outbreaks of major infectious disease. This is the eleventh consecutive year in which no cases of diphtheria have occurred in children. It cannot be again emphasised too strongly that the absence of diphtheria is always dependent on the maintenance of a high level of immunisation in infants and school children.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Council for their support and the staff for their ready assistance and co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. P. MACIVER,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

### **Public Health Officers of the Authority.**

Medical Officer of Health:

D. P. MACIVER, M.C., T.D., M.D., D.P.H.

The Medical Officer of Health acts in a similar capacity for the Urban District of Walton and Weybridge and the Rural District of Bagshot.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

G. H. BIRCH, A.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

D. R. COTGROVE, A.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

J. A. K. GARRATT, A.R.S.H., (Resigned 2nd January).

J. R. GREIG, M.S.I.A., (Commenced 16th April).

Mr. G. H. Birch holds the Certificate of the Royal Society of Health and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board as Public Health Inspector and the Certificates of the Royal Society of Health as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods and as a Smoke Inspector.

Mr. D. R. Cotgrove holds the Certificate of the Royal Society of Health and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board as Public Health Inspector and the Certificates of the Royal Society of Health as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, as a Smoke Inspector, and in Sanitary Science as Applied to Public Works and Buildings.

Mr. J. R. Greig holds the Certificate of the Royal Society of Health and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board as Public Health Inspector and the Certificate of the Royal Society of Health as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Pests Officer:

T. H. BYWATER.

Clerical Staff:

Office of the Medical Officer of Health.

Miss J. M. EGLON.

Miss Eglon is also responsible for the secretarial duties appertaining to the work of the Medical Officer of Health in the Urban District of Walton and Weybridge and the Rural District of Bagshot.

Office of the Public Health Inspector:

R. ELLERBY.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres ... ..	9,983
Estimated resident population in July (estimate supplied by Registrar-General) ... ..	34,910
Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books ... ..	8,814
Rateable Value ... ..	£427,522
A sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£1,630

### Committees concerned with matters of Public Health.

1. Public Health Committee.
2. Housing (General) Committee.
3. Housing (Tenants) Committee.
4. Special (Public Relations) Committee.

### Vital Statistics.

	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>
Number of Births ... ..	536	609
Birth-Rate per 1,000 of the population ... ..	15.92	17.44
Birth-Rate (after correction by the Registrar-General's Comparability Factor) ... ..	14.96	16.04
Number of Still Births ... ..	12	8
Still Birth-Rate per 1,000 total birth ... ..	21.89	12.97
Number of Deaths ... ..	307	308
Death-Rate (actual) per 1,000 of the population ... ..	9.12	8.82
Death-Rate (after correction by the Registrar-General's Comparability Factor) ... ..	10.31	9.96
Natural increase of population during year by excess of births over deaths ... ..	229	301
Number of deaths of infants (under the age of one year) ... ..	12	10
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births ... ..	22.39	16.42
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth	Nil	1
Death-Rate from Influenza per 1,000 of the population ... ..	0.09	0.03
Death-Rate from Pneumonia per 1,000 of the population ... ..	0.26	0.46
Death-Rate from Measles per 1,000 of the population ... ..	Nil	Nil
Death-Rate from Whooping Cough per 1,000 of the population	Nil	Nil
Death-Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis per 1,000 of the population ... ..	0.15	0.17
Death-Rate from Cancer per 1,000 of the population ... ..	1.75	1.69
Death-Rate from Heart Disease per 1,000 of the population ... ..	1.93	3.12

### Extract from Vital Statistics.

Live Births:	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate ... ..	305	276	581
Illegitimate ... ..	16	12	28
Birth-Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)—Mean of five years 1951-1955 ... ..			15.67
Death-Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)—Mean of five years 1951-1955 ... ..			9.39
Deaths from Maternal Causes—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... ..			1.62

The following table shows the birth and death rate per 1,000 of the population of the District, and England and Wales, for 1955 and 1956.

### COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Population				Infantile Mortality per 1,000 live births		Maternal Mortality per 1,000 total births	
	Birth-Rate		Death-Rate		1956	1955	1956	1955
	1956	1955	1956	1955				
Chertsey U.D. ...	*16.04	*14.96	*9.96	*10.31	16.42	22.39	1.62	0.00
England and Wales ...	15.7	15.0	11.7	11.7	23.8	24.9	0.56	0.64

\*Corrected for age and sex distribution by Registrar-General's Comparability Factor.

### Infantile Mortality.

There has been a steady fall in the infant mortality rate, the rate for 1956, 16.42 per 1,000 live births, being well below the mean of the previous five years, which is 25.71. This saving of infant lives has been mainly associated with the later months of the first year, there being only a small decline in the first four weeks of life where the mortality is largely due to prematurity and associated conditions.

The following table shows the causes of death and ages at death of infants under one year.

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total number under 1 month
Prematurity ... ..	3	—	—	—	3
Prematurity with associated conditions	2	—	—	—	2
Atelectasis ... ..	1	1	—	—	2
Congenital malformations ... ..	—	1	—	—	1
Accidents ... ..	—	1	—	—	1

One child of four months died from pneumonia.

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	2	3	5
Tuberculosis, other forms ... ..	—	1	1
Syphilitic diseases ... ..	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	1	4	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	11	2	13
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	19	18	37
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	1	—	1
Diabetes ... ..	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	10	33	43
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	37	24	61
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	1	6	7
Other heart disease ... ..	14	19	33
Other circulatory disease ... ..	2	6	8
Influenza ... ..	1	—	1
Pneumonia ... ..	7	9	16
Bronchitis ... ..	10	9	19
Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	2	—	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	3	—	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	1	1
Congenital malformations ... ..	2	4	6
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	16	11	27
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	1	—	1
All other accidents ... ..	3	—	3
Suicide ... ..	1	3	4
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES ... ..	146	162	308

### Byelaws in force in the District.

Byelaws in respect of New Streets ... ..	1926
"    "    Buildings ... ..	1953
"    "    Common Lodging Houses ... ..	1899
"    "    Nuisances ... ..	1899
"    "    Slaughterhouses ... ..	1899
"    "    Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	1936
"    "    Hackney Carriages ... ..	1951
"    "    Allotments ... ..	1907
"    "    Offensive Trades ... ..	1935
"    "    Food ... ..	1950

### **Laboratory Facilities.**

The Public Health Laboratory is located at St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford, and specimens relating to infectious diseases are sent there for examination and report. Specimens of an urgent nature, e.g., diphtheria swabs, can be examined at the laboratory at St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey.

Routine samples of milk and ice cream are examined at the Public Health Laboratory in Guildford. Biological examinations of milk for tubercle bacillus are also carried out in this laboratory.

### **Ambulance Facilities.**

The Ambulance Control Station for the North-West area of the County is located at Guildford Road, Chertsey. This station retains the telephone number of the previous Control Station at Woking, i.e. Woking 3040.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade also provide an ambulance from London Street, Chertsey (tel. Chertsey 3220).

### **Home Nursing and Midwifery.**

The Surrey County Council maintains five whole-time trained nurses. Their addresses are as follows:—

Miss E. M. Aldworth	8, Weir Road,	
Miss M. A. Balchin	Chertsey.	Chertsey 3308
Miss E. J. McCarthy	13, Victory Park Road,	
Miss C. Cantrill	Addlestone.	Weybridge 2084
Miss M. McLellan	Bramshill, Guildford Road,	
	Ottershaw.	Ottershaw 208

### **Health Visitors.**

There are four County Health Visitors in the district who visit homes under the School Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

### **Home Help Service.**

The County Council maintains from its Divisional Offices in Woking a service for the provision of home helps in maternity cases, and for the purpose of giving assistance in homes when illness is present.

### Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The Surrey County Council have provided the following clinics and treatment centres under their School Medical Service and Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes:—

Centre	Address	Clinic	Day
Addlestone	S.C.C. Clinic, Everleigh, Crouch Oak Lane.	School Medical Child Welfare Ante-Natal Dental	Every Thurs., a.m. Every Fri., p.m. Every Mon., p.m. Every Fri. a.m. and p.m. Every Thurs. p.m.
Chertsey	S.C.C. Clinic, Stepgates.	School Medical Child Welfare Ante-Natal  Eye	Every Weds., a.m. Every Thurs., p.m. 1st, 3rd and 5th Fri. p.m. 1st and 3rd Mon. a.m.
New Haw	S.C.C. Clinic, 175, Woodham Lane.	Child Welfare School Medical  Ante-Natal  Dental	Every Tues., p.m. 1st, 3rd and 5th Wed. p.m. 2nd and 4th Wed. p.m. Mon., Tues., Wed. and Thurs. a.m. and p.m.
Ottershaw	Red Cross Hut, Coach Road.	School Medical & Child Welfare	Every Thurs., p.m.

Special clinics for dental and eye treatment are also held monthly, or as required.

### Chest Clinics.

Addlestone and Chertsey are served by the following Clinics:—

Locke King Clinic, Weybridge:

1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Fridays of each month at 10.0 a.m.

2nd Friday of each month at 2.0 p.m.

Clarence Avenue, Woking:

Every Monday at 10.0 a.m.

2nd Monday of each month at 5.30 p.m.

### Venereal Disease.

The following clinics are held for any persons wishing to attend from this area:—

GUILDFORD: Royal Surrey County Hospital.

Males.—Tuesdays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Females.—Mondays 3.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Thursdays 9.30 to 11.0 a.m.

KINGSTON: Kingston County Hospital, Wolverton Avenue.

Females.—Thursdays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

WOKING: Woking and District Victoria Hospital.

Males.—Thursdays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

Females.—Tuesdays 4.0 to 7.0 p.m.

### **Hospitals.**

The district is served by the following hospitals:—

GENERAL.—St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey.

The Hospital, Weybridge.

MATERNITY.—Woking Maternity Home.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The Isolation Hospital, Ottershaw.

AGED SICK HOSPITAL.—Ottershaw.

These Hospitals came under the control of the Woking and Chertsey Group Hospital Management Committee in July, 1948.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.**

No action was required to be taken by the Council under this Section. Several cases did arise of old people in need of care and attention. These were either taken over by the County Welfare Department or persuaded to enter hospital for treatment.

As welfare, housing and hospital authorities are all concerned with the well-being of old people the need for consultation and co-ordinated effort is apparent.

There is now accommodation for thirty-eight old ladies in a ward at Ottershaw Hospital where much useful work is being done in rehabilitation and by occupational therapy. The old infectious diseases hospital at Egham has accommodation for fourteen old men.

A Screening Sub-Committee of the Hospital Management Committee, of which the Medical Officer of Health is a member, meets from time to time to decide priority of admission to these aged sick units.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948—Burial of the Dead.**

One burial took place under the above Act during the year.

### **Mortuaries.**

One mortuary is provided for the Urban District and is situated at the Council's Depot, Fordwater Road, Chertsey. On representations by the Medical Officer of Health, consideration was given by the Council to the installation of a cold room and trolley hoist at this mortuary. These additions have now been installed and are a very desirable improvement.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### Water Supply.

The district is within the area of supply of the West Surrey Water Company. Samples of water as supplied by the Company are submitted to chemical and bacteriological examination.

During the year twenty-four samples were taken by the Public Health Department and submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory at Guildford; one sample failed to reach the required standard. A repeat sample was bacteriologically satisfactory.

The West Surrey Water Company informed us of the results of thirteen samples taken throughout the year.

Four samples were taken by the Council's analyst and examined both bacteriologically and chemically. The results of analysis are tabulated below:

Date sample taken.	22nd Feb.	11th May	10th July	29th Nov.
Organisms per ml. at 20°C in 72 hours on agar ...	27	6	12	2
Organisms per ml. at 20°C in 72 hours on gelatine ...	12	6	5	1
Organisms per ml. at 37.5°C in 48 hours on agar ...	31	8	7	5
Coliform organisms... ..	Less than 1 per 100 ml.	Less than 1 per 100 ml.	Less than 1 per 100 ml.	Less than 1 per 100 ml.

### Chemical Examinations in parts per 10,000.

Free Ammonia ... ..	0.0042	0.216	0.024	0.006
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.006	0.264	0.084	0.096
Oxygen consumed from per- manganate (4 hours at 80°F.) ... ..	0.102	1.024	1.184	0.928

Samples of water supplied by the West Surrey Water Company to the Chertsey Urban District Council and the adjoining district of Walton and Weybridge are taken monthly at different points and analysed both chemically and bacteriologically. These results are reported monthly to the respective Councils. The results of analysis show that a satisfactory standard has been maintained throughout the year.

By an arrangement with the Water Engineer of the West Surrey Water Company, reports are exchanged monthly. In addition, the Public Health Department takes samples of main water twice monthly so that a very frequent check is kept on the bacteriological and chemical condition of the main supply.

Approximate number of dwelling houses with main water, supplied direct to the houses ... ..	8,388
Estimated population supplied direct ... ..	33,107
Approximate number supplied by means of standpipes ...	16
Estimated population supplied by means of standpipes ...	63

### Pump or Well Supplies.

Thirty-four samples were collected from pumps and wells, with the following results: —

	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Contaminated.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
From dwelling houses ...	2	3	5
From camping sites ...	9	20	29
	—	—	—
Totals ...	11	23	34
	—	—	—

In the case of the unsatisfactory samples the occupiers were advised on the necessary precautions.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

There have been no extensions to sewers within the district during 1956 with the exception of the normal extensions to the new housing estates.

### Rivers and Streams.

No pollution was detected during the year.

### Closet Accommodation.

	<i>Privies.</i>	<i>Pail or Tub Closets.</i>	<i>"Elsan" type Closets.</i>
Addlestone Ward ...	2	56	—
Chertsey Ward ...	—	47	10
Outer Ward ... ..	4	137	—
	—	—	—
Totals ...	6	240	10
	—	—	—

There are also a number of these types of closets at Camping Sites and on Farm lands.

One hundred and thirty closets are emptied weekly under the supervision of the Senior Public Health Inspector. This work is carried out by means of a Bedford and a Dennis Cesspool Emptier adapted for the purpose.

### Public Cleansing.

Street Cleansing and the disposal of house and trade refuse and salvage are under the supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor, who has supplied the following details:—

<i>Salvaged materials sold during the year:</i>						tons	cwts.
Waste paper	...	...	...	...	...	167	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Black Scrap	...	...	...	...	...	1	12
Textiles	...	...	...	...	...	3	9

### Cesspool Emptying.

This work is carried out under the supervision of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

Three 750-gallon Dennis Cesspool Emptiers and one 750/800-gallon Bedford Cesspool Emptier are in use whole-time, each vehicle being specially equipped for dealing with the contents of pail closets.

During the year the following work was carried out:—

Number of houses where cesspools were emptied	...	491
„ „ institutions, business premises, etc., where cesspools were emptied	... ..	20
„ „ loads removed from private houses	...	7,217
„ „ loads removed from institutions, etc.	...	385 $\frac{1}{4}$

Total volume removed from:—

Private houses	... ..	5,412,750 gallons.
Institutions, etc.	... ..	288,937 gallons.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

### Report by the Senior Public Health Inspector.

Dwelling houses inspected under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations ... ..	31
Dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health Act ... ..	322
Dwelling houses visited with respect to water supply ... ..	41
Dwelling houses inspected with respect to drainage, closet accommodation and bath accommodation ... ..	196
Premises inspected other than above, including inspections on complaint, enquiries re infectious disease, etc. ... ..	370
Visits to houses with respect to infestation or dirty conditions	7
Visits to houses re dustbins ... ..	61
Visits re nuisance from Smoke, etc. ... ..	9
Visits to houses for purpose of examination of bedding and furniture of prospective tenants for houses ... ..	91
Premises inspected as regards accommodation and overcrowding ... ..	33
Inspections of Meat at Slaughterhouses ... ..	407
"    "    Dairies ... ..	63
"    "    Food at Shops ... ..	57
"    "    Knackers Yard and Slaughterhouses ... ..	81
"    "    Offensive Trade Premises ... ..	3
"    "    Factories ... ..	93
"    "    Common Lodging House ... ..	8
"    "    Ice Cream Stores, etc. ... ..	53
"    "    Tents, Vans, etc. ... ..	564
"    "    Ponds, etc., re Mosquito control ... ..	4
"    "    Food Premises (Hygiene) ... ..	593
Inspections under Shop Acts ... ..	268
	3,355
	Re-inspections ... 1,035
	Total ... 4,390

### Other Matters.

Number of complaints received ... ..	203
"    "    rooms disinfected after cases of infectious disease	26
"    "    verminous rooms cleansed ... ..	2
"    "    samples of Ice Cream taken for analysis ... ..	11
"    "    samples of Milk taken for analysis ... ..	117
"    "    samples of Water taken for analysis ... ..	58

### **Preliminary Notices.**

Number of Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	137
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with	...	...	...	151

(This number includes premises dealt with prior to 1956.)

### **Statutory Notices.**

Number served under Public Health Act, 1936:—

Section 39	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Section 45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Section 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Section 93	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

Number served under Housing Acts, 1936/1954:—

Section 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
-----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Number of Notices complied with:—

Public Health Act, 1936:—

Section 39	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Section 45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Section 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Section 93	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Housing Acts, 1936/1954:—

Section 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
-----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(The number includes Notices served prior to 1956.)

### **Defects remedied and work carried out as a result of the Public Health Inspector's representations.**

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Eaves-gutters repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Rainwater pipes repaired or replaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Means of disposal provided for rainwater	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
External walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Window sills repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sashcords provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Damp proof courses provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Treads to stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Soil removed away from walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Window and door fasteners repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
External walls treated or rendered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Plastering to walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Food stores provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Grates and stoves renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Sinks renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sink waste pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Drains repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Cesspools repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Burst water pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Pail closets renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Yards paved	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

### Factories Act, 1937.

Ninety-three inspections of factories were made during the year and attention called to defects and want of cleansing, etc.

Work carried out as follows:—

Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary conveniences cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ provided with light	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ screened	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ provided with intervening ventilated space	...	...	...	...	...	3

### 1.—Inspections.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	19	17	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	123	76	11	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>—</b>

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	1	—	—	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	4	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	10	10	—	7	—
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>—</b>

(Defects remedied includes premises dealt with prior to 1956.)

## Outwork (Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel: Making, etc.	11	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Household Linen	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

**Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws or Regulations.**

The one Common Lodging House in the district is situated in the Chertsey Ward, and is registered to accommodate forty-three lodgers. During the year, eight visits were made to the premises which were found to be conducted in a satisfactory manner and to comply with the byelaws.

A considerable number of tent and van dwellers continue to visit the district during the year and encamp on various lands for variable periods. Many of these are engaged on agricultural work for farmers within the district.

**Smoke Abatement.**

Nine visits were made during the year.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs, etc.**

No cases of infestation by bed bugs were discovered during the year.

One case of infestation by head lice and one by body lice were dealt with, the occupiers carrying out disinfection of clothing and bedding under the supervision of the department.

### Pest Control.

A Pests Officer is engaged whole-time on this work and the Ministry's recommended methods of control and disinfection are employed.

The following table summarises the work carried out during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949:—

TYPE OF PROPERTY	RECORD OF COMPLAINTS						RECORD OF DISTRICT SURVEY				TREATMENT		Number of premises awaiting treatment at end of year	Total visits re survey, complaints and treatments
	Number of complaints of infestation by		Number of premises found infested by		Number not infested	Number of premises inspected during survey	Number of premises found to be infested by		Number of treatments carried out by					
	Rats	Mice	Major	Minor			Rats	Mice	L.A.	Occupier				
							Major	Minor						
Local Authority ...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	1	6	—	—	77	
Dwelling Houses ...	40	12	—	40	12	—	—	8	—	42	18	—	2042	
Business Premises, etc.	34	20	—	34	20	—	—	3	8	34	28	3	898	
Agricultural Premises ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	—	30	
TOTALS	77	32	—	77	32	—	—	15	10	82	49	3	3047	

All cases of infestation by rats on agricultural premises were referred to the County Agricultural Executive Committee.

### **Rag Flock Act, 1951.**

Flock used by upholsterers in the area is guaranteed to meet the requirements of the Rag Flock Act. Flock removed from old bedding and upholstered furniture is destroyed.

There are five premises in the district registered under the above Act.

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951.**

Five licences were granted during the year.

### **Swimming Pools.**

There are no private swimming pools in the district to which the public are admitted. The Council have provided and maintain a bathing pavilion with accommodation for males and females, on the north bank of the River Thames near Chertsey Bridge; during the summer months an attendant is also provided.

### **Schools.**

There are twelve County Primary schools, two secondary schools, one Grammar school, four Boys' Colleges and several private schools within the district. All obtain their drinking water from the main supply of the West Surrey Water Company.

One Council school and one Boys' College are provided with cesspool drainage, one Boys' College is drained on the septic tank system, one Boys' College and two private schools are provided with a complete private drainage system, and the remainder all have main drainage.

### **Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.**

All cases of overcrowding coming to notice are referred to the Housing Committee for rehousing as and when accommodation becomes available.

### **Housing.**

At the end of the year one thousand two hundred and ten new houses had been completed by the Local Authority since 1945. There were in course of erection fifty-two Council houses and flats. Ninety family units were rehoused in Council houses or requisitioned houses. There still remains a waiting list of nine hundred and eighty applicants. The ever increasing demand for craftsmen and skilled labour by new trading estates and adjacent factories keeps this figure at a consistently high level.

Special consideration is given to the rehousing of families where there is an infectious and notified case of tuberculosis and where there are young children at risk, the aim being to give each infectious case a separate bedroom.

### **Housing Act, 1936, Parts II and III.**

### **Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.**

During the year, sixteen Demolition Orders and three Closing Orders were made under the first year's programme of the Council's Slum Clearance Scheme. One Demolition Order was quashed on appeal to County Court and an undertaking accepted from the owner not to use the premises for human habitation.

At the end of the year, seventeen families had been rehoused, the remaining two houses being vacated before the necessary action was taken.

Eight of the houses were demolished during the year.

### **Caravan Sites.**

The use of caravans for permanent or semi-permanent dwellings continues to cause concern in the district. At the end of the year there were sixteen caravan sites, ranging from two hundred and forty-eight caravans to three, and making a total of approximately eleven hundred caravans. It is probable that there has been an increase of ten per cent. during the year on unauthorised sites.

Criticism is frequently levelled at Local Authorities at their failure to control and prevent the extension of caravan sites. However, because of the shortcomings of existing legislation, the powers of the Council are very cumbersome and their position as regards enforcement is often made more difficult by the delays which the statutory procedure entails.

From the point of view of health, living conditions in caravans cannot be considered suitable for families with young children. Overcrowding frequently is present and the difficulties of ensuring cleanliness from the lack of proper washing facilities and adequate water supply are always present. Lighting and ventilation are often below a reasonable standard and a damp atmosphere frequently arises in the caravan from condensation and poor ventilation. It is difficult to see why a large percentage of caravan dwellers should elect to live under these conditions. When the site is served by water from wells haphazard disposal of waste water leads to contamination of the water supply.

The magnitude of the problem cannot be ignored and the position is becoming seriously aggravated consequent on the ever increasing

influx of population in the district following on the demand for craftsmen and skilled labour by new trading estates and extensions of existing ones.

From a public health angle, it is hoped that new legislation will soon be forthcoming which will prohibit caravans from sites where main drainage is not available, and will secure that no site is occupied before the installation of standard sanitary and ablution facilities.

#### **Hamm Court Site.**

It was hoped that sanitary and domestic services, to the Council's standard, including showers and ablution facilities, would have been installed during the year. Connection to the main sewers was considered by the owner as the practical solution but this has been delayed as a decision has so far not been arrived at between the Council and owner on the line of the sewer.

#### **Sayes Court Site.**

The owner of this site, on which there are one hundred and eighty caravans, has been served with Enforcement Notices by the Local Authority requiring removal of the caravans by April, 1957.

#### **Brackendene Site.**

This site was commenced in September, 1956, despite the rejection by the Minister of an appeal from the owner following on the refusal of the local Council to allow the site. One hundred caravans are now installed, and enforcement action has again been taken by the Local Council.

#### **Mead Lane Site.**

This site was commenced during the year and there were at the end of the year approximately one hundred caravans. These caravans are being provided with domestic ablution and sanitary facilities to the Council's standard.

The acquisition of land for a Municipal Caravan Site, to which improperly sited caravans could be directed, was under consideration during the year, but unfortunately did not materialise.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### Milk Supply.

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations of 1949 the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is responsible for the supervision of clean milk production on the farm.

When unsatisfactory and unhygienic conditions are found on dairy farms on inspection by the Medical Officer of Health, these cases are reported to the County Inspector for necessary action.

Seventeen samples of unpasteurised milk were submitted during the year for biological examination for the detection of tuberculosis, all showing a negative result.

### Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949.

Licences were issued as follows:—

#### DEALERS' LICENCES.

Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	11
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	13
Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	12

#### SUPPLEMENTARY LICENCES.

Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	5
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	5
Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	5

### Milk Samples.

One hundred and seventeen samples of Milk were collected as follows:—

	<i>Collected at Dairies.</i>	<i>Collected on Delivery.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Pasteurised Milk ... ..	20	80	100
Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	17	—	17

One sample failed to pass the Phosphatase Test for adequate pasteurisation and one failed the Methylene Blue Test for bacterial cleanliness. The remainder passed both tests.

All milk produced and retailed in the district is now "specially designated," that is, pasteurised, sterilised or tuberculin tested. This Milk Order came into operation in 1954. Tests are regularly carried out on samples to ensure purity, adequate pasteurisation and freedom from tuberculosis in the case of raw milk.

### Milk Production.

During the year, three designated and two non-designated herds were disposed of, and at the end of the year sixteen cowkeepers were producing milk for sale, as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	4
Ungraded Milk	...	...	...	...	12

### **Tuberculin Tested Milk.**

Mrs. G. E. M. Phillips, Grovers Farm, West Byfleet.

Mrs. E. M. Cannon, Fan Court Gardens, Longcross.

Mr. W. D. Vernon, Anningsley Park, Ottershaw.

Mr. A. E. Cawley, Home Farm, Ottershaw Park, Ottershaw.

### **Pasteurised and Heat Treated Milk.**

The one pasteurising plant closed down towards the end of the year and there is now no pasteurisation carried out in the district.

### **Meat.**

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the district, one of which is situated and slaughters animals raised and consumed at a local hospital, and is only used occasionally. The other one continued in full use throughout the year, and Sunday killing remained a regular feature throughout the year, necessitating working overtime to complete inspection.

Co-operative relations have continued to exist between the trade and the Local Authority and its Officers. A large percentage of the animals killed has been consigned to the London Markets.

Four hundred and seven visits were made to the main slaughterhouse during the year for the purpose of examination of carcasses and offals.

The following were the number inspected:—

Cattle, 482. Calves, 579. Sheep, 18,488. Pigs, 4,315. Goats, 8.

The total weight of meat, etc., condemned was 15,281 lbs. This figure includes two beef carcasses and six parts of other beef carcasses affected with Tuberculosis.

The following are details of Meat, etc., condemned:—

BEASTS:—	lbs.
2 Carcasses ... ..	822
15 Parts of Carcasses ... ..	342
25 Heads and Tongues ... ..	777
93 Livers and Parts of 63 Livers ... ..	1,438
45 Lungs ... ..	397
6 Melts ... ..	11
8 Skirts ... ..	18
2 Stomachs ... ..	60
5 Hearts ... ..	20
2 Tails ... ..	4

							lbs.
7	Mesenteries	...	...	...	...	...	101
4	Heads	...	...	...	...	...	128
1	Tongue	...	...	...	...	...	4
7	Kidneys	...	...	...	...	...	36
CALVES: —							
1	Carcase and 1 Part of Carcase	...	...	...	...	...	46
1	Top	...	...	...	...	...	4
7	Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	14
2	Plucks	...	...	...	...	...	8
PIGS: —							
71	Heads	...	...	...	...	...	1,158
24	Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	1,990
24	Parts of Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	138
101	Plucks	...	...	...	...	...	540
446	Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	610
129	Livers	...	...	...	...	...	260
16	Mesenteries	...	...	...	...	...	90
4	Stomachs	...	...	...	...	...	22
24	Hearts	...	...	...	...	...	16
21	Tops	...	...	...	...	...	72
SHEEP: —							
45	Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	2,576
37	Parts of Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	152
20	Heads and Tongues	...	...	...	...	...	99
90	Plucks	...	...	...	...	...	461
1,403	Livers	...	...	...	...	...	2,632
86	Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	143
16	Heads	...	...	...	...	...	66
13	Hearts	...	...	...	...	...	5
6	Stomachs	...	...	...	...	...	14
5	Mesenteries	...	...	...	...	...	7
							<hr/>
							lbs. 15,281
							<hr/>

In addition, 4 pigs' livers, weighing 8 lbs., were condemned at the slaughterhouse serving the local hospital.

### Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known ...)	373	109	579	18,488	4,315
Number inspected	373	109	579	18,488	4,315
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI: Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	1	45	21
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	115	32	8	1,534	669
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	30.83%	29.35%	1.55%	8.54%	15.99%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY: Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	1	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	18	17	—	—	71
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	5.09%	16.51%	—	—	1.71%
CYSTICERCOSIS: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	10	3	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	10	3	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	Nil	Nil	—	—	—

### **Disposal of Meat Unfit for Human Consumption.**

During the year, the collection of unsound meat and offal from the main slaughterhouse by a firm of contractors was discontinued, and the largest percentage is now disposed of by burial at the Council's tip. A small percentage of such meat, not specifically diseased, was released for animal feeding.

### **Shops Act, 1950.**

Two hundred and sixty-eight visits were made during the year. No infringements of closing hours were discovered.

The following repairs or improvements were carried out during the year:—

Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	1
Heating facilities provided	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary Conveniences cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	4

### **Food and Drugs Act, 1955.**

#### **Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.**

With the introduction of this new legislation, Local Authorities were given very strong powers in connection with hygiene in Food premises.

In the early part of the year all such premises were visited and a summary of the Regulations was given to every occupier. A detailed inspection of the premises was then commenced and was almost completed at the end of the year.

Ninety-nine informal notices were served requiring works to be carried out to comply with the Regulations, and forty-four had been complied with at the end of the year.

Two food premises closed down and one was transferred to an alternative address, as it was not possible to reach the required standards.

Generally speaking the trade has been very co-operative. Six hundred and fifty-six visits were made and the following improvements were carried out during the year:—

Food rooms repaired	...	...	...	...	20
Food rooms re-decorated	...	...	...	...	21
Constant hot water provided	...	...	...	...	20
Washbasins provided	...	...	...	...	12
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	11
Waste receptacles provided	...	...	...	...	7
Protective display cases provided	...	...	...	...	3
Sanitary conveniences repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	4
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	1
Clothing lockers provided	...	...	...	...	5

First-aid equipment provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Food stalls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Impervious benches provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Delivery vehicles brought up to standard	...	...	...	...	...	1
Names and addresses inscribed on vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	1

Number of Food Premises in the Area:—

Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	13
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	22
Ice-cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Confectioners (Ice-cream and Sweets)	...	...	...	...	...	28
General Stores	...	...	...	...	...	40
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	24
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Provision Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	31
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	17
Licensed Houses, Clubs and Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	54

Number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act:—

Sausage and Pressed Meat Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	16
Ice-cream Stores and Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	98

Number of Dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:—

Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	17
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

**Unsound Food.**

Fifty-seven inspections of food shops were made during the year, the following being details of the food found to be unsound and unfit for human consumption:—

	lbs.
Beef	92
Pork	12 $\frac{1}{4}$
Fresh Fish	85
1 Tin Chicken	4
3 Boxes Confectionery	28
Imported Liver	24
2 Tins Fish	$\frac{3}{4}$
Ham	27 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Tin Soup	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
7 Tins Tomatoes	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Meat Pies	12
8 Tins Luncheon Meat	45
Sausage	13
1 Tin Carrots	2

						lbs.
7	Tins	Stewed	Steak	...	...	40
3	Tins	Veal	...	...	...	18
53	Tins	Fruit	...	...	...	55
16	Tins	Corned	Beef	...	...	51
	Bacon	...	...	...	...	42½

All condemned food from shops is disposed of by burying at the Council's Refuse Tip.

### Sale or Manufacture of Ice-cream.

There are ninety-eight premises on the Register, two premises being used for the manufacture of ice-cream. The remaining premises are used for the retail sale only of ice-cream.

During the year, fifty-three visits were made to registered premises and, where necessary, attention was called for improvements.

Eleven samples of ice-cream were collected for analysis, with the following results:—

Grade	I.	...	...	...	11
„	II.	...	...	...	Nil
„	III.	...	...	...	Nil
„	IV.	...	...	...	Nil

These grades refer to the degree of bacteriological purity. Grades I and II are considered of a satisfactory standard. When samples fall into Grades III and IV a careful check is made at the plants concerned and manufacturers are advised on cleansing, sterilisation and hygienic preparation.

Recording thermometers have been installed by ice-cream manufacturers to the satisfaction of the Local Authority and in accordance with the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1952. Frequent inspections of plant and equipment are made to ensure that proper and adequate temperature are secured in the process of manufacture in accordance with the above regulations.

### Food and Drugs Acts, 1938-1950.

The administration of the Food and Drugs Acts, 1938-1950, is carried out by the Surrey County Council.

The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following table of work done in the Chertsey Urban District during 1956:—

Articles	Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular			Prosecutions	Convictions
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total		
Baby Food ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Biscuits ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bread ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Bread, enriched ... ..	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Bread, fruit ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cereals ... ..	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
Ice-Cream ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Meat, cooked and prepared ... ..	3	—	3	2	—	2	—	—
Milk ... ..	56	8	64	—	—	—	—	—
Rose Hip Syrup ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Rum Butter ... ..	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Slimming Foods ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Whisky ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Wines ... ..	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Iron Tablets ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	76	11	87	4	—	4	—	—

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

### **Scarlet Fever.**

There was a remarkably low incidence of scarlet fever, only three cases being notified, two being in school children in attendance at different schools. Two cases were admitted to hospital for treatment and made an uncomplicated recovery after a short period of isolation. This disease appears to be losing its former infectivity and liability to give rise to extensive outbreaks.

### **Poliomyelitis.**

Following the severe outbreak in 1955, two further cases, one a girl of 5 years in Addlestone and the other a woman of 30 years in Longcross, came into hospital at the end of the year and were notified in January of the year under review. Both made a good recovery and are regarded as the tail end of the outbreak.

No further cases occurred until the end of June, when a boy of 8 years developed paralytic poliomyelitis and was transferred to a London Hospital. His sister, a girl of 10 years, was mildly affected with the non-paralytic type at home in New Haw.

The fifth case occurred six weeks later in New Haw in a boy of 6 years, who recovered without paralysis.

The sixth case, a boy of 5 years in the same district, had a minor attack and made a good recovery in the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Ottershaw.

Two further cases associated with a Council School in New Haw were suspected at one stage of being affected but the diagnosis was not confirmed after further clinical observation and examination for virus which was negative.

With regard to examination for virus, a distinct advance in diagnosis and control of this disease was made during the year when the Public Health Laboratory at Guildford was equipped for the isolation and typing of virus in faecal specimens. It is now possible to have clinically obscure cases diagnosed with certainty in ten days' time. It is commonly found that home or immediate contacts of patients are also symptomless carriers. Examination of specimens is now being carried out in all cases and contacts. The virus known as Type 1 is predominant.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was commenced in April, 1956. Children born after January 1947 are eligible and thirty per cent. of these were registered and inoculations commenced during 1956. It is hoped that all registered children aged 4 to 6 years will have completed a course by the Summer of 1957.

## Diphtheria.

This is the eleventh consecutive year that no cases have occurred in children up to school leaving age. This remarkable success has been achieved mainly by two injections of prophylactics at a month's interval beginning at about eight months of age and followed by a single supplementary dose on entering school. A further supplementary dose may be given at 8 years of age.

The real danger in regard to diphtheria prophylaxis is that young mothers have no knowledge of the seriousness of the disease, with the result that some neglect, through apathy, to have their babies immunised in the first year of life. This must be countered by every possible means of publicity and persuasion so that quite unnecessary serious illness and loss of life may be prevented.

The following figures give the Immunity Index at the end of 1956, showing the percentage of children who have, within the last five years, received either their first course of injections or a subsequent reinforcing dose.

<i>Immunity Index.</i>		
<i>Under 1 year.</i>	<i>1-4 years.</i>	<i>5-14 years.</i>
11.6%	75.9%	61.1%

Details of the number of children immunised during the year are as follows:—

Primary injections	...	...	608
Reinforcing doses	...	...	323

## Vaccination against Smallpox.

Notification is received from time to time of contacts of smallpox abroad arriving in this district from seaports and airports. In these days of quick travel these contacts have to be kept under observation for two weeks from their arrival in the country. Air journeys from smallpox endemic areas take less time than the incubation period of the disease. There have been twenty-three importations of variola major into the country in the past ten years and there will undoubtedly be more. It is, therefore, necessary to secure as high a percentage as possible of vaccination in infancy. If re-vaccination has to be carried out later, say in a local outbreak of smallpox or for persons proceeding abroad, a mild reaction is ensured, whereas vaccination for the first time in adult years may react unpleasantly.

Notifications have been received of the following vaccinations carried out.

Primary vaccination	...	...	491
Re-vaccination	...	...	111

It is not now necessary to discontinue vaccination during outbreaks of poliomyelitis as it has been shown that poliomyelitis does not occur after vaccination as it may do after other inoculations.

Vaccination should be the first immunising procedure for the baby and carried out preferably between the second and third month of life.

### Measles and Whooping Cough.

This was a non-epidemic year, only seven cases of measles and three cases of whooping cough being notified in children.

Most parents have a fear of whooping cough and are anxious to have their children protected. The disease is most dangerous in the first year of life, so it is desirable to commence the three injections at three months of age, a few weeks after smallpox vaccination, and so as not to interfere with injections against diphtheria at eight months of age.

Details of children immunised during the year are as follows:—

Primary injections	...	...	521
Reinforcing doses	...	...	133

### Pneumonia.

Sixty-six cases were notified, the vast majority being under treatment in a large general hospital and in the age group of 45 years and over. Only nine of these hospital cases were local residents.

Sixteen cases were notified in local residents treated at home.

There were nine deaths attributable to pneumonia.

### Dysentery.

Nine cases were notified. Six of these cases were of the Flexner type and occurred in adult patients in an institution for mental defectives. Two cases were notified from a general hospital and were not local residents. The organism was not identified in the remaining one case.

### Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Disease	Total Cases Notified
Smallpox	—
Scarlet Fever	3
Diphtheria	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid Fever)	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—
Pneumonia	66
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—
Erysipelas	—
Malaria	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	—
Measles	7
Whooping Cough	3
Meningococcal Infection	—
Dysentery	9
Poliomyelitis—paralytic	4
Poliomyelitis—non-paralytic	2
Food Poisoning	—

## Notifiable Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

According to Age Groups.

AGE	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid Fever)	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Dysentery	Poliomyelitis—paralytic	Poliomyelitis—non-paralytic	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Meningococcal Infection	Encephalitis Lethargica	Malaria	Food Poisoning
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-3 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	1	2	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	6	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-65 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unspecified ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	—	3	—	—	—	66	—	7	3	9	4	2	—	—	—	—	—

## Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.

The following cases occurred in Elementary Schools and Day Nurseries:—

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Chickenpox ...	6	2	7	17	26	14	35	—	2	8	—	—
Mumps ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
German Measles	—	—	—	1	2	3	5	—	—	1	1	—

## Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality.

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25 years ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 years ...	2	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
35-45 years ...	3	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
45-55 years ...	4	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
55-65 years ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 upwards ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>

Cases added to register during year:—

New cases ... ..	23
Transfer into district ... ..	26
Cases removed from register during year ... ..	34

Total on register at end of year:—

Pulmonary—Males ... ..	152
Females ... ..	133
Non-Pulmonary—Males ... ..	22
Females ... ..	20
Net increase for the year ... ..	15

Steps are immediately taken to follow up deaths of persons whose tuberculous disease was not notified during life. Enquiries are made into the reason for failure of notification, disinfection is carried out in the home and the contacts are examined. Four such cases were discovered during the year, the disease being diagnosed on post mortem examination.

### Home Conditions.

The Medical Officer of Health has detailed knowledge of the home conditions of all persons notified to him as suffering from tuberculosis from personal visits as well as from reports from the Health Visitor. He is thus in a position to advise on the housing requirements of the family concerned. The patient should be isolated at least to the extent of having a bedroom to himself. Advice is given on the necessity of strict precautions as to proper disposal of sputum and on general matters of hygiene.

### **Tuberculosis Care Committee.**

The local area Care Committee includes the Chertsey district in its sphere of activities. It helps tuberculous persons and their families who require assistance and advice. Thirty-seven cases were helped during the year with extra nourishment, clothing, household necessities and handicraft materials. Seventeen children who were contacts with active cases at home were provided with seaside and country holidays.

### **Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.**

No action was necessary under these Regulations regarding tuberculous employees in the milk trade.

### **Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.**

No action was needed for the compulsory removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis whose lodging or accommodation prevented the adoption of proper precautions in the control of the disease.

### **B.C.G. Vaccination, 1956.**

This form of protection against tuberculosis is now available to school children in their 14th year, as well as to child contacts of active tuberculosis.

The tuberculin test is used to indicate whether the child is susceptible to tuberculosis, and if so found B.C.G. vaccination is carried out.

About fifty per cent. of local school children aged 13 to 14 years were so treated.

### **Mass Radiography Service.**

The Mass Radiography Unit visits the district every two years, and will be operating locally in the late summer of 1957. It is hoped there will be a good response by the general public.

