

[Report 1950] / Medical Officer of Health, Littlehampton U.D.C.

Contributors

Littlehampton (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1950

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Littlehampton Urban District

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1950


BY

FRANK COCKROFT

M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

WORTHING :

Gadd's Printing Works, Ltd., Wenban Road—Tel. 189.



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LITTLEHAMPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL OFFICES,
15 MILL ROAD,
WORTHING.

July, 1951.

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1950. During the year Dr. Wilshaw, and subsequently Dr. Harrison, were the Medical Officers of Health.

It is very satisfactory to note that there were no maternal deaths and the Infant Death Rate was exceptionally low, there being only two deaths of children under one year of age.

The general Death Rate is what one would expect. When allowance is made for the age of the population in respect of the rest of the country the Corrected Death Rate (10.5) is considerably less than that for England and Wales.

The Birth Rate is higher than that for England and Wales and even higher (17.5) when corrected for the different age distribution.

The state of the public health appears to have been good. Statistics illustrate that Littlehampton is a very desirable place to reside in from a health point of view.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK COCKCROFT,
Medical Officer of Health.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Littlehampton Urban District Council*

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

FRANK COCKCROFT, M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

Mr. J. L. MCGARRY, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Outdoor Assistant :

Mr. L. E. SANDFORD.

Clerk :

MISS B. REEVE.

Junior Clerk :

MISS M. MURPHY

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health:

MISS W. M. WOODROFFE.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 2,720.

Resident Population (1950), estimated by Registrar General, 13,830.

Population (1951) Census, 13,948.

Rateable Value (1950), £141,015.

Sum represented by 1d. Rate, £580.

No. of inhabited houses end of 1950 according to Rate Book 3,773.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births—	Total	M.	F.	
Legitimate	215	108	107	—Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 16.2.
Illegitimate	9	3	6	
Stillbirths ..	6	2	4	—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 26.1.
Deaths ..	165	69	96	—Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 11.9

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth :—None

Deaths of Infants under one year of age, 2.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births, 8.9.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, 9.3.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births, None.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 40.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), None.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), None

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), None.

Comparative Statistics, 1950.

		England and Wales	West Sussex Urban	Sussex Rural	Littlehampton U.D.
Birth Rate	.. ..	15.8	12.5	14.3	16.9
Death Rate	.. ..	11.6	15.5	12.5	11.9
Infantile Death Rate	.. ..	29.8	25	27	8.9
Pulmonary Tuberculosis					
Death Rate	.. ..	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
Cancer Death Rate	.. ..	1.9	2.6	2.2	2.8
Maternal Mortality Rate, per 1,000 births	.. ..	0.86	1.4	0.9	0.0
Scarlet Fever—Incidence Rate per 1,000 population	.. ..	—	—	—	1.95
Diphtheria — Incidence Rate per 1,000 population	.. ..	—	—	—	0.0
Enteric Fever — Incidence Rate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	—	0.0

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

I. Local Health Authority Services.

(a) *Nursing.*

General District Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors and School Nurses are employed by the County Council to serve in the area.

(b) *Maternity.*

A Maternity and Child Welfare centre and Ante-Natal Clinic are provided at Littlehampton Health Centre, Elm Grove Road.

(c) *School Clinics.*

School Clinics for minor ailments are held at Littlehampton Health Centre.

An Eye Clinic is held when required at the Health Centre.

Dental Clinics are held periodically at Littlehampton and Lyminster for the treatment of children with decayed teeth.

Ear Clinics are held from time to time at the Chichester Health Centre, and appointments are made for children suffering from ear disease to attend.

Speech Therapy Clinics are held at Chichester Health Centre and Bognor Regis Health Centre.

(d) Orthopædic Clinics.

These are held at Chichester Health Centre to which Littlehampton School children are taken by appointment for treatment of crippling defects. The Orthopædic Nurse supervises children who have been prescribed exercises at these Clinics.

(e) Physiotherapy Clinics are held at Littlehampton Health Centre.

(f) Tuberculosis Clinics.

The West Sussex County Council hold a Tuberculosis Clinic at the Worthing Hospital, and at Health Centre, Chapel Street, Chichester, both of which are available to the residents of Littlehampton.

(g) Venereal Disease.

The West Sussex County Council have made arrangements entitling residents in the district to attend the Clinics for Venereal Diseases held at Worthing Hospital.

(h) Ambulance Service.

Acting as agents for the County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society operate the Ambulance and Hospital Car Service in the County. Calls for an ambulance are made through the doctor or nurse in attendance on the case, or through the Police.

Lists showing names and addresses of midwives, health visitors and general nurses may be seen at County Libraries, Town Halls or Offices of local District Councils, and the Public Health Department, County Hall, Chichester. Information as to the situation of clinics and times of sessions may be obtained from the same sources, or from the local midwife, health visitors or general nurse.

I. Hospital and Specialist Services.

A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Doctors can arrange whatever forms of treatment are needed for their patients in general or special hospitals, whether as in-patients or out-patients ; Hospital accommodation of

a private nature is available in certain circumstances subject to appropriate charges. All types of cases are thus provided for — medical, surgical, maternity, infectious diseases, and those requiring sanatorium or mental hospital treatment.

The Worthing Group Hospitals comprise Worthing, Southlands, Swandean, Littlehampton and Arundel Hospitals, Zachary Merton Maternity Home, Rustington, and certain Convalescent Homes.

III. General Medical and Dental Services.

Everyone is entitled as part of the arrangements for the National Health Service to general medical and dental care. Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Service Executive Council for West Sussex, 63 South Street, Chichester

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Byelaws made by the Council under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, came into force during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

There is an abundant supply of pure water obtained from deep well boring in the Downs at Burpham. The supply is constant and all the houses in that area are served direct. The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

10 Samples of raw water and 40 samples of water after chlorination were sent for bacteriological examination. All the results were satisfactory. Five samples were sent for chemical analysis and proved satisfactory.

Only 11 houses are not supplied from the public mains.

Extensions of mains during the year :—

Wickbourne Estate	600 yards
Wickbourne Estate	857 yards
R.N.A.S. Estate, Horsham Road	113 yards
R.N.A.S. Estate, Horsham Road	50 yards

Sewers.

Extension of sewers during the year :—

West Wick Housing Scheme	50 yards—9" diameter
Arundel Road	100 yards—15" diameter.

Rivers and Streams.

Observations are kept on the river Arun, as it passes through the town, to prevent offal and waste materials being thrown in to the river.

Swimming Baths.

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

SCHOOLS.

There are six Primary and Secondary schools in the district. All are provided with water closets and with the town water supply.

HOUSING.

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1950

Seven new houses were erected during 1950 by private enterprise and thirty-four by the Local Authority.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	204
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	970
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	94
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	477
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	274

2.—Remedying of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	170
---	-----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

No action was taken under Statutory Powers during the year.

4.—Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding :—

(a)	i.	No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	6
	ii.	No. of families dwelling therein	11
	iii.	No. of persons dwelling therein	42½
(b)		No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	8
(c)	i.	No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	3
	ii.	No. of persons concerned in such cases ..	34
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ..	None

Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restriction) Act, 1920.

During the year no application has been made for a certificate under the above Act.

Houses let in Lodgings.

No action has been necessary under the Bye-laws in force in the district.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1.—Inspections.

PREMISES	No. on Regis- ter.	Inspec- tions.	No. of Written Notices.	Occu- piers Prose- cuted.
(i) Factories in which Sec- tions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	19	36	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	85	100	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	—	—	—	—
Total ..	104	136	1	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were Instituted.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness	15	15	—	—	—
Overcrowding ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	9	9	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act ..	3	3	—	—	—
Total ..	28	28	—	2	—

There are two Outworkers in the district.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

				Under 1 year	1 — 2 years	3 — 4 years	5 — 9 years	10 — 14 years	15 — 24 years	25 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	—	1	6	18	1	1	—	27
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	—	3	4	2	—	—	2	11
Ac. Poliomyelitis:											
Paralytic	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	..	..	..	1	6	5	6	—	—	—	18
Diphtheria	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

			Under 5 years	5 — 14 years	15 — 44 years	45 — 64 years	65 and over	Total
Pneumonia	..	..	1	3	—	2	1	7
Dysentery	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. Encephalitis		..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever		..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	..	..	—	—	1	2	—	3
Meningococcal Infection	..		—	1	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning		..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia		..	—	—	1	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum			—	—	—	—	—	—

	Total Cases	Cases ad- mitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	27	13	—
Whooping Cough	11	—	—
Measles	18	4	—
Pneumonia	7	2	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation has again been carried out during the year by the County Council. At the end of the year the position was as follows :—

	Estimated population mid-year 1950	Total number of children immunised
Under 5 years of age	1,218	670
5-14 years of age	2,195	1,375

In addition, 88 children received a third reinforcing dose during the year.

No case of Diphtheria was notified during the year.

Food Poisoning.

No case of Food Poisoning was notified during the year.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory at Brighton is now in full use for the examination of bacteriological specimens.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	7	2	—	1	1	2	—	—

No person died from Tuberculosis who had not been notified during life.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS.

It has not been necessary to serve any notice under these Regulations which prevent persons suffering from Tuberculosis taking part in the production of milk.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.

No action has had to be taken by the Council under this section, which gives power to Sanitary Authorities to apply in special cases for a magistrate's order for the removal of Tuberculous persons to an Institution for isolation.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR—1950.

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

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you a report of the work carried out during the year 1950, this being my eighteenth Annual Report.

Inspection of the District.

During the year 7,112 inspections and visits have been made as follows :—

Infectious diseases and contagious diseases (including Tuberculosis)	247
Nuisances and complaints	81
Revisits to property under notice	524
Revisits where work was in progress	242
Interviews with owners, agents or builders	270
Drainage inspections, smoke and water tests to drains	404
Butchers' shops	228
Dairies and milkshops	90
Bakehouses	42
Factories	94
Workplaces	2
Re refuse receptacles and sanitary conveniences	178
Re overcrowding	86
Ice cream premises	186
Refreshment rooms	363
Cinemas	3
Fried Fish Shops	6
Food Preparation Premises	267
Re Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	2,088
Re tents, vans, sheds and similar structures	169
Re swine and fowls	20
Re water supply	77
Public conveniences and urinals	4
Stables	4

Vermin	195
Refuse accumulations	230
Miscellaneous	285
No. of houses inspected under the Housing Act, 1936 ..	94
Re Shops Act, 1934	167
No. of houses measured and recorded under the Housing Act, 1936, for overcrowding	4
No. of rent books examined for permitted number	—
No. of rooms disinfected	176
Mosquitoes	12
Houses let in lodgings	—
Smoke observations	18
Visits re state of garden, keeping of poultry, dustbins and rats	256

Samples taken :—

Water : Bacteriological examination :	59
Chemical analysis :	5
Milk samples	93
Cream samples	—
Ice cream samples	63

Notices served :

Statutory	4
Informal	401

Outstanding Notices.

At the end of 1950, 13 informal notices had not been complied with, but in all cases instructions had been given by the owners to builders.

Complaints.

During the year a total of 260 complaints were received and had reference to the following matters :—

Condition of house	10
Accumulations	7
Rats and mice	125
Vermin	24
Need for new or additional and defective condition of dustbins	8

Dampness	5
Choked and defective condition of drains	32
Smells	6
Dangerous Structures	1
Smoke nuisances	3
Obstruction of light	2
Cesspools	1
Defective roofs	1
Overcrowding	4
Animals and swine	2
Defective or dirty condition of sanitary conveniences ..	3
Defective roads and pavements	1
Defective or choked condition of W.C's	10
Condition of camping site	2
Defective kitcheners	1
Committing of nuisances	2
Condition of garden	2
Defective condition of floor	2
Miscellaneous	6

Sanitary improvements and defects remedied during the year:

	1950	1926-50 (25 yrs.)
Roofs repaired	126	1,524
Windows repaired	130	1,776
Floors relaid and repaired	94	1,162
Ceilings repaired and cleansed	153	1,910
Staircases repaired	12	140
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired	44	660
Walls repaired and repointed	228	4,499
Insufficient ventilation remedied	20	151
Insufficient lighting remedied	13	148
Dampness remedied	186	2,820
Washing coppers provided or repaired	3	223
Eaves or downspouting provided or repaired ..	69	829
Doors provided or repaired	74	632
Chimney stacks repaired	63	660

	1950	1926-50 (25 yrs.)
Cupboards cleansed or repaired	—	17
Defective flues repaired	5	65
Wash-houses built	—	1
Sanitary conveniences repaired or provided with cisterns	95	1,181
Additional water closets	13	74
Privy middens abolished	—	5
Ashplaces abolished	—	7
New dustbins and covers provided	31	1,067
Drains opened and cleansed	105	940
Drains relaid and repaired	35	406
Inspection chambers, interceptors and traps provided to drains	29	532
Overflowing cesspools	6	173
Sanitary sinks provided	17	207
Sink or bath wastes repaired	10	242
Defective sink waste channels repaired	6	106
Baths provided	2	33
Urinals, etc.—cleansed, repaired, reconstructed or fitted with automatic flushing apparatus	9	192
Soil pipes repaired	6	65
Yards paved or yard paving repaired	1	243
Yards cleansed	18	184
Verminous rooms cleansed and bedding destroyed	18	358
Overcrowding remedied	—	156
Rooms cleansed	111	3025
Accumulations of rubbish and manure removed	21	728
Offensive or stagnant water drained from ponds, tanks, etc.	—	19
Nuisances abated from the keeping of animals and swine	4	114
Caravans : insanitary sites and providing of W.C's, etc.	—	94
Smoke nuisances abated	2	21
Water removed from cellars	—	—
Towns water laid on	—	790
Wells closed	—	10
Water pumps repaired, pipes cleansed, etc.	—	41
Cinemas : dressing rooms improved or cleansed or urinals provided, etc.	—	19

	1950	1926-50 (25 yrs.)
Pantries provided and ventilated to the open air ..	2	110
Sewage works reconstructed or installed	—	2
Food Premises : Drains cleansed and sanitary accommodation repaired, walls and ceilings repaired ..	29	605
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—contraventions	5	239
Dairies and milkshops : cleansed or repaired and contraventions remedied, etc.	—	467
Bakehouses : cleansing, repairs, etc.	7	260
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924—contraventions	5	213
Slaughterhouses : removal of refuse, cleansing or repairs	—	133
Fried Fish Shops : walls and ceilings cleansed, premises repaired, additional drainage provided, etc.	—	63
Factories : sanitary accommodation improved or repaired, rooms repaired or cleansed	21	371
Ice Cream Premises : cleansed, repaired, dirty and uncovered containers, etc.	4	206
Shops Act, 1934—contraventions	17	121
Housing Act, 1936 : Section 62—contraventions ..	—	35
Workplaces—(P.H.A., 1936)	—	14

Housing.

Details showing the number of houses inspected, and the action taken under the Housing Acts and Public Health Acts for the remedy of defective or unsatisfactory conditions of dwelling houses are to be found at the end of the Medical Officer of Health's Report. It will be seen that 204 houses have been inspected under the Housing Acts and Public Health Acts for defective or unsatisfactory conditions.

Two houses were found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. An undertaking under Sub-section 3 of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, was accepted in each case.

There are many houses in the district which are of a sub-standard, but owing to the shortage of housing accommodation action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, cannot at present take place.

Movable Dwellings.

There are 4 permanent sites for Movable Dwellings in Littlehampton. Three are situated on the West side of the River Arun and are licensed for a total of 33 trailer caravans.

The largest site is situated at the North of the district and is licensed for 100 tents and trailers.

All sites are provided with towns water, water-closets or Elsan-closets, and were maintained in a fairly good condition throughout the year.

Dairies and Milkshops.

At the end of 1950 there were 6 cowkeepers, all of whom sold their milk wholesale.

There are 5 retailers on the register, 4 resident in the district and one who sells milk in the district from premises outside, and milk was sold from 4 premises.

As duties in respect of cowsheds were transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries on the 1st October, 1949, no visits have been paid to cowsheds during the year.

90 inspections were made of dairies during the year when it was found that conditions were being maintained very satisfactorily.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

On the 1st October, 1949, the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilized Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, came into force.

The following licences were granted during 1950 under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

Dealers licence authorizing the use of the special designation Tuberculin-tested	7
--	---

Dealers licence authorizing the use of the special designation Pasteurised	4
--	---

87 Samples of designated milk (62 Pasteurised or Heat-treated, and 25 Tuberculin Tested) have been sent for bacteriological examination. 8 samples of Pasteurised milk fell below the standard prescribed by the Regulations.

Clean Milk Production.

During the year 93 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination—87 of designated milk and 6 of ordinary.

The following tables give the number of samples which did not satisfy the Methylene Blue Test, and also the number which failed the Coli Test.

Produced in Littlehampton.

Grade of Milk :	No. of samples:	No. which did not satisfy the Methylene Blue Test :	No. which failed the Coli Test :
Ordinary ..	2	—	—
Pasteurised or Heat-Treated	61	8	—
Tuberculin-Tested	5	—	2

Produced and sent in from outside the District.

Grade of Milk:	No. of Samples:	No. which did not satisfy the Methylene Blue Test:	No. which failed the Coli Test:
Pasteurised	1	—	—
Tuberculin-Tested	20	—	2
Ordinary ..	4	—	2

Where a sample is found to be deficient in fat, the matter is reported to the Food and Drugs Authority.

The average percentage of fat per sample was 4.25%.

The following tables show the years 1926 to 1950 inclusive the number of samples which failed to comply with the prescribed conditions, and of these the number which failed the Coli Test. (The Standard for Accredited Milk is taken for Ordinary Milk).

Produced in Littlehampton.

Grade of Milk:	No. of samples:	No. which did not comply with the prescribed conditions :	No. of these which failed the Coli Test:
Accredited	186	46	48
Tuberculin-Tested	17	6	5
Pasteurised or Heat-treated	575	69	16
Ordinary	234	60	55

Produced and sent in from outside the district.

Grade of Milk:	No. of samples:	No. which did not comply with the prescribed conditions:	No. of these which failed the Coli Test:
Accredited ..	98	32	33
Tuberculin-Tested	148	16	10
Pasteurised or Heat-treated	38	7	6
Ordinary ..	326	129	104

From 1926 to 1950 inclusive, the number of samples of Ordinary milk which gave results equal to the standard Accredited were as follows :—

Produced in Littlehampton	174 or 75.36%
Produced and sent in from outside the district	197 or 60.43%

All milk sold in Littlehampton, with the exception of bottled Tuberculin-Tested milk, is Pasteurised.

Steam for sterilizing churns, cans, measures, etc., is in use at all Dairies.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations.

There has been no slaughtering in this district since the Government Controlled Slaughtering ceased on March 14th, 1942.

During the year 228 visits were paid to Butchers' shops and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed :—

Smoking in shop	1
Premises in need of cleansing	3
Dirty condition of yard	1

The following weights of meat and offal were surrendered as unfit for food :—

- 303½ lbs. Beef—7 lb. Beef Offal.
- 12-lbs. Mutton.
- 15-lbs. Pork.
- 7 x 12-oz. tins Corned Beef.
- 15 x ¾-oz. tins Corned Beef.
- 20 x 6-lb. tins Corned Beef.

Food Preparation Premises.

During the year 267 visits were paid to food preparation premises and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed :

Premises in need of cleansing and re-decoration ..	2
Need for additional water supply	1
Need for refrigerator for cold storage	1
Dirty condition of yard	4
Accumulations of refuse	4
Need for hot water for washing purposes ..	1
Defective condition of W.C.	1

All premises where food is prepared are periodically visited. A number of parcels of foodstuffs were surrendered as unfit for food.

Restaurants and Cafes.

There are at present 65 premises on the register and 363 inspections of these premises have been made.

The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed :—

Need for additional sanitary accommodation for males and females	1
Kitchen in need of cleansing	1
Refuse bins in dirty condition	2
Dirty condition of yard	5
Sanitary conveniences in need of cleansing ..	1
Lack of ventilation—need for air extractor ..	1
Additional dustbins required	1
Smoking in kitchen	1
Need for proper trap and filter to sink	1
Premises in need of cleansing and re-decoration	1

Restaurants are being gradually improved in construction as well as amenities.

Ice Cream Premises.

During the year there were 86 premises at which ice cream was prepared, stored or offered for sale, and in connection with these premises 186 inspections were made.

The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found, and in each case the necessary work was carried out :—

Need for new room for conserving ice cream ..	1
Ice cream factory in need of cleansing and re-decoration	1
Tricycles operating without name and address in conspicuous place on vehicle	1
Smoking in ice cream kiosk	1

63 Samples of ice cream were taken and sent for bacteriological examination during the year, and the results are given as follows :—

No. of samples	Grade	Average fat content:
48	I	9.3%
10	II	10.7%
3	III	8.0%
2	IV	11.0%

The average fat content of all samples was 9.7%.

Clean Food Campaign.

No lectures, classes or exhibitions have been held in Littlehampton for food traders, employees and the general public, and no clean food guides or codes of practice have been formulated.

During 1950, 1,182 visits were paid to the different food premises and improvements carried out where possible. There is therefore no additional information other than was given in the reply to the Ministry of Food Circular M.F.12/49, which stated as follows :—

“ As a result of visits many improvements have been made and are still being made. Samples of washing-up water, not only in cafes, etc., but in hotels and public houses have been taken with a view to obtaining hygienic methods. The fullest co-operation has been given to the Council by both proprietors and staff of food premises in endeavours to obtain a high standard of cleanliness and hygiene.”

Bakehouses.

There are seven bakehouses in the district, two of which are underground.

42 inspections have been carried out, and the following unsatisfactory conditions were observed :—

Bakehouse in need of cleansing	4
Accumulations of refuse	3

Fried Fish Shops.

There are four fried fish shops operating in the district at present.

6 Visits have been paid to fried fish shops, and conditions were maintained in a satisfactory manner.

Shops Act, 1934.

During the year 167 visits have been paid to shops, and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found :—

Defective condition of floor	5
Need for additional food storage accommodation	2
Dirty condition of sanitary conveniences	4
Insufficient lighting and ventilation in sanitary conveniences	2
Defective condition of roof	1
Need for additional dustbins	2
Need for paving of yard	1

Section 89, Public Health Act, 1936.

All inns, public houses and beer houses have been inspected during the year in an endeavour to obtain hygienic conditions. At several of the premises improvements were made to sanitary accommodation.

Public Health Act, 1936—Sections 83, 84 and 85.

During the year it was necessary to have 18 verminous rooms cleansed. No bedding was removed for destruction and no person removed to a Cleansing Station.

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47.

It has not been necessary to take any action under the above section.

Disinfection.

During the year 176 rooms have been disinfected.

By arrangement with the West Sussex County Council, steam disinfection can be carried out at the Central Laundry, Chichester.

Rag Flock Act.

No premises have been found where Rag Flock is in use or on sale.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

125 complaints were received and dealt with during the year. In each case visits were paid until the rats or mice were exterminated.

The only major infestation in the district is on land used for controlled tipping on the West Bank of the River Arun. This area receives constant attention. The sewers also receive systematic attention, and infestations found on Agricultural land are referred to the West Sussex War Agricultural Executive Committee.

A free service is given in respect of private dwelling houses, but charges are made in respect of business premises.

Extermination work is successfully accomplished by the use of Zinc Phosphide, Red Squill, Arsenious poison baits, "Horo Tubes," and "Cyanide" Fumigation and trapping. The estimated number of rats killed during the year was 2,345 (Ministry of Food Formula).

The following tables show statistics which have been sent to the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in respect of works carried out during the nine months—April 1st to December 31st, 1950.

Prevalence of Rats and Mice.

TYPE OF PROPERTY	(i) (ii) (iii) (iv) No. of properties in L.A.'s area				(v) Analysis of (iv)		
	Total	In which infestation was			Number infested by		
		Notified by occupier	Other-wise discovered	Recorded Total of (ii) and (iii)	Rats		Mice only
					Major	Minor	
Local Authority's Property:	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dwelling Houses:	3680	89	5	94	—	83	11
Business Premises:	485	1	—	1	—	1	—
Agricultural Property	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL:	4200	90	5	95	—	84	11

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (Continued).

MEASURES OF CONTROL BY LOCAL AUTHORITY.

TYPE OF PROPERTY	No. of properties inspected	No. of inspections made	No. of notices served under Section 4		Number of treatments carried out				Block treatments of properties in different occupancies under Section 6 (1) or by informal arrangement			
					By arrangement with occupier		Under Sect. 5 (1)					
			Treatments	Works	Rats	Mice only	Rats	Mice only	No. of Blocks	Surface	Associated sewers	
			No. of separate occupancies	No. of manholes treated								
Local Authority's Property	11	240	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	706	1125	—	5	83	11	—	31	118	12	12	
	50	187	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	13	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTAL:	780	1591	—	5	84	11	—	31	118	12	12	

Eradication of Bed-bugs.

8 Non-Council houses were found to be infested with bed-bugs. These were disinfested by the Council by the use of D.D.T. insecticides.

No houses were disinfested by the use of Hydrogen Cyanide, nor has it been necessary to disinfest the furniture of prospective tenants to Council houses.

Sanitary Accommodation.

The approximate number of water-closets in the district at the end of the year was 4,338.

There are approximately 16 pail-closets in use, but these are situated at Toddington, and other parts of the district which are not connected to the sewers. The scheme for sewage in the Eastern Area which was in progress, was temporarily suspended because of the war.

House refuse is collected weekly by the use of covered lorries, and the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on the West side of the River Arun.

Public Conveniences.

There are ten Public Conveniences, eight Ladies'; and nine Gentlemen's, and they have been maintained in a satisfactory condition during the year.

Sunshine and Rainfall Statistics.

SUNSHINE (Hours)				RAINFALL (Inches)		
Month:	1950	1949	Average for 36 years	1950	1949	Average for 36 years
January ..	66.7	85.1	65.0	0.97	1.05	3.02
February ..	88.8	137.2	82.9	4.51	1.09	2.06
March ..	140.5	119.6	140.3	1.37	1.18	1.76
April ..	189.3	215.0	175.3	2.22	0.99	1.86
May ..	206.7	254.3	226.1	1.24	1.56	1.84
June ..	263.9	247.3	236.9	1.04	0.42	1.53
July ..	207.8	292.2	219.3	3.03	0.22	2.10
August ..	205.6	239.9	210.3	2.13	1.22	2.20
September ..	122.3	165.6	163.4	2.91	1.54	2.20
October ..	115.7	126.9	123.9	0.55	9.15	2.95
November ..	74.5	89.3	75.3	5.43	3.46	3.33
December ..	56.6	68.9	59.0	2.39	1.95	2.98
TOTALS: ..	1738.4	2041.3	1777.7	27.79	23.83	27.83

I wish to express my gratitude to the members of the Public Health Committee and to Councillor Lewis, Chairman of the Committee, for co-operation given me during the year. To Dr. Wilshaw, who retired on the 30th September, 1950, I am grateful for his co-operation. Dr. Harrison has been the acting Medical Officer of Health since Dr. Wilshaw retired, and to him I am grateful for assistance he has given me. Miss B. Reeve and Mr. L. E. Sanford have during the year, worked in a conscientious manner.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. McGARRY.

