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I

The Urban District Council of Hexham

ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

For the Year 1967

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

Medical Officer of Health

STAFF

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

J. K. PATTERSON Chief Public Health Inspector

R. GARDENER Assistant Public Health Inspector

B. MAKEPEACE Student Public Health Inspector

A. SUMMERS Clerk

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council
of Hexham :*

MR. CHAIRMAN, GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1967.

Conditions in Hexham have changed little during the year, although the number of visitors, and the number of cars, appear to be increasing rapidly. The town is an attraction because of its charm and historic interest, and it has not yet lost the character that has so much appeal. It is fortunate in having so many open spaces and well-tended public gardens, and increasing use is being made of them. The main importance of Hexham is as the administrative and cultural centre of the area, and as the market town and shopping centre of the large agricultural district that surrounds it. As well as the offices and shops that supply these needs there is quite a wide diversity of employment. Sites on the new Tyne Mills industrial estate have been well taken up, and while some are being used for the replacement or expansion of existing light industry others have attracted new undertakings. The picture to be presented is of a busy and prosperous town with almost full employment, but showing no signs of expansion over many years.

The population of Hexham increased by only 20 during the year, and its estimated population in the mid-year of 1967 was 9,730. There was, however, a natural increase of births over deaths of 35, reversing the trend of 1966. There has been much building of private houses in the town of recent years, and one would expect a much higher increase in population, and there must be a considerable movement out as well as in. There has, however, been some change compared with previous years. The birth rate is above the national average, and is in fact the highest for twenty years, and for the first time there were no infant deaths. The general death rate is close to the national figure, and as in previous years, the age at death was high — two-thirds of the deaths occurred in persons over 70 — and the main causes of death were heart disease and degenerative diseases. There were five deaths from lung cancer, a low figure, and ten from other diseases of the respiratory system. It is obvious that the town contains a preponderance of older people, many living to an advanced age.

The table of infectious diseases notified has lost much of its significance of recent years, but no-one can regret the continued absence of diphtheria and whooping cough, poliomyelitis and the enteric fevers, and the virtual disappearance of tuberculosis. Measles accounted for almost all the notifications during the year, and it is the next infectious disease against which protection will be offered to the susceptible. Investigations continue to be carried out into cases of gastroenteritis, which are still common, but in only a few cases was a specific cause found and the others were presumably of virus origin. Four cases of dysentery were however found, and one case of salmonella infection, acquired abroad. One case of pulmonary tuberculosis was notified in a middle-aged man, and while this disease is now relatively uncommon, it is not to be regarded lightly and full investigation of contacts is carried out. With only two farms producing unpasteurised milk, regular investigation for the presence of *Brucella abortus* can be undertaken, and informal action was necessary when one herd gave a positive culture test.

The housing situation in Hexham is satisfactory, and with the Council owning one-third of the houses the general need appears to have been met. The housing list is shorter and the cases are less urgent and casual vacancies provide sufficient turnover. A few general purpose houses are however being built where sites exist on Council estates. The housing needs of older people have still to be met, and further bungalows are required. Even more necessary is the proposed hostel to provide sheltered accommodation for the frail elderly, as a half-way house between ordinary housing and the hospital or Part 3 accommodation, and work on this scheme is proceeding.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, as statutory water undertakers, continue to supply water of satisfactory quality and quantity to the town. The Council are responsible for the few private sources that remain, and carry out routine investigations, and give advice and assistance where necessary. The Company undertake very frequent sampling of the mains supply the Health Department take infrequent check samples, and each makes known its results to the other. There is excellent co-operation, and prompt attention is given to complaints.

With completion of the joint sewerage scheme with Hexham Rural District during the year, the sewage disposal

facilities can now be considered adequate. It is a cause for satisfaction that in replacing outworn treatment works, the site on Tyne Green, which was a potential danger to health, has been discontinued, and this beautiful stretch of the River can now be more safely enjoyed.

Mr. Hugh Mitchell retired as Senior Public Health Inspector in May 1967, after twenty-nine years' service with the Council. He brought wide experience outside Local Government to his appointment, and his ability and conscientiousness were outstanding. These qualities were combined with an approachable and helpful manner, and account for the high esteem in which he was held by me, and the other members of the staff, by the Councillors and the general public. He carries the good wishes of many people in his retirement.

Mr. J. K. Patterson, who has served as Assistant Public Health Inspector for fourteen years, was promoted to fill the vacancy, and with his knowledge and experience of the town should prove a capable senior officer. Mr. R. Gardener was appointed his assistant, and is showing himself an industrious and useful member of the staff.

The Public Health Committee consists of the whole Council, and I am grateful to the Councillors for the support and encouragement they have given to the Department during the year. I am grateful, too, for the courtesy and co-operation shown by the Clerk and other Officers, and to the staff of the Health Department for their efficiency and loyalty.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. McEWAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	5,932
Estimated Population	9,730

Vital Statistics

BIRTHS :

LIVE BIRTHS	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate.. .. .	82	72	154
Illegitimate	5	4	9
			163
STILL BIRTHS	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate.. .. .	1	2	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
			3

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	17.8
Total Live and Still Births	166
Total (Live and Still) Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	18.0
Still-births Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	17.0
Live Birth Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 population.. .. .	17.2
Still-births Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 live and still-births	14.8

DEATHS :

Total deaths	128
Total infant deaths	Nil
Infant deaths under four weeks	Nil
Deaths of infants under one year of age :—	
Legitimate infants	Nil
Illegitimate infants	Nil
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 live births	Nil
Infantile Mortality, England Wales, per 1,000 live births.. .. .	18.3
Infantile Mortality (Legitimate) per 1,000 live births	Nil
Infantile Mortality (Illegitimate) per 1,000 live births	Nil

Infantile Mortality (first four weeks) per 1,000 live births	Nil
Infantile Mortality (under one week of age) per 1,000 live births	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still-births and deaths under one week combined) per 1,000 total live and still-births	17.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	5.5
Deaths from Maternal causes.. .. .	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	19
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (all causes and ages	11.7
Death Rate England and Wales per 1,000 population (all causes and ages)	11.2

The following Table classifies deaths according to their age groups and as to their certification :—

	CERTIFIED		UNCERTIFIED	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—1	—	—	—	—
1—2	—	—	—	—
2—4	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—
15—24	1	—	—	—
25—44	3	—	—	—
45—49	3	1	—	—
50—54	3	—	—	—
55—59	5	3	—	—
60—64	7	3	1	—
65—69	7	6	—	—
70—74	7	9	—	—
75—79	11	8	—	—
80—84	9	20	—	—
85—89	6	7	—	—
90—94	—	7	—	—
95—100	1	—	—	—
	63	64	1	—

The chief causes of death are as follows :—

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis of resp. system	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic disease	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	—
" " lung, bronchus	4	1
" " breast	—	1
" " uterus	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
Diabetes	2	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	17
Coronary disease, angina	22	15
Hypertension with heart disease	—	1
Other heart disease	2	4
Other circulatory disease	4	10
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	3	1
Bronchitis	5	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	4
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—
All other accidents	—	—
Suicide	1	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—
All causes	64	64
TOTAL	128	

INFANT MORTALITY
During Year ending 31st December, 1967

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	Total Deaths under 1 year
—	Nil.	—

VITAL & MORTALITY STATISTICS.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1947	18.5	14.3	54.9
1948	17.7	12.2	12.4
1949	13.9	17.3	39.4
1950	16.0	13.7	53.0
1951	14.1	13.6	38.2
1952	13.7	11.4	62.0
1953	13.2	11.09	24.0
1954	12.7	10.8	33.05
1955	14.2	10.7	22.3
1956	13.7	13.05	15.2
1957	15.4	12.2	27.2
1958	13.2	14.7	32.3
1959	15.8	12.06	40.6
1960	15.9	12.4	6.6
1961	13.7	13.9	15.3
1962	14.3	12.9	7.2
1963	13.9	12.2	22.2
1964	15.3	11.3	20.2
1965	14.4	11.5	21.4
1966	15.8	12.6	19.5
1967	17.8	11.7	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1967.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 & upward	Age not known
Scarlet Fever ...	1									
Whooping Cough ...				1						
Diphtheria ...										
Measles ...	85		8	38	38		1			
Pneumonia ...										
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...										
Acute poliomyelitis ...										
Acute polioencephalitis ...										
Acute Encephalitis ...										
Lethargica ...										
Dysentery ...	4				3		1			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...										
Puerperal Pyrexia ...										
Smallpox ...										
Paratyphoid Fever ...										
Typhoid Fever ...										
Erysipelas ...										
Food Poisoning ...	1						1			
Meningitis ...										
Malaria ...										
TOTALS ...	91	—	8	39	41	—	3	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1947-1967.

YEAR	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Measles	Ac. Pneumonia	Cerebrospinal Fever.	Acute Polio-myelitis	Acute Polio-encephalitis	Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Smallpox	Paratyphoid Fevers	Enteric or Typhoid Fever	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Meningitis
1947	6	18	1	29	5	—	26	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
1948	7	31	—	60	4	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1949	12	7	—	8	10	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	59	—
1950	14	7	—	298	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	—
1951	9	18	—	10	7	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
1952	5	17	—	143	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	29	51	—	86	7	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
1954	5	14	—	6	5	—	3	—	—	24	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—
1955	4	18	—	103	4	1	1	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
1956	1	3	—	—	6	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
1957	8	1	—	102	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
1958	9	39	—	1	10	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1959	—	4	—	113	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
1960	2	—	—	222	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1961	1	—	—	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
1962	4	14	—	131	7	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
1963	6	2	—	22	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
1964	22	1	—	164	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1965	13	3	—	61	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
1966	8	1	—	85	12	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1967	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS, 1947-1967

Year	New Cases		Deaths	
	Pulmonary	Other	Pulmonary	Other
1947	6	—	3	1
1948	7	4	6	1
1949	6	6	1	—
1950	7	5	2	—
1951	3	2	1	—
1952	4	2	—	—
1953	5	8	1	—
1954	4	1	—	—
1955	14	2	—	—
1956	7	4	1	—
1957	6	1	—	1
1958	10	2	—	—
1959	7	2	—	—
1960	3	—	—	—
1961	11	—	1	—
1962	8	3	1	1
1963	3	2	—	—
1964	4	1	—	—
1965	4	1	—	—
1966	5	1	—	—
1967	1	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.—New cases and Mortality during 1967 :—

Age periods	New Cases				Nett Deaths in Hexham Urban District			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulm.		Pulmonary		Non Pulm.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—44 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64 ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Cases Notified	Deaths
Gilesgate Ward ..	—	—
Leazes Ward ..	—	—
Priestpottle Ward ..	1	—
Hencotes Ward ..	—	—
	1	—

FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED)
RETURNED TO REGISTRAR GENERAL

1ST QTR.	2ND QTR.	3RD QTR.	4TH QTR.	TOTAL
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1	1
OUTBREAKS DUE TO IDENTIFIED AGENTS				
Total Outbreaks—Nil.	Total Cases—Nil.	Total Deaths—	Nil.	
OUTBREAKS DUE TO :—				
(a) Chemical Poisons	..	..	..	Nil.
(b) Salmonella Organisms	..	..	..	Nil.
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin)	..	..	..	Nil.
(d) Cl. Botulinum	..	..	..	Nil.
(e) Other Bacteria	..	..	..	Nil.
OUTBREAKS OF UNDISCOVERED CAUSE :				
Total Outbreaks—Nil.	Total Cases—Nil.	Total Deaths—Nil.		
SINGLE CASES :				
Agent identified—1	Unknown cause—Nil.	Total—1		

HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA

1. Hospitals

There are in the district two hospitals, namely the Hexham General Hospital and the Hexham War Memorial Hospital under the management of the Hexham and District Hospital Management Committee. These hospitals together with others in the area under the Hexham and District Hospital Management Committee and the Newcastle group of hospitals are available to cases from the area.

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

2. Ambulance Service

The British Red Cross acting as agents for the Northumberland County Council provide an ambulance service which serves the district. An ambulance station is situated at West Orchard, Hexham.

3. Home Help Service

The Northumberland County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district. Home Helps are available to householders 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.

4. Local Authority Clinics

The following Clinics are held in the district :

Child Welfare Clinic : Abbey House, Hexham.

Friday, 9-30 a.m. — 12 a.m. and 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinic : Abbey House, Hexham.

Second and third Tuesdays in every month, 1-30 p.m.
— 4 p.m.

First, second and third Wednesdays in every month,
1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.

Women's Advisory Clinic : Abbey House, Hexham.

Every Thursday, 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.

Cervical Cytology Clinic : Abbey House, Hexham.

Fourth and fifth Wednesdays in each month, 2 p.m.
— 4 p.m.

Relaxation Clinic : Abbey House, Hexham.

Every Tuesday, 1-30 p.m. — 4 p.m.

5. Midwifery and Home Nursing

These services are administered by the Northumberland County Council and in this district are combined. There are two Nurse Midwives working in the Hexham Urban District.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(MR. J. K. PATTERSON)

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Factories and Workplaces	117
Milk and Dairies	48
Drainage Works : Alterations—additions	38
New Constructions	90
Defective	3
Water Supply	40
Food Premises	581
Slaughter House	769
Caravan Control	71
Clean Air	23
Offensive Trades	12
Visits, Public Health Acts	498
Disinfestation of Rats, Mice and other Vermin	220
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.. .. .	227

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Sanitary Circumstances

Drainage Works

All drains are tested by smoke or by hydraulic test.

Total length of 4" drain 3,049 ft.

 " " " 6" 256 ft.

New properties 30

Improvements to existing properties 19

Sanitary conveniences

Additional baths provided 45

Additional sinks provided 45

Notifiable Diseases

Investigations were carried out in connection with one case of food poisoning, causative agent salmonella bredney, occurring in a person who had recently returned from holiday abroad.

Four cases of sonnei dysentery were investigated. In all the above cases contacts were also checked. A total of 32 faecal specimens were submitted to the public health laboratory for examination and report.

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the District.

Disinfestation

The eradication of vermin and parasites is carried out with the use of approved insecticides.

Regular spraying of the Council's refuse tip was carried out during the months of May—August, the result of which was a noticeable reduction of flies and other insect pests.

The modern aerosol container is proving to be the answer to the domestic fly problem, and advice on the types and usage is given when requested.

Swimming Pool

There is one privately owned swimming pool in the area which is used by members of the public, and regular samples are collected during the season, 12 being obtained during this period, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

Water Supply

The supply of water through the town's mains is administered by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company Limited, whose officials have always been co-operative and helpful when any situation arose in which the department was concerned.

Regular sampling of water from both the Gunnerton and Ladle Wells supplies was carried out, the public health laboratory at Newcastle being responsible for the necessary examination and report.

Number of samples collected by the department	29
Number of samples collected by the Water Company	20

By courtesy of Dr. A. T. Palin, Chief Chemist to the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, the following typical analyses of water from Ladle Wells and Gunnerton is reproduced.

Typical Analyses of Water from Ladle Wells and Gunnerton

Samples taken at			Gunnerton	Ladle Wells
pH Value	..	..	7.0	7.4
Colour..	..	..	3°H.	0°H.
Turbidity	..	..	0	0
Hardness	..	..	64	26
Alkalinity	..	..	32	45
Chloride	..	..	14	9
Sulphate	..	..	30	14
Ammonia	..	..	.06	.02
Iron ..	..	..	.02	.05
Manganese	..	..	< .05	Not detected
Oxygen Absorbed	..	..	0.4	0
Fluoride	..	..	0.1 average 0.2 max.	0.1 max.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Systematic inspections of food premises and food factories have continued during the year and standards of such premises remain satisfactory.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

There are 106 food premises of various types within the district, 64 of which are registered under the main Act. Systematic visits of inspection were made during the year and the general standard of both the premises and the personnel remains satisfactory.

The following table details the food premises within the district :

Type of Business	Total No.	No. complying with Reg. 16	Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	Number fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Bakehouses.. ..	5	5	5	5
Butchers	9	9	9	9
Grocers	17	17	15	15
Catering Establishments ..	14	14	14	14
Greengrocers	5	5	5	5
Wet fish shops	3	3	3	3
Fried fish shops	3	3	3	3
Ice-cream dealers/ sweets	50	50	3	3

Ice-Cream Heat Treatment Regulations

Two producers are registered in the district. Problems were encountered in one of these during the year, and after considerable investigation work, the processing fault was found. During this period the manufacturer concerned co-operated with the department to the full.

There are 53 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, and in all cases the hygienic standards are satisfactory.

Number of new registrations during the year .. 3

Number of samples collected 26

Results of examination :

Grade 1	..	16
„ 2	..	5
„ 3	..	2
„ 4	..	3

Milk Special Designation Regulations 1960

Routine sampling for keeping quality of milk arriving in churns at the local dairy was carried out until October when the plant concerned changed to bulk tank supply.

The County Health Department carried out the necessary sampling of heat-treated milk obtained from the various dealers in the area including those supplying the local schools.

Number collected for report on keeping quality
(Methylene-blue) 100

Brucellosis

The supply of milk from the 3 producer retailers in the district was sampled according to the procedure laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular 17/66.

(1) Number of samples of raw milk examined 38

(2) Number of positive samples found .. 1

In the case of the positive samples, the animals concerned were isolated and their milk sent for heat-treatment. Samples were taken from each of the eighteen cows in the herd and two were found to be positive in the ring test. On subsequent biological examination, however, results were negative.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

(i)	Number of egg pasteurisation plants in the district	Nil
(ii)	Number of samples of liquid egg submitted to the Alpha-Amylase test and their results	Nil
(iii)	Comments on the year's administration of these Regulations	—

Poultry Inspection

(i)	Number of poultry processing premises within the district	Nil
(ii)	Number of visits to these premises.. ..	Nil
(iii)	Total number of birds processed during the year	Nil
(iv)	Types of birds processed	Nil
(v)	Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption.. .. .	Nil
(vi)	Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption.. .. .	Nil
(vii)	Comments on poultry processing and inspection	Nil

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

These regulations came into force on the 1st January of this year, and their aim is to improve the standard of hygiene in respect of market stalls and delivery vehicles. The Council's own market stalls have been brought up to a suitable standard and whilst difficulties have been encountered in the practical compliance within the requirements by traders, in general they have co-operated with the department in conforming to the various standards.

FOOD INSPECTION

UNSOUND FOOD				Surrendered	Seized	Legal Pro-ceedings
				sts. lbs.		
Beef (Home-killed)	..			309	9	—
Beef (Imported)	..			—	—	—
Mutton (Home-killed)	..			127	6	—
Mutton (Imported)	..			—	—	—
Pork	..	..		35	8	—
Game	..	..		—	—	—
Poultry	..	..		—	—	—
Veal	..	..		20	7	—
				lbs. ozs.		
Fish	..	..		24	0	—
Fruit	..	..		—	—	—
Canned Goods (Meat)	..			239	1	—
" " (Assorted)				97	1	—
Bacon	..	..		71	—	—
Cheese	..	..		—	—	—
Butter	..	..		—	—	—
Lard	..	..		—	—	—
Eggs	..	..		—	—	—
Other Foods	..	..		—	—	—
Frozen Foods	..	..		—	—	—
TOTAL .. 528 st. 11 lbs. 6 oz						

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excl'd'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
Number killed ..	1,362	34	27	4,549	1,260	7,232
Number inspected ..	1,362	34	27	4,549	1,260	7,232
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>						
Whole carcases con- demned	6	2	10	41	3	62
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	17	11	—	13	12	53
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and and cysticerci ..	1.54	19.2	18.52	1.09	1.19	
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>						
Whole carcases con- demned	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	1	Nil.	Nil.	1	
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	0.37	2.94	Nil.	Nil.	0.08	
<i>C. Bovis</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	Nil	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
Carcases submitted to treatment by refriger- ation	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	

NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AT THE ABATTOIR

Steers	Heifers	Cows Bulls	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Rams Ewes	Pigs	Sows Boars
238	1,126	34	27	4,444	105	1,234	26

SUMMARY OF UNSOUND MEAT AND OFFAL

	Tuberculosis	Other Diseases	Total
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Cows	31	1,320	1,351
Other Animals ..	442	10,133	10,575
TOTAL ..	473	11,453	11,926

All unsound meat and offal condemned at the Abattoir is collected by a processing firm from Gateshead where it is sterilized under supervision.

TUBERCULOSIS IN COWS

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Whole Carcases condemned	11	6	3	5	3	5	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Part Carcases or organs affected ...	55	53	21	48	39	33	9	14	7	—	2	1	1
Percentage affected ...	14.6%	12.0%	6.3%	7.8%	11.3%	9.5%	3.1%	5%	6.6%	—	3.0%	.72%	2.94%

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933-54

Renewals of Licences to Slaughter 5

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in district	4,142	60
Total number of properties inspected following notification	151	3
Number infested by rats	41	1
Number infested by mice	3	—
Number of properties inspected other than by notification	23	5
Number infested by rats	—	1
Number infested by mice	2	—

During the year 25% of the sewer manholes on the Council's sewerage system were treated, little evidence of rat infestation being found.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Under this act it is an offence to keep a pet shop except under the authority of a licence granted by a local authority. It applies to market stalls as well as established premises.

Number of licences granted 2

AGRICULTURE, SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE (PROVISIONS), ACT, 1956

Sections 3 and 5 of this Act are administered by the local authority. There are 36 farms and holdings within the district.

The arrangements provided by the owners have been found to be satisfactory in relation to the size of the premises.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

Under the provisions of this Act registration of dealers is carried out by the local authority, the Act being administered by the Police.

There are 9 registered dealers within the district.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Table A : Registrations and General Inspections

CLASS OF PREMISES	Number Newly registered during year	Total number at end of year	Number of general inspections
Offices	2	74	15
Retail shops	11	114	44
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	2	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	17	14
Fuel storage depots	—	1	—
Totals	13	208	73

Table B : Number of visits of all kinds 227

Table C : Analysis of Persons Employed

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	292
Retail shops	690
Wholesale departments, warehouses	9
Catering establishments open to the public/canteens	97
Fuel storage depots	2
TOTAL :	1090
(Males 404 : Females 686).	

FACTORIES ACTS, 1961**Inspections** (Including Inspections by Public Health Inspector)

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(I) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	9	—	—
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	70	81	—	—
(III) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises)	6	27	—	—
TOTAL	78	117	—	—

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				
	Found	Re-medied	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M.I.	By H.M.I.	
Want of cleanliness ..	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	5	4	—	—	—

1 Registered Outworker.

BYE-LAWS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT

<i>Date Operative</i>	<i>Adopting Authority</i>	<i>Subject Matter of Byelaw</i>
7/5/03 ..	North'd County Council ..	Street betting Street obstructions Street music Lights on vehicles
3/11/27 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Tents, vans, sheds, and similar structures
11/2/32 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Slaughterhouses
4/8/32 ..	North'd County Council ..	Nuisance caused by wireless loud speakers. Gramophones in shops and licensed premises
1/5/39 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	New streets
1/7/39 ..	North'd County Council ..	Litter, etc.
1/12/46 ..	North'd County Council ..	Noisy animals
1/3/47 ..	North'd County Council ..	Nuisances contrary to public decency
1/12/49 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Markets
1/1/50 ..	North'd County Council ..	Bulls
24/4/50 ..	North'd County Council ..	Sale of Contraceptives in slot machine
17/7/50 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air
12/10/53 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Building Byelaws
1/5/56 ..	North'd and Tyneside River Board	Rubbish, refuse or litter
1/10/56 ..	North'd County Council ..	Employment of children
1/3/57 ..	North'd County Council ..	Discharge of fireworks, etc. in places of public entertainment
29/3/57 ..	North'd County Council ..	Sale of Coal
1/8/58 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Building Byelaws -- Smoke prevention
1/9/58 ..	North'd County Council ..	Deposit of mud and other material on highways
1/9/58 ..	Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company ..	Prevention of waste, undue consumption, misuse or contamination of water
1/8/59 ..	North'd County Council ..	Preservation of road margins laid out for ornamental purposes
1/7/61 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Pleasure grounds.
1/9/61 ..	North'd County Council ..	Fouling of footpaths by dogs.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

Three private holiday sites are operated in the area licensed by the local authority for eight months in each year, opening on 1st March and closing on 31st October.

The sites are visited regularly during the season and any minor infringements are dealt with as they arise.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

No formal action has yet been taken with regard to the establishment of smoke control areas within the Council's administrative area.

The public health department staff are always ready to advise on suitable smokeless fuel apparatus when renewals are contemplated by householders, many useful conversions having resulted from these discussions.

Technical information continues to be collated for the use in any future schemes.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Number of visits and inspections 24

This is a useful Act which has been informally used to advantage. The occasional mobile vendor transgresses but usually only through ignorance of the regulations, and even these incidents are on the decline.

Discussions are ensuing with a local factory to minimise noise from the dust extractions fans.

HOUSING

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1967

NEW HOUSES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority ..	Nil	—	—
(b) By any other Author- ority	Nil	—	—
(c) By Private Persons ..	Nil	23	23

Total Number of Inhabited Houses in District	3,445
Total Number of Houses owned by the Local Authority ..	1,082
Estimated Population	9,730

1.—Closing and Demolition of Houses

(1) Number of houses demolished as a result of clearance Schemes	Nil
(Number of houses included in above which were from pre-war confirmed Clearance Areas)	Nil
(2) Number of houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure	Nil
(3) Houses closed, including partial closure	1
(4) Other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings..	Nil

2.—Reconditioning and Repair

Number of unfit houses rendered fit by procedure under
either Housing or Public Health Acts :

(1) As a result of informal action	29
(2) By owners as a result of statutory action	Nil
(3) By local authority on default of owners	Nil

3.—Inspection

(1) Number of houses inspected and visited for defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	51
(2) Number of houses and parts found to have defects ..	14
(3) Number of houses and parts found to be wholly unfit for human habitation	1

4.—Housing Act, 1949

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

(a) <i>Discretionary</i> :	
Applications submitted to local authority	14
Applications rejected by local authority	Nil
Applications approved	14
Total number of applications approved in area since inception of scheme	203
(b) <i>Standard</i> :	
Number of houses for which grants have been made during the year	8
Total number to date	56

5.—Families Rehoused during 1967*Under points scheme :*

From private houses	..	..	..	..	..	5
From Council houses	..	..	..	..	..	3

Other Cases :

For medical reasons	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Under eviction orders	..	..	..	..	..	4
From unfit houses..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Key workers	..	..	..	..	..	2
For other reasons ..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Exchange from private houses	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

Decanted from Council houses :

For moral overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	7
For under-occupation	..	..	..	..	..	2
For medical reasons	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
For other reasons ..	..	..	..	..	..	12

To aged persons' bungalows :

From Council houses	..	..	..	..	..	2
From private houses	..	..	..	..	..	3
From other bungalows	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

Applicants rehoused other than by Urban Council :

By other local authorities	..	..	..	..	..	1
Privately ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Cancelled applications	..	..	..	..	..	3

6.—Housing Repairs and Rents Acts, 1954 and the Rent Act, 1957*Certificates of Disrepair :*

Number of applications for certificates ..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number granted ..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Undertakings received ..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Repairs completed. Cases terminated ..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

