

**[Report 1953] / Medical Officer of Health, Littlehampton U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Littlehampton (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1953

**Persistent URL**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR

**1953**



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BY

**FRANK COCKCROFT**

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

ARUNDEL:  
Mitchell & Co. (Printers) Ltd. Tel. 2201.



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# LITTLEHAMPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL OFFICES,  
MANOR HOUSE,  
LITTLEHAMPTON.

April, 1954.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1953.

## **Statistics.**

The Birth Rate has fallen but is still above the average for England and Wales as a whole. The Death Rate, although higher than the previous year, is still below that for England and Wales. There were fewer infant deaths and again no maternal deaths. The cancer and pulmonary tuberculosis rates were both lower than the previous year.

There was a large number of cases of Measles but no case had to be removed to hospital.

Of the eight cases of Poliomyelitis, one died and two have been left with some degree of paralysis.

## **Prevention of Disease.**

Nearly everyone realises that vaccination and immunisation will protect them against Smallpox and Diphtheria. Whooping Cough vaccines have greatly improved and in my opinion all children should be protected against this debilitating disease when they are about six months old.

There is no method yet of giving any permanent protection to the public against Poliomyelitis. The mode of spread is still not certain. It may be via food or close contact. Therefore, if there are many cases about it is important to take extra care about what food you eat and to avoid crowded places.

Those who contract Tuberculosis have a much greater chance of recovery to-day provided they are diagnosed early. All contacts of cases should take advantage of any facilities, such as Mass Miniature Radiography, for checking up on them.

It is important for the public continually to bear in mind that much illness is due to germs getting into food, often by carelessness. After entering the food, they require a certain amount of time, moisture and temperature before they multiply into dangerous numbers. Some germs are not destroyed by boiling so it is essential they must not be allowed to multiply. A refrigerator, properly used, is of far more value to a family's health than a television set. Dogs, unless on a lead, should be kept away from streets where there are food shops. Regular visits are made to kitchens where food is prepared for communal use, in an endeavour to improve conditions and prevent infection.

Heavy smokers have been warned about their increased risk of developing lung cancer. There are no other known occupational hazards in the district likely to produce cancer.

During the latter part of the year there was a nuisance from flies on the foreshore. However, there is no evidence that they are any danger to health. Steps have been taken by the Council to eradicate this fly menace.

**Housing.**

Sharing a house in any way often has ill effects on those concerned, frequently causing much mental distress. A gradual improvement in the housing situation is remedying many of these unsatisfactory housing conditions.

**Water.**

The district possesses a pure water supply. Unfortunately it is a hard water of about 250 parts per million. There are people who ascribe certain ailments to consumption of hard water and there are others who say the same about a very soft water. In my opinion, the public would benefit by having a softer water of about 100 parts per million. To do this would entail an increase in the water rate but this would be offset by a saving in such things as soap, fabrics and tea.

I should like to thank Mr. McGarry and the staff of the Health Department for their satisfactory work during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK COCKCROFT,

Medical Officer of Health.

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



## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres), 2,720.

Resident Population (1953), estimated by Registrar General, 14,360.

Population (1951) Census, 13,948.

Rateable Value (1953), £150,519.

Sum represented by 1d. Rate, £610.

No. of inhabited houses end of 1953 according to Rate Book, 4,036.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births	TOTAL	M.	F.	
Legitimate ...	231	133	98	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated
Illegitimate ...	15	8	7	resident population 17·1.
				Corrected Rate, 18·3.
Stillbirths ...	7	5	2	—Rate per 1,000 total (live
				and still) births, 27·7.
Deaths ...	180	83	97	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated
				resident population, 12·5.
				Corrected Rate, 10·9.

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

Deaths of Infants under one year of age, 5.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age : —

All Infants per 1,000 live births, 20·3.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, 21·6.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births, nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 32.

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

### Comparative Statistics, 1953.

	England and Wales	West Sussex Urban	Rural	Littlehampton U.D.
Birth Rate ...	15·5	11·6	14·9	17·1
Death Rate ...	11·4	15·6	11·8	12·5
Infantile Death Rate ...	26·8	22	22	20·3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis				
Death Rate ...	0·2	0·06	0·10	0·07
Cancer Death Rate ...	1·99	2·8	2·1	2·2
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ...	0·76	1·5	0·9	0·0

**Comparative Statistics, 1901—1953.**

	1901	1905	1910	1920	1925	1935	1952	1953
Population	7,363	8,165	8,800	8,593	9,020	10,178	14,130	14,360
Birth Rate	20·9	20·8	19·6	20·1	14·8	13·2	19·1	17·1
Death Rate	13·7	11·8	12·2	11·7	11·3	12·1	11·6	12·5
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	143	105	81	52	59	63	30	20
No. Inhab- ited Houses	1,504	—	1,806	—	1,785	3,308	3,950	4,036
Average No. of persons per house	4·9	—	4·6	—	5·1	3·1	3·6	3·6

**CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

Miss F. M. McDONALD.

**SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS***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.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for the Worthing Rural District and Assistant County Medical Officer.

The Port Health District work is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector in addition to their normal duties.

Most of the public health matters with which the Council is concerned are dealt with in the Public Health Committee. To some extent the following Committees are concerned with public health:

Town Planning, Housing and Buildings Committee.  
Water and Lighting Committee.  
Highways and Works Committee.



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### 1. Local Health and Education 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 and Child Welfare.*

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

A Birth Control Clinic is provided by the County Council at Shoreham Health Centre and a Family Planning Association operates one at the Health Centre at Bognor Regis.

#### (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. Expectant and nursing mothers may also receive free treatment at the Dental Clinics.

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 regularly at Chichester and Bognor Regis Health Centres and as required at the Littlehampton Health Centre.

#### (d) *Orthopædic Clinics.*

These are held at Littlehampton Health Centre to which 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) *Chest Clinics.*

Chest Clinics are held at Worthing Hospital and at Aldingbourne House Sanatorium, both of which are available to the residents of Littlehampton.



(g) *Venereal Disease.*

Residents may attend Clinics at Worthing Hospital, the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, or St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth.

(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 or public in case of accidents or other emergencies.

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.

## **II. Hospital and Specialists' Services.**

A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Hospital accommodation of a private nature is available in certain circumstances subject to appropriate charges.

Mass Radiography Units are stationed at Portsmouth and Brighton where members of the public may have their chests X-rayed at regular intervals.

## **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.

## **IV. Home Help Service.**

This continued to be carried out very efficiently by the Women's Voluntary Service on behalf of the County Council.

## **LEGISLATION IN FORCE**

No Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts or Byelaws relating to the public health have come into force during 1953.

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47**

It was not necessary to take any action under the above section 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 the area are served direct. The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

Eight samples of raw water and 25 samples of water after chlorination were sent for bacteriological examination. All the results were satisfactory. Two samples were sent for chemical analysis and proved satisfactory.

Only eight houses are not supplied from the public mains.

Extensions of mains during the year:—

Worthing Road	-	-	-	760 yards.
Wickbourne Estate Extension				176 „
„	„	„		483 „
„	„	„		400 „
Chaucer Avenue	-	-	-	134 „
Tennyson Avenue	-	-		35 „

### Sewers.

There were no important extensions of sewers during the year.

### Rivers and Streams.

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

### Swimming Baths.

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

## SCHOOLS

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

## HOUSING

### HOUSING STATISTICS, 1953

Forty-seven new houses were erected during 1953 by private enterprise and 60 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) ... ..	223
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1346
(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 ... ..	146
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	604
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	3
(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 ... ..	132

**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 ... ..	130
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**3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—**

Statutory action was taken under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, in one case and under Section 12 in another case.

**4. Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding:—**

(a) i No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	2
ii No. of families dwelling therein ... ..	2
iii No. of persons dwelling therein ... ..	13½
(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	6
(c) i No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	6
ii No. of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	35½
(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.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

### 1. INSPECTIONS.

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 ... ..	27	46	7	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	76	81	16	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	103	127	23	—

### 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	4	4	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:—					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	2	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	10	10	1	—	—
Total ... ..	23	23	1	1	—

There are two Outworkers in the district.



# PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

## Notifiable Diseases

	Und. 1 year	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—24	25 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—	4	14	—	—	1	19
Whooping Cough ..	4	8	11	12	—	—	1	36
Ac. Poliomyelitis:								
Paralytic ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	4
Non-Paralytic	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	4
Measles ...	7	56	89	170	17	11	4	354
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Und. 5 years	5—14	15—44	45—64	65 and over	Total
Pneumonia ...	5	2	3	5	1	16
Dysentery ...	—	2	1	—	—	3
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. Encephalitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	1	2	2	—	—	5
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	19	5	—
Whooping Cough ...	36	3	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis ...	8	7	1
Measles ...	354	—	—
Pneumonia ...	16	1	1
Erysipelas ...	1	1	—
Food Poisoning ...	5	1	—
Dysentery ...	3	1	—
Ac. Encephalitis ...	1	1	1

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation has again been carried out during the year by the County Council. At the end of the year the estimated total number of children immunised under 5 years of age was 657, and between 5 and 14 years of age 1,674.

During the year 114 children received a third reinforcing dose.

The last case of Diphtheria to be notified in the district was in 1947.

The following table shows the decline in notifications of Diphtheria and deaths from the disease since the beginning of the century.

	1901-10	1911-20	1921-30	1931-40	1941-50	1951-53
No. cases notified	182	211	89	73	17	0
No. deaths	31	10	6	9	0	0

## Food Poisoning.

Five cases were notified during the year, all in one family.

On four occasions during the year at a Convalescent Home for Men there were a number of inmates who had a sudden attack of diarrhoea. The probable cause was *clostridium welchii* which was found in the stools of some of the convalescents. The way in which it caused the diarrhoea was probably due to the habit of cooking meat on the previous day and reheating before consumption. No individual cases were notified as food poisoning. Since instructions were given to the caterers with regard to the cooking of meat no diarrhoea has been reported.

## Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory at Brighton is in full use for the examination of bacteriological specimens. The Worthing Hospital is also available for examination of bacteriological and pathological specimens.

## TUBERCULOSIS

### New Cases and Mortality

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



Age Periods	New cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	2	5	—	—	1	—	—	—
35	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	8	—	—	1	—	—	—

### **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.

### **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE**

The following figures have been provided by the County Medical Officer showing the attendances at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

ANTE NATAL		POST NATAL	
No. of Women attending.	Total attendances.	No. of Women attending.	Total attendances.
248	685	102	113
CHILD WELFARE			
No. of Children attending.	Total attendances.		
555	5,148		

## CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

The number of food premises in the area is as follows:

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	4
Food preparation premises	...	...	...	63
Bakehouses	...	...	...	6
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	11
Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	7
Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	...	62
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	92

The number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act is as follows:

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	4
Pies and Sausages	...	...	...	14
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	92

The number of Dairies registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations 1949 is eight.

Number of inspections of registered food premises:

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	79
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	94
Dairies	...	...	...	161

The food premises registered for Pies and Sausages were also visited many times.

No new educational activity has been undertaken. The principal means of educating food handlers has been by the personal visit of the Sanitary Inspector.

Any meat found unfit in a butcher's shop is returned to the central meat depot at Worthing if practicable, otherwise all foods are buried in the Tip in lime.

It has not been necessary to carry out special examinations of any large consignment of food.

### Ice Cream.

There are three manufacturers of Ice Cream in the district and they all comply with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1952.



## ANNUAL REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

### Inspection of the District.

During the year 10,421 inspections and visits have been made as follows:—

Infectious diseases and contagious diseases (including Tuberculosis) ... ..	338
Nuisances and complaints ... ..	247
Revisits to property under notice ... ..	572
Revisits where work was in progress ... ..	170
Interviews with owners, agents or builders ... ..	458
Drainage inspections, smoke and water tests to drains .	331
Butchers' shops ... ..	359
Dairies and milkshops ... ..	161
Bakehouses ... ..	46
Factories ... ..	127
Workplaces ... ..	25
Re refuse receptacles and sanitary conveniences ...	282
Re overcrowding ... ..	37
Ice cream premises ... ..	94
Refreshment rooms ... ..	254
Cinemas ... ..	35
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	79
Food Preparation Premises ... ..	891
Re smoke observations ... ..	8
Re tents, vans, sheds and similar structures ... ..	131
Re swine and fowls ... ..	15
Re water supply ... ..	71
No. of houses measured and recorded under the Housing Act, 1936, for overcrowding ... ..	1
Vermin ... ..	106
Refuse accumulations ... ..	208
Miscellaneous ... ..	407
No. of houses inspected under the Housing Act, 1936 .	146
Re Shops Act, 1950 ... ..	987
No. of rooms disinfected ... ..	85
Mosquitoes ... ..	9
Visits re state of garden, dustbins and rats ... ..	3741

### Notices served.

Statutory ... ..	3
Informal ... ..	287

### Outstanding Notices.

At the end of 1953, five 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 176 complaints were received and had reference to the following matters:—

Condition of house	...	...	...	...	...	1
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	14
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	73
Insects and vermin	...	...	...	...	...	21
Unsatisfactory condition of sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	9
Choked and defective condition of drains	...	...	...	...	...	36
Smells	...	...	...	...	...	4
Obstruction of light	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective condition of hot water tank	...	...	...	...	...	1
Noise	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective condition of chimney	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food open to contamination	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rancid butter	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective flushing apparatus of w.c.	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective condition of dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective condition of fireplace	...	...	...	...	...	1

## Sanitary improvements and defects remedied during the year:

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	93
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	117
Floors relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	32
Ceilings repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	101
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired	...	...	...	...	...	19
Walls repaired and repointed	...	...	...	...	...	248
Insufficient ventilation remedied	...	...	...	...	...	9
Insufficient lighting remedied	...	...	...	...	...	11
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	134
Washing coppers provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Eaves or downspouting provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	65
Doors provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	22
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	56
Sanitary conveniences repaired or provided with cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	44
New dustbins and covers provided	...	...	...	...	...	29
Drains relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	19
Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	81
Inspection chambers, interceptors and traps provided to drains	...	...	...	...	...	19
Overflowing cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	11
Sanitary sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	6



Sink or bath wastes repaired ... ..	9
Urinals, etc.—cleansed, repaired, reconstructed or fitted with automatic flushing apparatus ... ..	2
Verminous rooms cleansed and bedding destroyed	20
Overcrowding remedied ... ..	6
Rooms cleansed ... ..	77
Accumulations of rubbish and manure removed ...	20
Offensive or stagnant water drained from ponds, tanks, etc. ... ..	3
Caravans: insanitary sites and providing of W.C.'s, etc. ... ..	3
Pantries provided and ventilated to the open air ...	4
Food Premises: Drains cleansed and sanitary accommodation repaired, walls and ceilings repaired ... ..	32
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—contraventions ... ..	8
Bakehouses: cleansing, repairs, etc. ... ..	7
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924—contraventions ... ..	16
Factories: sanitary accommodation improved or repaired, rooms repaired or cleansed ... ..	23
Ice Cream Premises: cleansed, repaired, dirty and uncovered containers, etc. ... ..	5
Shops Act, 1934—contraventions ... ..	18
Additional water closets ... ..	2
Defective sink waste channels repaired ... ..	5
Nuisance abated from the keeping of animals and swine ... ..	2
Town's water supplied ... ..	3
Wells closed ... ..	1
Dairies and milk shops cleansed or repaired and contraventions remedied ... ..	4

### Moveable Dwellings.

There are five permanent sites for Moveable Dwellings in Littlehampton. Four are situated on the West side of the River Arun and are licensed for a total of 36 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 town's water, water-closets or Elsan-closets, and were maintained in a fairly good condition throughout the year.



## INSPECTIONS AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Dairies and Milkshops.

At the end of 1953 there were five cowkeepers, all of whom sold their milk wholesale.

There are seven retailers on the register, six resident in the district, and one who sells milk in the district from premises outside.

161 inspections were made of dairies during the year when the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:

Dairy in need of cleansing	...	...	1
Insufficient cleansing of milk bottles and churns	...	...	3

### Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

The following licences were granted during 1953 under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

Dealer's licence authorizing the use of the special designation Tuberculin-tested	...	...	7
Dealer's licence authorizing the use of the special designation Pasteurised	...	...	4

### Clean Milk Production.

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.

Ninety-four samples of designated milk (40 Pasteurised, 38 Tuberculin Tested, and 16 Raw) have been sent for bacteriological examination. Twenty-one samples failed to satisfy the standard prescribed by the Regulations.

Thirty-five samples of milk were taken during the year for biological examination and in no case was Tuberculosis found in the sample. All reports on biological examination of milks are sent to the responsible authorities.

### 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 359 visits were paid to butchers' shops and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need for cleansing of premises	...	...	8
Meat transport lorry in dirty condition	...	...	1
Need for dustbins	...	...	3
Refrigerator in need of cleansing	...	...	2
Defective floor	...	...	2



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

1,483 lbs. Beef.  
79 lbs. Mutton.  
5 lbs. Pork.  
104 lbs. Sausages.  
105 lbs. Bacon.

### Food Preparation Premises.

During the year 891 visits were paid to food preparation premises and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need for cleansing and redecoration of premises ...	3
Need for cleansing of food store ... ..	2
Need for new sink ... ..	2
Accumulations ... ..	3
Need for provision of hot water ... ..	1
Dirty condition of yard ... ..	5
Defective condition of ceiling ... ..	1
Dirty and defective condition of dustbins ... ..	2

All premises where food is prepared are periodically visited.

The following were surrendered as unfit for food:—

130 stone Fish.	5 cartons Cheeses.
756 tins Fruit.	36 Meat Pies.
221 tins Meat.	60 lbs. Rabbits.
417 tins Miscellaneous Foods.	56 lbs. Pastry Fat.

### Restaurants and Cafes.

There are at present 62 premises on the register and 254 inspections of these premises have been made.

The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need for cleansing and redecoration ... ..	5
Choked condition of drains ... ..	2
Accumulation of refuse ... ..	2
Dirty and uncovered dustbins ... ..	2
Smoking in kitchen ... ..	2

### Ice Cream Premises.

During the year there were 92 premises at which ice cream was prepared, stored or offered for sale, and in connection with these premises 94 inspections were made.

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

Premises in need of cleansing	...	...	...	3
Utensils in need of cleansing	...	...	...	2

Twenty-eight 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.
10	I	12.3%
12	II	13.4%
6	III	10.9%

The average fat content of all samples was 12.5%.

### Bakehouses.

There are six bakehouses in the district, one of which is underground.

Forty-seven inspections have been carried out, and the following unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Bakehouses in need of cleansing	...	...	...	4
Need for provision of dustbins	...	...	...	3

### Fried Fish Shops.

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

Seventy-nine visits have been paid to fried fish shops, and conditions were maintained in a satisfactory manner.

### Shops Act, 1950

There are 326 shops in the district and during the year 987 visits have been paid, and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found:—

Dirty condition of sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	7
Need for washing accommodation	...	...	...	4
Need for additional dustbins	...	...	...	2
Defective condition of w.c.'s	...	...	...	2
Insufficient lighting	...	...	...	1
Dampness	...	...	...	1
Defective condition of roof	...	...	...	1



### **Section 89, Public Health Act, 1936.**

All inns, public houses and beer houses, cinemas and places of public entertainment have been inspected during the year. At several of the premises improvements were made to sanitary accommodation, kitchens and washing facilities. Both owners and tenants co-operated in the work.

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

During the year it was necessary to have 20 verminous rooms cleansed. In three cases bedding was removed for destruction. No person was removed to a Cleansing Station.

### **Disinfection.**

During the year 85 rooms have been disinfected.

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

### **Rag Flock and Other Fillings Act, 1951.**

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

### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

Seventy-three 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 inspections are carried out on agricultural land.

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, Warfarin, "Horo Tubes" Antubaits and "Cyanide", fumigation and trapping.

The following tables show statistics in respect of works carried out during 1953.

## Type of Property.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (in- cluding Business & Industrial)	Total
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	22	4036	13	485	4556
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1953 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise	(a) 1	50	—	22	73
	(b) 23	304	20	1015	1362
III. Number of properties found to be infested by rats	—	—	—	—	—
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	2	121	—	20	143
IV. Number of properties found to be seriously infested by mice	—	4	—	2	6
V. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	2	125	—	22	149
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4:—					
(1) Treatment	—	—	—	22	22
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—

VIII. Number of "block" control schemes carried out—31.

### Eradication of Bed-bugs.

Four 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 4,736.

There are 19 pail-closets in use, but these are situated at Toddington on nursery land, which part of the district is not connected to the sewer. There are also 81 cesspools mainly in the



Eastern area. 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.

Month	SUNSHINE (Hours)		RAINFALL (Inches)	
	1953	Average for 38 years	1953	Average for 38 years
January ...	47.6	65.7	1.19	2.99
February ...	74.7	82.9	1.19	2.12
March ...	155.4	138.9	0.24	1.81
April ...	202.0	177.4	2.23	1.87
May ...	244.6	226.1	1.57	1.86
June ...	235.6	239.1	1.95	1.54
July ...	198.0	219.7	2.65	2.08
August ...	244.7	211.3	1.68	2.21
September ...	184.7	162.9	3.64	2.32
October ...	118.8	121.6	3.75	2.94
November ...	53.9	74.7	1.64	3.33
December ...	53.1	59.1	0.82	2.90
Totals	1813.1	1779.4	22.55	27.97

Years.	SUNSHINE			RAINFALL.	
	No. of hours.	Daily Average.	No. of days on which sun was recorded.	No. of inches.	No. of days on which rain was recorded.
1923	1831.5	5.02	209	30.10	185
1924	1789.5	4.80	307	31.10	153
1925	1915.2	5.25	326	33.30	159
1926	1681.8	4.61	296	28.70	175
1927	1691.4	4.63	312	33.90	190
1928	1945.5	5.32	311	31.50	179
1929	2068.1	5.67	316	30.04	152
1930	1808.1	4.95	319	31.43	183
1931	1633.4	4.48	300	24.42	216
1932	1558.5	4.29	315	27.09	194
1933	2062.8	5.65	318	23.08	155
1934	1758.5	4.82	297	28.09	166
1935	1771.8	4.85	311	36.01	182
1936	1679.9	4.59	304	28.63	182
1937	1691.6	4.63	304	33.51	176
1938	1809.7	4.96	311	24.51	183
1939	1828.9	5.01	203	34.89	211
1940	1876.8	5.12	309	29.46	164
1941	1641.3	4.49	296	25.06	160
1942	1647.9	4.51	294	27.03	137
1943	1818.0	4.97	294	25.21	175
1944	1665.1	4.54	296	23.54	169
1945	1672.2	4.58	301	28.72	173
1946	1692.8	4.63	297	32.11	211
1947	1812.9	4.96	287	26.74	175
1948	1873.5	5.09	299	26.22	137
1949	2041.3	5.59	319	23.83	91
1950	1738.4	4.76	303	27.79	166
1951	1819.2	4.98	294	38.22	190
1952	1864.8	5.09	314	29.02	166
1953	1813.1	4.96	300	22.55	135



