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The Rural District Council of Hexham

ANNUAL REPORT



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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. M. McEWAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

and of

THE CHIEF

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year, 1964



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For the Year, 1964

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HEXHAM

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1964

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

J. M. McEWAN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. *Medical Officer of Health.*

Public Health Department, Prospect House, Hexham.

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*Additional Public Health Inspector*Public Health.
Housing.
Meat and Foods
Inspection.
Council House
Management.
Refuse Collection
and Disposal.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**
for the year ended 31st December, 1965.

—oOo—

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1964.

This large Rural District contains a diversity of social conditions. The Eastern part is becoming increasingly residential, and the majority of new private houses are being built there and occupied to a large extent by new residents from the Newcastle area. Some of the former country villages there are approaching the size of towns and desire the services available in an urban area. The administration is concerned with providing modern amenities on an increasing scale, and the most pressing need is for up-to-date sewage treatment facilities. This the Council have under consideration in the form of the Mid-Tyne sewerage scheme, now in course of preparation. The typically rural part of the District consists of fertile agricultural land. The villages are prosperous and maintain their population, and many of the older houses have been improved with the aid of grant. The extension of mains water has been of great benefit, and the provision of small sewage treatment works is proceeding gradually. The most difficult part of the District to serve with modern facilities lies in the high valleys and uplands where the land is poorer, and where the distances involved make the supply of mains water, which is the greatest need, unreasonably costly. The Council are anxious to provide amenities there as elsewhere, but progress is limited.

The population increased by 200 during 1964, and the natural increase of births over deaths was 70. Although the population as a whole has shown a slow but steady increase over recent years it is very probable that it is becoming redistributed, with more newcomers attracted to the residential areas than are indicated by the annual increase while the smaller and more remote villages are losing population. This impression cannot be confirmed until the next census shows the new population by parishes. The vital statistics for the year are very satisfactory. The birth rate and death

rate were close to the national average, while for the fourth successive year the infant mortality rate was considerably below the national average, and was in fact the lowest recorded in the past 25 years. Of the three deaths in infancy none could be considered preventable. There was a slight increase in the number of deaths from lung cancer, pneumonia and bronchitis, but the main causes of death were as usual vascular lesions of the nervous system and various forms of heart disease and occurred in elderly persons.

The pattern of infectious diseases has changed so much of recent years that the major infections call for comment only by their absence. Apart from measles, which was widespread, few cases were notified. Improved health and living conditions have contributed to the control of infectious disease, but most credit must go to preventive medicine in the form of immunisation and vaccination and to the extent to which parents have accepted the protection that can be offered. It is probable that measles too can be prevented by immunisation in the near future. Included in the three notifications of tuberculosis was one case of non-pulmonary infection, now uncommon since dairy herds became tubercle-free, but it occurred in an elderly person whereas most milk-borne infections develop in children. If milk-borne tuberculosis is rare, brucellosis is being more often recognised. Again two herds were brought to notice through the routine sampling of milk and were extensively investigated. Positive excretors were found, in one case affecting a high proportion of a small herd, and the milk has since been pasteurised. This is satisfactory from the point of view of providing the public with safe milk, but it does nothing to remove the source of infection, which is the ideal solution.

During the year 79 houses were built by the Council and 90 privately. Under construction were a further 45 houses, 38 being privately built. The plans for 140 houses of advanced design have been approved for Corbridge, and further private development there is under consideration. While the waiting list for Council houses remains high the need for re-housing is less urgent than it was some years ago. The Council plan to build further family houses at Barrasford, but otherwise only old people's bungalows are in the next programme. These will be built in a number of villages, and the needs of the frail elderly, and of the severely handicapped of all ages, will be met by the proposed large development in Corbridge, to consist of some 30 flats with special amenities, including a

warden, and 40 bungalows. Unfortunately this scheme will be delayed until Corbridge has adequate sewage disposal facilities. Additional housing is provided by the Council through the purchase and improvement of old property when the opportunity offers, and work is in progress on six such houses in Humshaugh. Owners are encouraged to modernise old property and keep it in occupation with the aid of improvement grants, and the Council have an excellent record in this respect — over 1,000 discretionary grants have now been made, and only one third of these to improve owner-occupied houses. The value of this policy in a Rural District cannot be over-stressed in saving individual houses and whole communities. A systematic inspection is being made in villages where there are still a number of unsatisfactory houses and the owners are being encouraged to modernise with grant aid, but the results so far have been disappointing — in Haydon Bridge owners have undertaken or have agreed to undertake improvement in respect of 38 houses only out of 136. The latest Housing Act gives the Council powers to acquire and modernise such property, but informal approach will remain the first step.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, as statutory water undertakers, continue to provide much the greater part of the District with a supply that is satisfactory in quality and quantity. The Council remain responsible for private and proposed supplies. Routine and check samples are taken frequently, the results being interchanged where necessary, and any remedial action required is taken by the appropriate authority. Only one chemical analysis was carried out, on a proposed supply, and it and the bacteriological sample were unsatisfactory. It is known however that the mains supply is satisfactory chemically, and that plumbo-solvency is not a problem, but that the fluoride content is low. Detailed information about the water supply is given in the Chief Public Health Inspector's section of the report.

The South-West Northumberland water scheme is now complete, but the Council will extend phase 3 where this can be done at reasonable cost. The only extensions carried out during 1964 were in the Langley and Stagshaw areas, but others are under consideration. The Council bear the first £350 per property, and the owner is required to pay the balance if the scheme is to proceed. Although this is a generous grant it is quite inadequate for some of the proposed schemes, particularly to distant villages where long lengths of un-

productive main must be laid. It is usually suggested, in these circumstances, that the Company should use local sources, but these are usually inadequate in quality or quantity, and in using them the Company could not fulfil its statutory obligations. The only way in which mains water can be brought to some parts of the District is to disregard cost, which means generous grants from some source.

Except in the Mid-Tyne area the arrangements for sewage disposal in the District can be said to be adequate. During the year the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Langley was completed, and the joint scheme to serve the villages of Acomb, Oakwood and Anick together with the town of Hexham was begun. A scheme for Blanchland will be begun soon, and is regarded as urgently necessary in view of the fact that untreated sewage would otherwise enter the new Derwent Valley reservoir. The position in the Tyne Valley from Corbridge eastwards is far from satisfactory owing to the lack or inadequacy of existing facilities, and a number of schemes have been prepared by the Consulting Engineers. The Council favoured one centralised works, but after discussion with the Ministry it was agreed to proceed at once with works at Broomhaugh to serve Corbridge, Riding Mill and Stocksfield. Alternative proposals to deal with the villages of Ovington, Ovingham, Horsley and Wylam are under consideration, and the scheme adopted will depend on the ability of Prudhoe sewage treatment works to accept all, part or none of the sewage from these villages. The cost will be very considerable, but the need is urgent and indisputable as this populous area is inadequately served and new housing development must provide temporary treatment works or remain in abeyance pending settlement of the sewage disposal question.

In presenting this Report I should like to record my appreciation of the progressive outlook of the Council in the improvement of amenities in this very large Rural District, and of the active interest the Councillors continue to take in the work of the Health Department. I acknowledge with gratitude the co-operation and courtesy of the Clerk and other officials, and the continued good work done by the Public Health Inspectors and the staff.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. M. McEWAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	196,030
Estimated Population 1964	20,460

Vital Statistics

Live Births—	Males	Females	Total	
Legitimate	167	159	326	
Illegitimate	4	5	9	
Live birth rate per 1,000 population.. .. .				17.84
Live birth rate, England and Wales per 1,000 population				18.4
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births .				2.68
Still Births—	Males	Females	Total	
Legitimate	—	1	1	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Still-birth rate per 1,000 live and still births				3.24
Still-birth rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 live and still-births				16.3
Total live and still-births				336
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)				3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births.. .. .				8.24
Infant Mortality Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 live births				20.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births — legitimate				8.47
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 births—illegitimate				Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)				5.49
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births)				2.74
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and still births)				5.48
Deaths from maternal causes.. .. .				Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still-births				Nil
Deaths from Cancer (All ages)				54
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (All causes and ages)				11.47
Death Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 population (All causes and ages)				11.3

The following Table classifies deaths according to their age groups.

AGE GROUP	M.	F.
Under 4 weeks	1	—
4 weeks and under 1 year	1	1
1 — 4 years	—	—
5 — 14 years	4	1
15 — 24 years	2	2
25 — 34 years	2	1
35 — 44 years	3	—
45 — 54 years	5	5
55 — 64 years	28	15
65 — 74 years	28	39
75 years and over	46	71
	120	135

VITAL AND MORTALITY STATISTICS

Year.	Birth Rate per 1,000 living	General Death Rate per 1,000 living	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 living
1938	14.1	15.3	68.5
1939	10.7	12.4	79.4
1940	12.2	12.9	56.1
1941	12.0	12.3	42.2
1942	14.4	12.6	21.1
1943	13.7	13.7	37.2
1944	15.4	12.8	44.0
1945	13.2	13.1	31.1
1946	18.1	13.1	46.9
1947	17.4	14.4	34.2
1948	16.0	12.6	18.0
1949	14.3	12.4	23.4
1950	14.8	13.4	29.0
1951	13.86	14.20	28.07
1952	15.32	12.75	54.85
1953	14.67	12.01	27.21
1954	14.57	11.39	20.50
1955	14.36	11.67	17.73
1956	16.14	11.97	14.24
1957	16.17	11.76	25.31
1958	16.14	12.79	16.76
1959	14.78	11.80	21.98
1960	15.52	11.70	26.87
1961	15.06	12.39	16.14
1962	16.05	12.09	11.15
1963	18.02	12.26	13.74
1964	17.84	11.47	8.24

The chief causes of death are as follows :—

11

CAUSES OF DEATH.		M.	F.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other ..	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease ..	—	—
4.	Diphtheria ..	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough ..	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections ..	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis ..	—	—
8.	Measles ..	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	—	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	3	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	12	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	—	7
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ..	14	13
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ..	1	1
16.	Diabetes ..	—	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	14	25
18.	Coronary disease, angina ..	35	31
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ..	2	1
20.	Other heart disease ..	2	12
21.	Other Circulatory disease ..	5	7
22.	Influenza ..	—	—
23.	Pneumonia ..	9	9
24.	Bronchitis ..	7	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ..	1	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	—	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	—	2
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	1	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ..	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations ..	2	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	7	7
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ..	1	—
34.	All other accidents ..	1	6
35.	Suicide ..	2	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—
		120	135
TOTAL ..		255	

Infant Mortality during Year ending December 31st, 1964

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year.

CAUSES OF DEATH				Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
Prematurity..	..	..		1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Birth Injury..	..	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	..	..		—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ..	..	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accident ..	..	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases	..	..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..				1	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	3

TUBERCULOSIS.—New cases and Mortality during 1964 :-

Age periods	New Cases.				Nett Deaths in Hexham Rural District.			
	Pulmonary.		Non. Pulm.		Pulmonary.		Non. Pulm.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1940-1964.

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria	Measles.	Pneumonia.	Cerebrospinal Fever.	Acute Polio-myelitis.	Acute Polio-encephalitis.	Dysentery.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Smallpox.	Paratyphoid Fevers.	Enteric or Typhoid	Erysipelas.	Food Poisoning.
1940	17	11	16	170	14	8	1	—	—	8	11	—	—	1	2	—
1941	11	59	13	91	16	3	—	—	1	6	17	—	—	7	7	—
1942	13	1	7	65	11	3	—	—	12	8	13	—	—	—	3	—
1943	23	24	4	114	20	1	—	—	7	10	18	—	—	—	0	—
1944	29	28	3	32	5	—	—	—	—	15	17	—	—	—	5	—
1945	36	18	8	23	8	—	—	—	5	—	8	—	—	—	5	—
1946	21	45	6	81	15	1	3	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	2	—
1947	4	33	6	208	8	—	8	—	1	—	9	—	1	—	—	—
1948	29	56	1	81	8	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	4	10
1949	18	22	—	146	12	—	4	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	6	1
1950	31	99	—	255	26	—	2	—	1	—	10	—	—	—	6	—
1951	14	45	—	220	32	3	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
1952	24	71	—	162	18	—	1	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	5	1
1953	30	144	—	172	17	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	1
1954	17	74	—	45	11	—	—	—	4	—	14	—	—	—	—	5
1955	5	64	—	491	13	—	2	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
1956	3	34	—	27	27	—	4	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	4	—
1957	12	63	—	373	29	—	2	—	7	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
1958	14	30	—	1	26	—	1	—	9	—	25	—	—	—	2	—
1959	11	18	—	420	14	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	2	—
1960	18	3	—	8	23	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1961	12	1	—	289	10	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1962	5	—	—	25	23	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1963	4	4	—	470	12	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1964	3	5	—	210	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS YEAR, 1964

FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS RETURNED TO REGISTRAR
GENERAL.

1st Qtr. Nil	2nd Qtr. Nil	3rd Qtr. Nil	4th Qtr. Nil	Total Nil
OUTBREAKS DUE TO IDENTIFIED AGENTS				Nil
OUTBREAKS OF UNDISCOVERED CAUSE				Nil
SINGLE CASES :—				
Agent identified	..	..	..	Nil
Unknown cause	..	..	..	Nil
TOTAL				Nil

HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA

(1) Hospitals

There are in the district four hospitals under the management of the Hexham and District Hospital Management Committee. These comprise the Charlotte Straker Hospital and the Bridge End Maternity Hospital at Corbridge, the Dilston Maternity Hospital and Wooley Sanatorium. These hospitals together with the Hexham General Hospital, the Hexham War Memorial Hospital and the Newcastle group of hospitals are available to cases from the area.

Cases of infectious disease requiring admission to hospital are referred to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Newcastle upon Tyne.

(2) Ambulance Service

The British Red Cross Society, acting as agents for the Northumberland County Council, provide an ambulance service which serves the district. Ambulance Stations are situated at Corbridge and at Hexham. Patients requiring transport, but not an ambulance, are brought in by car. In an extensive area with poor communications this is a very valuable service. Some of the cars are provided by the British Red Cross Society, others by agents in the various villages.

(3) Home Help Service

The Northumberland County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district. Home Helps are available to households where such help is required owing to illness or confinement, and their services are obtained through the office of the West Area Health Sub-Committee, Priory Buildings, Hexham.

(4) Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics

The following Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held by the Northumberland County Council in the district :

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS :

Acomb	Miners' Institute Hall, Acomb. Alternate Thursdays : 1-30 — 4 p.m.
Allendale ..	Dr. Gray's Surgery. Second Monday in the month ; 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Corbridge ..	Parish Hall, Princes Street. Alternate Mondays : 9-30 a.m. — 12 noon. 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Haydon Bridge ..	Church Hall. Alternate Mondays : 9-30 a.m. — 12 noon. 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Humshaugh ..	Village Hall. Every fourth Thursday : 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Newbrough ..	Women's Institute. Alternate Wednesdays : 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Ovington ..	Methodist Church Hall, Ovington. Every fourth Tuesday : 9-30 a.m. — 12 noon.
Riding Mill ..	Parish Hall. Every fourth Thursday : 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Stocksfield ..	Red Cross Hut. Alternate Mondays : 9-30 a.m. — 12 noon. 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.

Wylam Methodist Church Hall.
 Alternate Tuesdays :
 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS :

Allendale .. Dr. Gray's Surgery.
 Alternate Tuesday :
 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.

Stocksfield .. Red Cross Hut.
 Alternate Tuesdays :
 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.

(5) Midwifery and Home Nursing Service

These services are now administered by the Northumberland County Council and in this area are combined. There are nine Nurse Midwives working in the Hexham Rural District.

WATER AND SEWERAGE SCHEMES

I am indebted to Mr. W. W. Outhwaite, the Engineer and Surveyor for giving the following tables of construction works proposed or in hand.

Works under Construction or Completed during 1964 :

Langley Sewerage and Sewage Disposal,
 Acomb, Oakwood and Anick Sewerage.

Works to be commenced during 1965 :

Blanchland.
 Newton.

Works to be designed and prepared by Consultants :

Mid-Tyne Sewerage and Sewage Disposal comprising the villages on the river — Corbridge to Wylam.

Two meetings have been held in London with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and with representatives of Prudhoe Urban District Council to consider the most satisfactory way of dealing with the Mid-Tyne Sewerage from Corbridge to Wylam. It is now decided that the scheme be designed on the lines :—

- (a) one sewage works to be sited at Broomhaugh, Riding Mill to deal with the western villages of Corbridge, Riding Mill and Stocksfield ; and
- (b) that consideration be given to the following alternative means of sewage disposal for the eastern villages of Ovington, Ovingham, Horsley and Wylam :—
 - (1) to discharge sewage from all four villages to the sewage works at Prudhoe ;
 - (2) to discharge sewage from Ovingham and Ovington to Prudhoe Works and construct a new works at Wylam ;
 - (3) construct new works at Wylam for the eastern villages leaving the Prudhoe sewage works for Prudhoe's own requirements.

**Works to be designed and prepared for Completion in
Engineer's Department :**

Fourstones.

Allenheads.

Hardhaugh.

Blackhall Mill.

Wall.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1964.**

—0—

Water Supplies :

During the year, 72 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and 1 sample was taken for chemical analysis.

Public Supplies :

Samples are taken regularly both by the Council and by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company. The results of samples taken by the Council are shown in the accompanying table.

Small extensions to the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company's mains have been laid in the Langley and Stagshaw areas during the year.

Including new houses, 173 additional properties were given connections to the mains during the year.

**PUBLIC SUPPLIES
Bacteriological Examination of Water Samples.**

	Number Satisfactory	Number Un- satisfactory	Number of Samples Taken
Acomb.	4	—	4
Allendale	9	2	11
Allenheads	1	—	1
Colwell	1	—	1
Corbridge (North)	2	—	2
Corbridge (South)	2	—	2
Fourstones	1	—	1
Gunnerton	1	—	1
Haydon Bridge	3	—	3
Humshaugh	4	—	4
Newbrough	5	—	5
Riding Mill	3	1	4
Sandhoe	6	—	6
Stocksfield	1	—	1
Wall	3	—	3
	46	3	49

Private and Proposed Supplies :

27 samples were taken, the results of which are given below.

	Number of Samples taken		Number Satisfactory		Number Un-satisfactory		Total Samples taken
	Bact.	Chem.	Bact.	Chem.	Bact.	Chem.	
Mariners Cottages, Acomb	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Garden House Farm, Acomb	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Glenhill, Allendale ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Knockburn, Sinderhope	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
High Broadwood Hall, Allendale	2	1	—	—	2	1	3
Newshield, Allendale (High Spring) ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Newshield, Allendale (Low Spring) ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Woodhead, Allendale (High Spring) ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Woodhead, Allendale (Low Spring) ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
East House, The Bridges, Stocksfield	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Styford Hall	4	—	1	—	3	—	4
Howden Dene, Corbridge	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Espershields (New Farm House) ..	2	—	1	—	1	—	2
Carraw Farm, Humshaugh ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Crag View, Wall ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
St. Oswalds Farm, Wall	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Warden's House, Youth Hostel, Mohope	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Wall Village School ..	3	—	—	—	3	—	3
	26	1	10	—	16	1	27

**DETAILS OF HOUSES AND POPULATION
SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC SUPPLIES**

PARISH.	SUPPLIED DIRECT TO HOUSES.		SUPPLIED BY STANDPIPE	
	No. of Houses	Popu- lation	No. of Houses	Popu- lation
Acomb.. ..	396	1198	5	22
Allendale	744	1532	35	123
Blanchland	62	175	—	—
Broomhaugh & Riding	263	591	2	7
Broomley & Stocksfield	680	1669	—	—
Bywell.. ..	33	85	10	33
Chollerton	104	355	—	—
Corbridge	952	2844	—	—
Haydon Bridge	830	2124	—	—
Healey.. ..	13	35	—	—
Hedley	66	178	—	—
Hexhamshire	110	342	—	—
Hexham Low Quarter	101	232	—	—
Horsley	105	315	—	—
Humshaugh	198	518	—	—
Newbrough	222	555	4	14
Ovingham	225	641	—	—
Ovington	135	399	—	—
Sandhoe	160	382	—	—
Shotley Low Quarter	41	119	—	—
Slaley	160	738	—	—
Wall	79	235	—	—
Warden	92	278	—	—
Whittington	65	165	—	—
Wylam	567	1328	—	—
	6403	17033	56	199

HOUSING

Council House Building

The Chantry estate at Corbridge and an extension to the Allenfields estate at Allendale were completed during the year, providing 68 general purpose houses and 6 Old Persons' bungalows.

An extension of the Blakett Cottages site at Wylam providing a further 8 Old Persons' bungalows was nearing completion at the end of the year, 5 houses having been completed and occupied.

The re-conditioning of 20 houses at Horsley Wood has been completed and work was begun at Humshaugh on the construction of 4 Old Persons' bungalows and on the re-conditioning of 6 houses at Widdrington Terrace. A further house has been purchased at Princes Street, Corbridge which will be improved as soon as suitable accommodation has been found for the present tenant.

The Council has given approval to proposals to build further houses in the following places :

Slaley	12 Old Persons' bungalows.
Barrasford	13 General purpose houses and 6 Old Persons' bungalows.
Newbrough	2 Old Persons' bungalows.
Ovingham	12 Old Persons' bungalows.
Corbridge	Estate for Old Persons.

It is intended that the Corbridge site should comprise both bungalows and flatlets, the latter consisting of a bed-sitting room and kitchen with shared toilet accommodation. The estate will be under the general supervision of a warden.

The total number of Council houses is now 944 of which 91 are Old Persons' bungalows.

Garages :

The Council has now 56 lock-up garages situated on the various estates. There are also two pieces of land providing sites for 19 garages erected by tenants.

Houses completed in 1964 :

	<i>With State Assistance</i>	<i>Unaided</i>	<i>Total</i>
A. By Local Authority :			
Allendale ..	6	—	6
Corbridge ..	68	—	68
Wylam	5	—	5
B. By other Persons or Bodies ..	—	52	52
	79	52	131

Houses under construction at 31/12/64 :

	<i>With State Assistance</i>	<i>Unaided</i>	<i>Total</i>
A. By Local Authority :			
Wylam	3	—	3
Humshaugh ..	4	—	4
B. By other Persons or Bodies ..	—	38	38
	7	38	45

Council House Applications

At the end of the year, there were 348 applications for general purpose houses and 208 applications for Old Persons' bungalows, the latter shows a decrease of 27 whilst applications for general purpose houses have increased by 34.

104 families were housed during the year, 79 in new houses and 25 as a result of casual vacancies. By exchanges of tenancies, a further 11 families were moved to houses more suitable for their needs.

When tenancies were considered for the Chantry Estate at Corbridge, opportunity was given to tenants of Council houses in other parts of the District to make application for transfer to Corbridge. As a result, 10 families were re-housed on the estate. The Council had also agreed to set aside 10 houses for employees of the Aircraft Weyroc factory at Anick. By the time the estate was completed, the Company

had taken only 4 of these and the remaining 6 houses were allocated to families on the Council's general list.

In order to reduce the very considerable amount of time taken in repeated visits to applicants, new forms were issued together with a circular letter requiring future changes in circumstances to be notified to this office. New applicants are to be visited initially to ensure that the information given is correct.

When a vacancy occurs, all applicants on the list are required to verify the particulars given on the application form or to give details of any changes which have taken place. Following the allocation, the successful applicant is visited to ensure that the information given is correct before handing over the keys.

DETAILS OF COUNCIL HOUSING ESTATES AT 31/12/64

DISTRICT	Pre-War Houses	Agri-cultural Cottages	Houses acquired for Improvement	Post War Houses		Total
				General Purpose	Old Persons	
Acomb.. ..	26	—	—	62	9	97
Allendale ..	—	—	1	20	6	27
Barrasford ..	—	—	—	16	3	19
Bingfield ..	—	4	—	—	—	4
Colwell.. ..	—	—	—	5	—	5
Corbridge ..	26	—	7	181	12	226
				(inc. 2 shops)		
Fourstones ..	12	—	—	16	—	28
Gunnerton ..	—	—	—	6	—	6
Haydon Bridge	18	—	—	88	8	114
Hedley.. ..	—	—	1	—	—	1
Horsley ..	—	4	20	9	—	33
Humshaugh ..	6	—	6	6	2	20
Juniper ..	—	2	—	—	—	2
Newbrough ..	—	—	—	49	14	63
New Ridley ..	12	—	—	—	—	12
Ovingham ..	6	—	—	46	—	52
Ovington ..	18	—	—	12	10	40
Slaley ..	—	4	—	12	—	16
Stocksfield ..	—	—	—	56	8	64
Wall ..	8	—	—	8	—	16
Whittington ..	—	4	—	—	—	4
Wylam ..	—	—	—	76	17	93
Riding Mill ..	—	—	—	—	2	2
	132	18	35	668	91	944

Council House Maintenance

Tenders were let for the external painting of 122 Council houses. Owing to delay in commencing work, the contracts for 1 house at Hedley-on-the-Hill, 2 houses at Juniper and 6 houses at Waynriggs Terrace, Humshaugh were held over until the following year.

2,736 visits have been made in connection with the general supervision of Council houses. 806 items of disrepair were dealt with. In the main the larger items consisted of the complete renewal of the rough casting of six houses at Waynriggs Terrace, Humshaugh at a cost of £718 os. od., and the replacement of 29 ranges. 27 of these were worn out, the other 2 were unsatisfactory back to back ranges. Alternative means of cooking were provided in 16 cases.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

103 grants were approved during the year, comprising 76 Discretionary grants and 27 Standard grants. This is an increase of 14 on the previous year and the highest figure since 1956. The total number of grants approved since the inception of the scheme in 1951 is 1068.

The following are the percentages of different types of houses for which grants have been approved.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Tenanted farmhouses, farm and estate cottages. | 45% |
| 2. Owner occupied houses. | 36% |
| 3. Rented houses. | 19% |

The Housing Act 1964 which came into force on 16th August gave Local Authorities power to require the improvement of tenanted dwellings and also made changes in the conditions relating to both Discretionary and Standard grants.

Part 2 of the Act, which deals with compulsory Improvement grants, enables Local Authorities to compel owners of tenanted properties to carry out improvements either on the request of a tenant or by the declaration of an Improvement area.

Whilst giving this new power to Local Authorities, the Minister recommends that, wherever possible, owners should be approached to improve their houses voluntarily. This policy is being carried out in particular in the Haydon Bridge area at present where all owners of property suitable for improvement are being approached either personally or by letter.

Part 3 of the Act relates to revised conditions attached to grants and increases the maximum grant in respect of Standard grants to £350 in special circumstances. The limit for Discretionary grants has been increased to £500 os. od., in respect of a house of 3 or more storeys which is converted to smaller dwellings.

SUMMARY OF DISCRETIONARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPROVED

Year	No. of houses	Grants Approved
1951	1	£ 287
1952	12	2,305
1953	32	8,135
1954	93	25,367
1955	134	35,740
1956	102	28,528
1957	96	30,790
1958	72	20,999
1959	99	28,703
1960	76	23,261
1961	63	18,093
1962	82	25,571
1963	74	22,975
1964	76	22,184
Totals	1,012	£292,938

Summary of Standard Grants Approved

Year	No. of applications	BASIC AMENITIES PROVIDED					
		Fixed bath or shower	Wash-hand basin	Internal water closet	Hot water system	Food Store	Septic Tank
1960	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
1961	5	1	3	4	1	2	—
1962	10	4	5	9	2	1	—
1963	13	5	4	10	4	3	—
1964	27	19	20	27	17	12	1
Totals	56	29	32	50	25	18	1

Unfit Houses

During the year 7 properties were demolished, one as a result of statutory action, and 6 voluntarily by their owners. 3 of those voluntarily demolished were wooden bungalows in the Ovington/Ovingham area, the occupiers of which were re-housed by the Council.

Undertakings were accepted in respect of 2 properties.

2 Hill Street, Corbridge.

Rift Farm Cottage, Wylam.

Rent Act, 1957

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received during the year.

Privy Conversions

6 grants towards the cost of converting privies were approved.

Privies at Schools

During the year, the conversion of the privies at Newbrough School was completed, and work was in progress on the conversion of privies to water closets at Chollerton School, Barrasford.

There are now in the district five village schools where privies are still in use, these are as follows :—

Allenheads.

St. Peter's School, Sparty Lea.

Bingfield.

Carrshield.

Grindon, Haydon Bridge.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There are 9 licensed slaughterhouses in the district, all of which are in regular use.

3,132 animals were slaughtered during the year, inspection was carried out in all cases, and the carcasses were stamped in compliance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

The figures in the accompanying tables give details of meat condemned. No tuberculosis was found in the 722 bovine carcasses and offals inspected.

As in previous years cirrhosis of the liver was the most common cause for condemnation. Of the 156 animals which were found to have some part or organ affected 121 had cirrhotic livers and accounted for 68% of the total weight of meat condemned.

The 250 lbs. of meat condemned for black quarter was an entire carcase of bullock which was brought into the slaughter house as a casualty. The meat was stained and brought into Hexham for disposal.

Assistance was given to Haltwhistle Rural District Council by carrying out meat inspection, on the occasions when their inspector was on holiday.

All condemned meat, before being disposed of, is stained in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations, small quantities are taken by the Council's refuse collectors and buried in tips, larger amounts are accepted at the Hexham Abattoir and disposed of with condemned meat from Hexham.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excl'd'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number of animals killed Dressed and undressed carcasses.. .. .	714	—	8	2221	189
Number inspected ..	714	—	8	2221	189
<i>All diseases except tuber- culosis :</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	135	—	—	17	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	18.88	—	—	0.86	1.06
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—

SUMMARY OF CARCASE MEAT AND OFFALS CONDEMNED

	Tuberculosis	Other diseases and conditions	TOTAL
Cattle (excluding Cows)	—	2685 lbs	2685 lbs
Cows	—	—	—
Other animals ..	—	169 lbs	169 lbs
TOTAL ..	—	2854 lbs	2854 lbs

Disease or Condition	Weight of meat condemned
	lbs.
Cirrhosis	1,904
Abscesses	58
Actinobacillosis	35
Black Quarter	250
Cysts	3
Cysticercus Bovis	65
Injuries and Bruising	294
Improper Bleeding	105
Peritonitis	66
Parasites	29
Pneumonia	5
Telangiectasis	18
Uraemia	22
	2,854

SUMMARY OF UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR SEIZED

Unsound Food	Surrendered	Seized	Legal proceedings
Tinned Meats	97 lbs	--	—
Other Tinned Foods ..	197 lbs	--	—

2. Food Inspection

246 visits were made to food premises during the year. The standard of cleanliness of both premises and personnel continues to be satisfactory.

No prosecutions were taken under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Details of food premises in the area are shown in the following table.

PARISH	1. Hotels and Inns	2. Social Clubs and Public Halls	3. School Canteens	4. Works Canteens	5. Butchers	6. General Dealers, Grocers and Confectioners.	7. Cafes	8. Fish & Chip Shops.	9. Wet Fish Shops.	10. Bakehouses.	11. Hospitals	Totals
Acomb	3	2	1	—	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	12
Allendale	14	4	4	—	2	13	1	—	—	—	—	38
Blanchland	1	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	5
Broomhaugh/Riding	2	1	1	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	9
Broomley	1	4	2	1	2	9	—	—	—	2	—	21
Bywell..	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
Chollerton	3	4	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	13
Corbridge	8	4	1	1	—	12	2	1	1	1	3	40
Haydon	6	5	3	—	3	15	—	1	—	2	—	34
Healey	—	3	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Hedley	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Hexham Low Quarter	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Hexhamshire	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Horsley	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Humshaugh	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Newbrough	2	1	1	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	10
Ovingham	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
Ovington	2	2	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	9
Sandhoe	2	3	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	11
Shotley Low Quarter	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	6
Simonburn	2	1	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	9
Slaley	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
Wall ..	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	8
Warden	1	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	6
West Allen	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	5
Whittington	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4
Wylam	1	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
	5	4	1	—	1	11	—	—	—	1	—	23
	66	47	35	3	16	107	5	4	1	6	6	296

3. Ice-Cream

There are 81 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, 3 of which were registered during the year.

SAMPLING

Type of Sample	Number taken	Grading			
		1	2	3	4
Pre-packed	7	7	—	—	—

4. Milk

Routine samples of milk have been taken regularly throughout the year by the County Health Department from all dealers who sell milk in the area. Samples have also been regularly taken of all milk supplied to schools. 130 samples were taken, 30 of which were of milk supplied to schools.

Positive samples showing the presence of *Brucella Abortus* were found in 2 herds. At the request of the County Council, the department investigated the herds, individual samples being taken from each cow. The milk from both these herds is now pasteurised.

5. Game Act, 1851

Two applications were received during the year for the renewal of Dealers' licences to buy and sell game. Both were approved.

6. The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no pasteurisation plants in the District.

Infectious Diseases

Precautions in respect of Aberdeen Typhoid Outbreak

On 3rd June 1964, a circular was received from the Ministry of Health referring to the epidemic of typhoid fever in Aberdeen. Tins of corned beef processed at certain establishments in South America were regarded as suspicious. Local Authorities were asked to check all stores and food premises in their areas, and advise the withdrawal of 6 lb. tins of corned beef bearing special trade identification marks.

As a result of this and further Ministry circulars on the subject, some 430 visits were made to food premises. No corned beef from the suspect source was found.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse collection by direct labour is carried out by two 14 cubic yards Shelvoke and Drewry rear loading vehicles and three Bedford side-loaders, two of 10 cubic yards and one of 7 cubic yards capacity. The vehicle serving the Stocksfield and Wylam area has a driver and two loaders, the other four vehicles are worked with a driver and one loader. In order to cover absences due to holidays and sickness, two additional men are employed. When not engaged on refuse collection these men work under the direction of the Engineer and Surveyor. Refuse collection in the Allendale, Allenheads and West Allen district continues to be carried out by contract.

Small extensions to the collection area were made during the year to include a further 14 houses. These together with new houses made a total of 145 additional premises included in the service during the year.

Of the 7,322 houses in the District, 6,485 or approximately 88% have a refuse collection service, 5,858 being cleared by direct labour and the remaining 627 by contract. 6,001 houses have a weekly collection, 316 houses have a fortnightly collection and 168 houses, mainly farms, have a monthly collection principally intended for the collection of tins and bottles.

All villages and small groups of houses throughout the district are covered in the collection area, and future extensions will consist of the inclusion of individual houses in the outlying areas. The major problem in the future will undoubtedly be to find adequate and conveniently accessible tipping facilities. The Council uses 18 tips in various parts of the district. By virtue of their scattered location it is not possible to prevent unauthorised dumping of refuse, and as a result, the majority of the tips are filling up more rapidly than anticipated, in particular those tips which are used for the Corbridge and North Tyne areas.

1. By direct labour**WEEKLY COLLECTIONS :***No. of
premises*

Acomb	332
Blanchland	43
Broomhaugh and Riding Mill	226
Stocksfield	685
Corbridge	984
Haydon	550
Healey	40
Hedley	53
Hexhamshire and Low Quarter.. .. .	100
Horsley	96
Humshaugh, Walwick and Lincoln Hill	148
Newbrough, Fourstones and Settlingstones	344
Ovingham	276
Ovington	160
Sandhoe, Stagshaw	66
Slaley, Trygill	90
Wall	87
Whittonstall	41
Warden	59
Wylam	565
Anick, Oakwood, The Riding	94
North Tyne Area, Whittington	317
Halton, Shildon, Aydon, Newton Hall, Welton, Stelling, Bywell, Peepy	186
	5,542

FORTNIGHTLY COLLECTIONS :

Langley, Elrington	55
Minsteracres, Kiln Pit Hill, Shotley area, Millshields, Broomley	127
Colwell, Hallington, Bingfield, Fallow- field, St. Oswalds	134
	316

2. By Contract

Allendale & Catton	438
Allenheads, Carrshield, Ninebanks	189
	627
	6,485

Refuse Collection Statistics

Total number of occupied houses in district	..	7,322
Total number of houses scavenged	..	6,485
Percentage of houses scavenged by direct labour		80%
Percentage of houses scavenged by contract	..	8.5%
Percentage of houses scavenged	..	88.5%
Total estimated tonnage collected per annum	..	6,600

Refuse Disposal

The Council now have 18 tips in use in various parts of the district, one of which Frankham Fell is used jointly with Hexham U.D.C.

The areas served by these tips are as follows :

Allendale, Catton and West Allen	Smelt Mill Quarry, Ropehaugh. Frolar Meadows, Allendale. Shilburn, Allendale. Harlow Hill, Catton.
Langley and Haydon Bridge	East Mill Hills Quarry, Haydon Bridge.
Acomb	Charehead, Acomb.
Wall and Humshaugh	Brunton Bank Quarry.
Simonburn, Gunnerton, Barrasford	Reaverhill, Barrasford.
Swinburn and Colwell	South Farm Quarry, Colwell.
Aydon, Newton and Bywell	Planetrees Quarry, Bywell.
Sandhoe, Corbridge and Dilston	Milkwell Quarry, Corbridge.
Ovington, Ovingham, Wylam and Horsley	" Y " Wood, Ovingham.
Stocksfield and Hedley	Low Bridges Sand Quarry.
Broomhaugh and Riding Mill	Low Shilford, Stocksfield.
Shotley Low Quarter	Mereburn Wood.
Slaley and Juniper	Holly Hill, Slaley.
Hexhamshire	Mire House Quarry, Whitley Chapel.
Newbrough and Warden	Frankham Fell Quarry, Fourstones.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part I of the Act.

I.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	77	30	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	18	18	—	—
TOTAL	100	53	—	—

II.—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)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	3	—	3	—

Part VII of the Act. OUTWORK

There are no persons residing in the Hexham Rural District employed as outworkers.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

This Act, which deals with health, welfare and safety of persons employed in offices, shops and railway premises came into force generally on 1st May 1964, although many of its provisions, enforceable by regulations, become operative at later dates.

A number of premises, mainly small shops, are excluded from the act and the enforcement of the provisions of the Act in specified premises is the responsibility of the Factory inspectorate and the Mine and Quarry inspectorate. Fire authorities are responsible for the enforcement of fire precautions where they apply.

A basic survey of the district was made, and it was found that some 394 premises came within the definitions as set out in the Act.

Of the 394 premises 105 have been registered by this Council, and the owners or occupiers of those which do not fully comply with the provisions of the Act will be advised of the work to be carried out to bring them up to standard. It was considered that 100 premises were such as to require registration by the Factory inspectorate. The remaining 189 premises were those which were operated either by self employed persons, run as a family business, or were those where the employees did not work for more than 21 hours per week, and did not require registration.

Details of premises and persons employed are shown in the following tables.

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises inspected during year
Offices	18	18	18
Retail shops ..	65	65	65
Wholesale Depts., warehouses ..	1	1	1
Catering establishm'ts	20	20	20
Fuel Storage Depots	1	1	1

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed		Total
	Males	Femals	
Offices	45	41	86
Retail Shops	47	99	146
Wholesale Departments, warehouses	1	—	1
Catering Establishments . .	49	118	167
Fuel Storage Depots	2	—	2
	144	258	402

During the eight months, 1st May to 31st December, there were no accidents notified.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

I have to record with deep regret the death of the late Mr. A. H. D. Chave on 4th April, 1964.

Mr. Chave was appointed as the Council's first Pest Officer and served in that capacity from 4th December, 1950 until his death.

Mr. A. B. Cairns of Corbridge commenced his duties as Pest Officer on 19th May, 1964.

All tips and sewage disposal works are regularly treated, and are relatively free from rat infestation. Sewers have been test baited and are also free from infestation.

The following tables give details of premises which have been inspected, and/or treated during the year.

1. Agricultural Premises :

No. of premises inspected	No. of premises infested .. 54				No. Clear
	Rats .. 52		Mice .. 2		
	Major	Minor	Major	Minor	
321	14	38	1	1	267

2. Business Premises :

No. of premises inspected	No. of premises infested .. 13				No. Clear
	Rats .. 11		Mice .. 2		33
	Major 3	Minor 8	Major —	Minor 2	
46					

3. Dwelling Houses

No. of premises inspected	No. of premises infested .. 94				No. Clear
	Rats .. 73		Mice .. 21		158
	Major 2	Minor 71	Major 9	Minor 12	
252					

4. Refuse Tips

No. of Tips inspected	No. of Tips infested .. 11				No. Clear
	Rats .. 11		Mice .. —		7
	Major 7	Minor 4	Major —	Minor —	
15					

5. Sewage Disposal Works :

No. of S.D.W's inspected	No. of S.D.W's infested .. 7				No. Clear
	Rats .. 7		Mice .. —		25
	Major —	Minor 7	Major —	Minor —	
32					

Details of premises treated for insect pests :

41 premises were treated for insect pests.

Clean Air Act, 1956

The plans and specifications for the chimneys and 3 boilers which it was proposed to instal in an extension to the Airscrew Weyroc premises were examined and approved by the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service, and a Certificate of Prior Approval under Section 6 of the Clean Air Act, 1956 was issued.

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

Four applications for renewal of licence to keep a boarding establishment for animals were received. The premises were all satisfactory and licences were issued.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging houses in the district.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

The position is virtually as it was at the end of last year. Of the 6 existing sites which accommodate from 15-40 caravans, 3 i.e.

The Orchard, Corbridge	(40 caravans)
The Hermitage, Ovingham	(15 caravans)
Lilswood, Hexhamshire	(15 caravans), fully comply with the model standards.

Work is in progress to bring the remaining sites up to standard :

Allendale Station	(40 caravans)
East Lands End, Haydon Bridge	(23 caravans)
Town Foot, Slaley	

Details of the site at Barrasford Park which will accommodate approximately 150 caravans are still being discussed between the applicant and the County Planning Authority.

An application was made for planning approval in respect of a site at Fallowfield Dene which would accommodate some 96 caravans and 41 holiday cottages. As this site was within the area covered by the North Tyneside Green Belt, the Northumberland County Council have made application to the Ministry for a variation order. It is anticipated that a local enquiry will be held.

The position regarding small individual sites remains as it was last year.

SUMMARY OF VISITS

From 1st January, 1964 to 31st December, 1964

Council Housing (Allocation)	..	..	..	..	409
Council Housing (Repairs & Management)	..	..	..	..	2736
Housing	..	..	..	..	522
Housing Survey	..	..	..	..	148
Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	667
Food Inspection	..	..	..	..	32
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	246
Milk Sampling	..	..	..	..	41
Ice-Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	70
Ice-Cream Sampling	..	..	..	..	7
Drainage	..	..	..	..	77
Testing of Drains	..	..	..	..	136
Disinfestation..	..	..	..	..	7
Factories	..	..	..	..	53
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	32
Animal Boarding Establishments	..	..	..	..	4
Caravan Sites..	..	..	..	..	37
Nuisances	..	..	..	..	123
Pest Control	..	..	..	..	1325
Privy Conversions	..	..	..	..	42
Refuse Collection	..	..	..	..	210
Water Supplies (General)	..	..	..	..	47
Water Supplies (Sampling)	..	..	..	..	98
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises	..	..	..	..	576
Precautions in respect of Aberdeen Typhoid Outbreak	..	..	..	..	433
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	55
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	8133



