I

LEES

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1972

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

COUNCIL OFFICES,
CROSS STREET, LEES,
NR. OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

URBAN DISTRICT OF LEES

Chairman of the Council 1972 - 1973

Councillor E. Cook

Health Committee 1972 - 1973

Councillor F. Bennett

Councillor J. W. Boardman

Councillor E. Cook

Councillor H. K. Dyson, Chairman (To 3.5.72)

Councillor B.F.Fletcher, Chairman (From 24.5.72)

Councillor D. N. Hulme

Councillor C. Kingham, M.A.

Councillor F. Lyon

Councillor J. Lees

Councillor J. McCormick (To 15.11.72)

Councillor H. McDonald

Councillor T. Patterson (From 24.5.72)

Councillor R. Shepherdson

Councillor H. Slack, J.P.

Councillor H. Travis, J.P., C.C.,

Councillor A. E. H. Winterbottom

Medical Officer of Health

G. R. BRACKENRIDGE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

"Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton.

Tel: 061-624-6251/2

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

J. M. CURTIS, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Public Health Inspector

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Council Offices, Lees.

Tel: 061-624-1102
061-624-5199

Technical Assistant

R. Smith

Clerical Staff

Miss E. Ashworth (To 29.5.72)
Miss A. Bardsley (From 5.6.72)
Mrs. C. M. Bromley

Council Offices,
Cross Street,
LEES,
Near Oldham.

December, 1973.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

It is with mixed feelings that I present my Annual Report on the Health of the District for 1972, as it seems to me very likely that this will be the last such report presented to your Authority by a Medical Officer of Health. If the Department of Health so direct it is possible that an abbreviated report for 1973 might be presented before 31st March, 1974, or that a report for 1973 and the first quarter of 1974 be presented to the Oldham Metropolitan District Council as successor Authority. I am fully aware that there have been many criticisms of these "Annual Reports" - usually made by those who do not understand the purpose of them. They are not intended to serve as a "critical essay" couched in the elegant language of a philosopher, nor as an entertainment.

The purpose is threefold - to serve as a statistical record, to outline the general pattern of the health services in the District in the year under review, and to provide some account of work undertaken. The report is thus a record of fact - whether good or bad; of things as they were - not if what one would have wished them to be. It provided the basic facts for any form of record on social conditions in the area - population, housing conditions, water supply, refuse disposal etc. - the basic knowledge required by any civilised society regardless of its economic or political development. In the re-casting of our Local Government and Health Services system, I hope that our legislation will have sufficient wisdom to insist that annual publication of such data continues to be made available not only to members and officers of the new Authorities, but to the public and the press.

The mid-year estimated population of 4,520 is an increase, of 160 on the April 1971 Census returns. There were 79 live births, 12 less than in 1971, but the same as in 1970, giving a Crude birth rate of 17.5 and an adjusted rate of 15.4 to compare with a National Rate of 14.8 per 1,000. There was only one infant death. The total deaths (64) were 19 less than in 1971, giving a Crude death rate of 14.2 and an adjusted rate of 12.2 to compare with a National Rate of 12.1.

The general picture remains that of a slowly expanding population, but it would seem possible that the birth rate may decline in the next few years unless there is a continual inword migration of younger families into new residential property in the district.

The incedence of Infectious Disease was much higher than in 1971 due mainly to the prevention of measles which accounted for 65% of the 72 notifications. This was not confined to Lees but was general in South East Lancashire and is mainly significant as indicating a lack of public confidence in Measles Vaccination.

With less than 4 months now to go before the new Local Government Districts and the new Health Authority areas take over responsibilities from present authorities it is unnecessary for me to describe in detail the re-allocation of Health Service responsibilities fully understood by members of the new Authorities, the staff they control or the public they seek to serve. I consider that the lack of reorganisation is one which will call for dedication, imagination, tolerance - and scepticism as to the infallibility of Governments, Authorities and oneself.

In concluding this, possibility my final report, I would thank not only present members of the Council, but their predicessors for their support in the past 13 years. I thank not only the present, but past staff of the Council, with whom it has been a pleasure to work. I consider it an honour and a privilage to have contributed something to the corporate life of the District and I hope it will continue to prosper as part of the Oldham Metropolitan District.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

G.R. BRACKENRIDGE

Divisional Medical Officer.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	288

Population

Census 1971	4,360
Estimated Mid -1972	4,520

Number of Inhabited Houses

Estimated 1971	2,328
Rateable Value	£381,212
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£3,306
General Rate per pound 1972/73	99½.
(Reduced Rate for Mixed Hereditments)	94½p
(Reduced Rate for Dwelling Houses)	89p

General Characteristics & Social Conditions of the District

The County District lies immediately to the east of the Oldham County Borough boundary, and abuts the County Boundary of the West Riding of Yorkshire (Saddleworth U.D.), being situated on the westerly slopes of the Pennine Range.

Lees, as a township, was developed around cotton mills which provided the principal source of local employment. Two of the mills (Owl and Leesbrook) are in current production and a third (Majestic) is currently being modernised; a modern single storey factory situated off Turner Street, produces double glazing and agricultural machinery is produced at the Stanford Mill, St. John Street: the Acorn Mill, St. John Street, Lees is a large plumber's merchant warehouse and a small carpet factory is situated in Mellor Street. The major source of employment in the district is provided by the factories mentioned, together with the selling of commodities by retail.

Two main roads serve the district - Huddersfield Road (A.62 Liverpool-Leeds-Hull Trunk Road) in the North Ward and High Street (A.669) is located in the central and South Wards of the district.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births (Total) 79

	Males	Females
Legitimate	44	31
Illegitimate	1	3

Live Birth rate per 1000 population:-

Crude Rate 17.5
Adjusted Rate 15.4

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of live births 5.0%

Stillbirths ..... Nil
Stillbirths Rate per 1000 live and still births ..... Nil
Total live and stillbirths 79
Infant deaths (under 1 year) 1

Infant Mortality Rates:

Total Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births 13
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births 13
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate Live Births ..... Nil
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births) 13
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births) 13
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total Live and Stillbirths) 13
Maternal Mortality Rate (Including Abortion) ..... Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 live and stillbirths ..... Nil

Total deaths (all ages) 64

Death Rate per 1000 population:-

Crude Rate 14.2
Adjusted Rate 12.2

Principal Causes of Deaths:-

Heart Disease 20
Other diseases of circulatory system 5
Cerebrovascular Disease 13
Cancer all sites 6
Diseases of Respiratory System 11

Comparability Factor.

The Comparability Factor takes into account the age and sex structure of the local population as compared with that of England and Wales as a whole, making it possible to compare local birth and death rates with the corresponding national rates.

CENSUS INFORMATION - 1971

	Total Population	4,360	%
CHILD POPULATION	Pre-School - (0-4 incl.)	425	10
	All School (5-14 incl.)	540	12.5
	Total Children (under 15)	965	22.5
TOTAL MALES	15 - 64 "Working Population"	1,370	31.5
FEMALES	15 - 44 "Reproductive Population"	830	19
	45 - 60	405	9.5
ELDERLY PERSONS	Females, 60 and over	555	12.5
	Males, 65 and over	230	5.5
	Total "pensionable"	785	17

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS

		1972	1969	1966	1961	1951
Population		4,520	3,780	3,710	3,730	4,160
Live Births	No.	79	87	54	42	53
	Adj. Rate	15.4	28.3	17.9	12.4	12.6
Stillbirths	No.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4
	Rate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	70.2
Total Live and Stillbirths	No.	79	87	54	42	57
Total Infant Deaths	No.	1	4	Nil	Nil	2
	Rate	13	46	Nil	Nil	37.7
Maternal Deaths	No.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Rate.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Deaths	No.	64	77	55	67	74
	Adj. Rate	12.2	13.1	11.1	18.3	16.0

CAUSES OF DEATH

	M	F	1972 Total
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	1	2	3
Hypertensive disease	1	1	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	12	6	18
Other forms of Heart Disease	2	2	4
Cerebrovascular Disease	6	7	13
Other diseases of Circulatory System	4	1	5
Pneumonia	-	2	2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	6	3	9
Peptic Ulcer	1	-	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	-	1
Other diseases of Digestive System	1	-	1
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	-	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	-	1	1
	37	27	64

DEATHS BY AGE GROUP

	M	F	1972 Total	1969 Total	1967 Total	1963 Total	1958 Total
Under 1	1	-	1	4	3	1	2
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
25-	-	-	-	2	1	) 2	) 1
35-	-	-	-	-	3		
45-	3	1	4	2	1	) 10	) 17
55-	9	2	11	16	10		
65-	14	5	19	17	24	23	13
Over 75-	10	19	29	36	37	27	20
	37	27	64	77	80	64	53

INFANT MORTALITY - 1972

There was one infant death during the year.

INFANT MORTALITY AND STILLBIRTHS - COMPARATIVE TABLE

	1972	1970	1966	1961	1951
STILLBIRTH RATE (per 1000 total births)	Nil	25	Nil	Nil	70.2
NEO-NATAL RATE (per 1000 live births)	13	Nil	Nil	Nil	18.8
INFANT MORTALITY RATE (per 1000 live births)	13	13	Nil	Nil	37.7

PREVALENCE OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE - 1972

(Other than Tuberculosis)

	Total cases at all ages	Notified cases in age groups (Total)											Removed to Hospital	Deaths
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-		
Measles	65	2	4	8	12	10	28	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	4	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	72	2	4	10	13	11	30	1	1	-	-	-	-	-

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

YEARLY TOTALS

	1972	1970	1966	1961	1951
Scarlet Fever	3	1	4	10	1
Measles	65	70	90	22	117
Whooping Cough	-	4	1	-	18
Dysentery	-	-	6	6	6
Food Poisoning	-	6	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia +	-	-	-	-	3
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	1
Infective Jaundice *	4	8	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	72	89	101	38	147

*Notifiable from 1st June, 1968.
+Not notifiable after 30th September, 1968.

CASES NOTIFIED AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1972

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-		-		-		-	

PREVALENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - 1972

The full list of Infectious Diseases notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health is as follows:-

Anthrax	Paratyphoid Fever
Cholera	Plague
Diptheria	Poliomyelitis (acute)
Encephalitis (acute)	Scarlet Fever
Food Poisoning	Smallpox
Infective Jaundice	Tetanus
Leprosy	Tuberculosis
Leptospirosis	Typhoid Fever
Malaria	Whooping Cough
Measles	Yellow Fever
Meningitis (acute)	Ophthalmia Neonatorum

COMMENT:

There was a substantial outbreak of measles in the Urban District in the first half of the year. Measles was however prevalent in most districts in South East Lancashire at this time.

Three of the four cases of Infective Jaundice were pupils at one school but it was not possible to establish direct contact linkage between them.

PROVISION OF PERSONAL HEALTH AND RELATED SERVICES.

Services under the National Health Service Act and related legislation are provided by Lancashire County Council. For these purposes, Lees forms part of Health Division No. 14. The Divisional Health Office is situated at 'Tylon', Middleton Road, Chadderton. (Tel: 061-624-6251).

A Medical Officer (Departmental) is based part-time at High Street Clinic.

MATERNITY SERVICES

Mrs. F. H. M. Hughes of 7, Fern Close, Off Bridge Street, Springhead, (061-624-0839) is employed as Midwife to serve the district. Relief duties are carried out by other midwives as necessary.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Ante-natal clinics are held at the High Street Clinic, Lees on the second and fourth Monday in each month from 2 p.m., to 4 p.m. (Tel. 061-624-4373).

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

Mrs. S. King, Health Visitor, can be contacted at the High Street Clinic, Lees from 1.30 p.m., to 2.00 p.m., each afternoon, and 10.00 a.m., to 10.30 a.m.

Clinics are held as follows:-

Child Health	2 p.m. to 4 p.m. each Wednesday
Dental	9 a.m. to 12 noon each Wednesday

Welfare foods are obtainable at the Child Welfare Sessions at the High Street Clinic.

HOME NURSING

District Nursing service is provided by Health Division No. 14 and the District Nurse living within this area is Mrs. A. Welsby of 130, Spring Lane, Lees (Tel: 061-624-9622).

A male nurse is available in certain cases.

CHIROPODY SERVICES.

Chiropody Clinics are held at the High Street Clinic every Thursday from 9 a.m., to 12 noon and alternate Friday afternoons 1-30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m., or otherwise by appointment.

AMBULANCE SERVICES.

The Ambulance service is administered by Health Division No. 14 and is under radio-control from a Control Centre at Whitefield (Tel: 061-766-6666).

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Arrangements for immunisation of infants against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis and Measles; and of certain older children against German Measles, may be made at the local clinic or with individual general practitioners.

HOSPITAL AND CLINIC FACILITIES

The Oldham Royal Infirmary and Oldham and District General Hospital provide all general Hospital services for this district, Infectious disease cases are usually admitted to Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

The Tuberculosis Chest Clinic at Oldham and District General Hospital provides facilities for examination of residents of this district.

Treatment Centres for Venereal Disease are available at:-

District Infirmary, Ashton .. .. Tel: 330 1611

Oldham and District General Hospital . .. .. Tel: 624 0420

SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Since 1st April, 1972, responsibility for the following services has been transferred to the Social Services Department:-

(a) former Children's Department Services.
(b) the Mental Health Service
(c) the Home Help Service
(d) Care of Elderly and Handicapped in the Community
(e) the Day Nursery Service.
(f) Convalescent Care.

The Divisional Director of Social Services, Division 8, is located at Prospect House, Main Road, Oldham. The team of Social Workers covering the Lees area is located at Bank House, Chapel Street, Shaw. (Tel: 061-28-42461).

The Urban District Council is responsible for those matters likely to affect or be concerned with the maintenance of high standards of environmental health. These include:-

Inspection of houses re fitness for human habitation
Control of infectious disease (including food poisoning)
Control of food and food preparing premises.
Provision of suitable water supplies
Prevention of atmospheric pollution
Control of rodent and insect infestation
Collection and disposal of refuse.
Provision of sanitary accommodation and public conveniences
Detection and Prevention of nuisance.

Council Offices,
Cross Street,
Lees.
Lancashire.

1st December, 1973.

Report of the Public Health Inspector.

To:- The Chairman and members of the Lees Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

May I submit to you the Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the district and the work of the Public Health Department for the twelve months ended the 31st December, 1972.

The housing clearance programme was progressed at a limited rate during the year; 22 No. single bedroom two storey flats are currently under construction at the Providence House Site and land suitable for the construction of a further 8 No. flat units was partly acquired during the year. The possible redevelopment of future Clearance sites was considered by the Council, in addition to earmarking land at Calico (adjacent to the proposed schools site) for future housing development.

Refuse collection was operated on a weekly basis other than at holiday periods, and as reported previously, the number of requests for a special collection service i.e. household furniture continues to increase.

Local Government Reorganisation developments took up an appreciable amount of time during the year, involving the production of information via the working parties/panels which have been set up.

Miss E. Ashworth resigned her position as Clerk/Typist in the Health Department during May and Miss A. Bardsley was appointed to the post.

Councillor H. K. Dyson, Chairman of the Health Committee for 16 years, retired in May; may I record my sincere thanks for the help and assistance received from Councillor Dyson over the past years and it is with deep regret that I have to report his death in September, 1973.

May I record my thanks once more to Dr. Brackenridge and Dr. Curtis for their guidance and assistance during the year, the Council Officials, Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their valued support throughout 1972.

Yours sincerely,

J. W. Rustidge,
Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The district is drained on a partially separate system, with foul drainage conveyed to the Oldham sewering system via three recorder chambers, such flow being recorded in order that the proportionate costs sewage treatment at Slacks Valley Sewage Works, Chadderton, can be arrived at.

Surface water drainage is achieved by means of the river Medlock and Thornley Brook, the latter stream linking with the river Medlock at Holts.

One hundred and eleven new dwellings were connected to the sewering system during the year, each site being connected to the separate system.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

(i) Domestic Refuse Collection

A weekly collection of domestic refuse was maintained during the year by means of an S. & D. 'Fore and Aft' 20 cu.yds capacity rear-loader collection vehicle manned by a driver/loader and two loaders. The collection service has been supplemented on a regular basis by a 5 ton Bedford tipping vehicle used for extra collections in the form of bulky articles such as old furniture and domestic appliances.

Replacement of dustbins is carried out by a local authority scheme, the cost being borne by the rate fund; the type of dustbin provided is the B.S. Mild Steel Galvanised taper bin 2½ cu. ft. capacity, fitted with a rubber lid. 201 dustbins were issued during the year, 63 of which were issued to new properties.

(ii) Domestic Refuse Disposal

Refuse collected during the year was disposed of at the Saddleworth Urban District Council site at High Moor, Doctor Lane, Scouthead, where the means of disposal is by Controlled Tipping.

(iii) Disposal of Old Motor Vehicles

Arrangements have been maintained with Messrs. Ashmond Motors (local vehicle dismantlers) to ensure the removal and storage for disposal of abandoned and derelict motor vehicles.

(iv) Street Cleansing.

The Lacre/Bedford Suction Sweeper was utilised during the year, permitting an efficient street cleansing service; the machine is fitted with a wandering hose to assist with gully emptying operations.

RODENT CONTROL

One trained employee is engaged on a part time basis in this service. Survey and inspection work is carried out throughout the district on a regular basis, individual complaints are promptly inspected and treatments effected. Bi-annual maintenance treatments were completed during the year.

Mice infestations are treated by the use of alphachloralose and in a few cases traps have given success. Coumatetralyl is now used to treat rat infestations.

91 mice infestations and 39 rat infestations received treatment during the year.

The district [illegible] land on a [illegible] by [illegible], with fast draining conditions. The [illegible] water via three recorder stations, such flow being recorded in [illegible] the proportionate costs [illegible] Vlakte Valley [illegible], Oudeberg, can be arrived at.

Surface water drainage is achieved by means of the river Sadlock and Tweedy Creek, the latter [illegible] linking with the river Sadlock at Hot [illegible].

[illegible] and eleven new dwellings were connected to the sewering [illegible] water, each [illegible] connected to the [illegible]

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(i) Domestic [illegible] Collection

[illegible] weekly collection of domestic refuse was maintained during the year [illegible] of an 8. 8 m. [illegible] 20 cu.yds capacity re-loader [illegible] collection vehicle manned by a driver/loader and two loaders. The [illegible] collection service [illegible] located on a regular basis by a 5 ton [illegible] Bedford tipper [illegible] for extra collections in the form of bulky [illegible] and domestic refuse.

Collection and [illegible] of [illegible] carried out by a local authority [illegible], the cost being borne by the rate fund; the type of dustbin [illegible] in the [illegible] Bulk Refuse Delivered [illegible] per bin 85 cu. ft. capacity, [illegible] with [illegible] plus 201 [illegible] during the year, 65 of which were issued to new properties.

(ii) Domestic Refuse Disposal

[illegible] during the year was disposed of at the South [illegible] Urban District Council [illegible] Dump, Doctor Lane, Southend, where the means of disposal is by Controlled Tipping.

(iii) [illegible] of Old Motor Vehicles

[illegible] has been [illegible] with [illegible] motors (local vehicle dismantlers) to ensure the removal and [illegible] disposal of abandoned and derelict motor vehicles.

(iv) Street Cleansing

[illegible] a utilised during [illegible] collections [illegible] cleaning service the machine [illegible] with [illegible] usually carrying [illegible] operations.

SEWERAGE

[illegible] the [illegible] time basis in this [illegible] is carried out throughout the district on a regular basis, individual complaints are promptly investigated and [illegible] effected. Bi-annual maintenance programmes were completed during the year.

Also inspection [illegible] carried by the use of [illegible] cameras and in two cases large bore rigid sewers. Construction is now used to [illegible] the [illegible].

[illegible] and 35 [illegible] relaying operations received treatment during the year.

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SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

All dwellings within the district are served by the water carriage system. There are approximately 207 dwellings without separate fresh water closet accommodation and 21 waste water closets remain for conversion or removal.

Number of waste water closets, end 1972	21
Number of conversions during the year	1
Number of fresh water closets	2094
Number of houses on water carriage system	1867

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Twelve observations were taken during the year on the three chimneys connected to industrial furnaces in the district. Informal procedure achieved the remedy of a minor fault at one installation which occured on an oil burner.

WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the district is served with Upland Surface Water by the West Pennine Water Board. The water is filtered at its source and sterilized by the Chloramine process.

Five domestic water samples were obtained during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. All were reported as satisfactory; complaints of a discoloured supply on one occasion were referred to the Water Authority who effected prompt remedial action.

Arrangements on a rechargeable basis were continued by the Local Authority for the cleansing of shared branch service pipes to blocks of dwellings.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The controlling Authority for the streams in the area is the Mersey and Weaver Authority, the two larger streams being the River Medlock and Thornley Brook (Wood Brook).

Cleansing of both river beds is found to be necessary due to fly tipping in the area.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS

During 1972, 1749 visits were made to 1301 premises, namely:-

1540 visits to dwellinghouses
166 visits to shops
7 visits to schools
36 visits to factories.

In dwellinghouses, 408 defects or nuisances were discovered and 329 of these were remedied. 18 Statutory Abatement Notices were served in order to ensure that the necessary repairs were carried out, together with 127 Informal Notices. Informal notices are found to obtain a satisfactory remedy in the majority cases.

DISINFESTATION

10 dwellings (2 Council and 8 other dwellings) in the district were found to be infested to a small degree, with various types of insect. Successful control measures were gained by the use of contact insecticides (powder, liquid and smoke generators).

SCHOOLS

There are 4 schools in the district. Each school is served with mains water supply and connected to the drainage system.

[illegible]

[illegible] within the district are served by the water carriage system. There are approximately 20[illegible] dwelling without separate fresh water closets, cesspoolation and 21 waste water closets remain for conversion or removal.

Number of waste water closets, end 1972	21
[illegible] conversations during the year	1
[illegible]	2094
Number of houses on water carriage system	1825

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Two [illegible] surveys were taken during the year on the three cesspools located in industrial premises in the district. Informal procedure achieved [illegible] of a nuisance result at one industrial [illegible] which occurred on an oil burner.

WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the district is served with piped surface water by the West Kent Water Board. The water is filtered at its source and fortified by the Chlorination process.

Five samples water samples were obtained during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. All were reported as satisfactory; complaints of discoloured supply on one occasion were referred to the water authority who effected prompt remedial action.

Arrangements for a reconnaissance train were continued by the Local Authority for the sampling of secured branch services [illegible] buildings.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The pollution authority for the streams in the area is the Kent River Board and sewer authority, the Dartford Borough Council. The River streams joining the River [illegible] and Thurnley Brook (West Brook).

Cleansing of both river beds is [illegible] necessary due to fly tipping in the area.

SANITARY INSPECTION

During [illegible] 2[illegible] visits were made to 1301 premises, namely:-

1[illegible] visits	dwelling houses
3[illegible] visits	[illegible]
7 visits	[illegible]
5[illegible] visits	[illegible]

In dwelling houses, 600 defects or nuisances were discovered and 329 of these were remedied. No statutory notices were served in order to secure the [illegible] necessary repairs were carried [illegible] by agreement with [illegible]. Informal notices were found [illegible] in [illegible] necessary remedy in the majority cases.

DRAINAGE

10 buildings (2 Council and 8 other) were linked in the district were found to be defected to a small degree, of a various type of [illegible]. Repeated examinations were carried by the use of [illegible] (water, [illegible] and smoke generators).

RODENTS

There are 6 rodents in the district. [illegible] in [illegible] using water supply and connected to the sewerage system.

FACTORIES

There are 18 factories registered in the district to which 50 visits were made. It was necessary to serve 4 Informal Notices under the Act, in order to achieve the remedy of defect found.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES.

Two new registrations were made during 1972; inspections of all registered premises were made.

REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

	No. of premises reg. during the year.	No. of Reg. premises at end of year.	No. of Reg. premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	-	3	3
Retail Shops	-	22	22
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses.	-	1	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	6	6
Fuel Storage Depots	-	2	2
	-	34	34

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
No. of properties in district	2,285	1
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	130	1
No. of above infested by:- rats	39	1
mice	91	-
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	134	-
No. of above infested by:- rats	2	-
mice	8	-

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Selling of food stuffs is the main type of treade carried out by the shops in the district, 54 out of the total of 83 shops selling food for human consumption.

The following list sets out the various food trades:-

General grocers and provisions dealers	21
Greengrocers and fruiterers	3
Fishmongers	1
Butchers	5
Bakers and/or confectioners	4
Fried fish shops	3
Shops selling sugar confectionery minerals, ice-cream, etc.	3
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar	14
	54

The number of inspections carried out to the above premises totalled 167.

MILK

Licenses for pasteurised, sterilized and untreated milk are issued by the Lancashire County Council.

A total of 20 milk samples (one of which was Channel Island Milk) were taken by the staff of the County Medical Officer of Health, all samples yielding a satisfactory result.

The District Council also submitted 41 samples of milk to the Public Health Department for examination.

Ice-Cream is not manufactured in the district. The majority of ice-cream is retailed in wrapped form from registered premises in the area. 2 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination, both samples were found to be satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES

There are no Slaughter Houses in the district.

SAMPLING OF FOOD

The Lancashire County Council carry out food sampling in the district and the following were obtained during 1971:-

1 Fish Cakes
1 Tomato Puree
1 Jam
1 Mincemeat
1 Fish Paste
1 Junior Meal, canned
1 Cheese

The County Analyst gae adverse reports on:-

Sample	Result of Analyst	Action Taken
Formal Milk	Contained 0.05 International Units of penecillin per ml.	Producer informed.
Cheese	Consisted of Full Fat Hard Cheese but not labelled as such in accordance with the provisions of the Cheese Regulations, 1970.	Vendor communicated with.

HOUSING

1. Number of new houses erected during 1972:-

(i)	By the Local Authority	Nil
(ii)	By other bodies or persons	111

2. Total number of Council owned dwellings at the end of the year - 205

3. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(i) a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	398
b)	Total number of inspections made for the purpose.	526
c)	Number of dwelling-houses in a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.	147
(ii)	Total number of dwelling-houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit (estimated)	117

4. Houses Demolished

	Number	Displaced during the year	
		Persons	Families
Not in clearance areas. As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957	9	8	5

5. Unfit Houses Closed

	Number	Displaced during the year	
		Persons	Families
Under Section 16 (4) 17(1) and 25(1) Housing Act, 1957.	17	13	6

6. Unfit Houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(i) After informal action by Local Authority	1	Nil
(ii) After formal notice under - (a) Public Health Acts	Nil	Nil
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Acts 1957	Nil	Nil

7. Number of Unfit Houses in Temporary Use, Housing Act 1957 NIL

8. Number of Houses purchased by Agreement 7

9. Number of Clearance Areas represented 7

10. Housing Act and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958 and Housing Acts 1969 Improvement Grants.

One General Improvement Area approved in principle, but no further progress due to no financial allocation during current financial year.

11. House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 and Housing Acts 1961 and 1964 Standard Grants

	Number of dwellings or other buildings affected
Action during the year:-	
(i) Applications submitted to Local Authority for improvement to full standard	55
(ii) Applications approved by Local Authority for improvement to reduce standard	-
(iii) Total applications approved by Local Authority	55
(iv) Work completed	50

The number of Grants paid during the year was 45, total amount being £9,859-86p.

12. Housing List

At the end of the year, the requirement for dwellings was as follows:-

89 - 1 bedroom accommodation
68 - 2 bedroom accommodation
34 - 3 bedroom accommodation

One case of overcrowding was known to exist at the end of the year.

FACTORIES

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, & 6, are to be enforced by the Local Authority	5	23	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	13	27	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (Excluding out-workers premises.	-	-	-	-
Total	18	50	4	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred: To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp. (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation(S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
	3	3	-	-	-

Outworkers

Nature of work (1)	Section 133: No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases default in sending lists to Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failing to supply lists (4)	Section 134: No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Assembly of Xmas Crackers	1	-	-	-	-	-
Machinist	1	-	-	-	-	-