

**[Report 1956] / Medical Officer of Health, Littlehampton U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Littlehampton (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1956

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# Littlehampton Urban District



## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH


FOR THE YEAR

## 1956

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.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

May, 1957.

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1956.

The estimated population rose by 150. Excess of births over deaths accounted for 52, which means that 98 more people came into the town than left it. Both the Birth and Death Rates were higher, without any particular cause for the few extra deaths. It is satisfactory that the latter are in the older age group and that there were only three deaths under one year of age. Cancer claimed one more death than in the previous year.

It is important that the Public realise that many forms of cancer are curable by treatment and patients carry on their normal life again. Fear of cancer should never keep anyone from going and explaining their worries to their family doctor. The earlier the diagnosis is made, the greater chance of cure. The relationship between cancer and certain occupations and habits is well established. The one habit everyone should know about is cigarette smoking. This noxious habit is responsible for other forms of ill health besides cancer of the lung. A heavy cigarette smoker is 20 times more likely to develop lung cancer, and this is one of the forms of cancer where the outlook is bad. It is difficult for the youth of to-day to appreciate the real danger when so many adults in every walk of life are addicted to this unpleasant pastime.

The amount of dental decay continues to be very great and I find it very depressing to examine the mouths of so many young children and find so few with perfect teeth. We all know that our diet and lack of proper oral hygiene play a part. The other factor which has now become well established, as I mentioned in last year's report, is the fluoride content of the water. Where there is an adequate amount of fluoride in the water, there is considerably less dental decay in small children. The only satisfactory way, if not already present, is to add fluoride to the public water supply. Fluoride must be present whilst the teeth are being formed in the gums and therefore expectant mothers and children from birth are those requiring it most. In the Littlehampton supply the quantity present is negligible.

I find it very disappointing to see that there are still over 200 applicants for Council houses and most of them have little hope of getting one owing to the very few which are being erected. Although only a relatively small proportion of the applicants can be considered as urgent, I well understand many of the others wanting to improve their living conditions. For example, many of the houses in the town lack modern amenities such as a fixed bath.

Much is being said about educating the Public on hygienic habits, particularly washing hands because they can carry so much disease. Without the necessary means of washing properly it is not possible to persuade those who are willing to do so. It is important that we do all we can to make sure that in public conveniences and other places, especially where children are concerned, it is possible to wash those hands.

During the year Mr. King passed his qualifying examination as a Public Health Inspector and subsequently obtained a post in Portsmouth. A new pupil, Mr. Leal, joined the staff on November 1st.

I should like to thank Mr. McGarry and the staff for their co-operation and 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.



## SECTION A

### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres), 2,915.

Resident Population (1956), estimated by Registrar General, 14,910.

Population (1951) Census, 13,948.

Rateable Value (1956), £273,917.

Sum represented by Id. Rate, £1,090.

No. of inhabited houses end of 1956 according to Rate Book, 4,586.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births	TOTAL	M.	F.	
Legitimate ...	236	126	110	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 16·2. Corrected Rate, 17·04.
Illegitimate ...	7	4	3	
Stillbirths ...	2	—	2	—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 8·2.
Deaths ...	191	110	81	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 12·8. Corrected Rate, 11·3.

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

Deaths of Infants under one year of age, 3.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births, 12·3.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, 12·7.

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

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 34.

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

### Comparative Statistics, 1956

	England and Wales	West Sussex Urban	West Sussex Rural	Littlehampton U.D.
Birth Rate ...	15·7	13·3	14·9	16·2
Death Rate ...	11·7	14·7	13·8	12·8
Infantile Death Rate ...	23·8	28	19	12·3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate ...	0·11	0·06	0·06	0·13
Cancer Death Rate ...	2·07	2·6	2·4	2·3
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ...	0·56	0·70	0·44	0·0

**Comparative Statistics, 1901—1956**

	1901	1910	1920	1925	1935	1945	1955	1956
Population	7,363	8,376	8,593	9,020	10,178	10,890	14,760	14,910
Birth Rate	20.9	19.6	20.1	14.8	13.2	19.3	15.9	16.2
Death Rate	13.7	12.2	11.7	11.3	12.1	17.5	11.8	12.8
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	143	81	52	59	63	33	21	12
No. Inhab- ited Houses	1,504	1,806	1,806	1,785	3,308	3,480	4,264	4,586
Average No. of persons per house	4.9	4.6	4.7	5.1	3.1	3.1	3.5	3.3

**DEATHS, AGE GROUPS—1956**

AGE.	DEATHS.		AGE.	DEATHS.	
	M.	F.		M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	3	—	35—44 years ...	3	3
1—2 years ...	2	—	45—54 „ ...	8	2
3—4 „ ...	—	—	55—59 „ ...	5	4
5—9 „ ...	—	—	60—64 „ ...	14	6
10—14 „ ...	—	—	65—69 „ ...	13	10
15—19 „ ...	—	—	70—79 „ ...	35	32
20—24 „ ...	—	—	80—89 „ ...	24	19
25—34 „ ...	1	—	90 years and over .	2	5



## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

#### CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

COUNCILLOR MISS GRIFFIN.

#### SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

*Medical Officer of Health:*

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

*Public Health Inspector:*

MR. J. L. MCGARRY, C.R.S.H., 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 the Public Health Inspector.

### SERVICES PROVIDED BY WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

#### (a) *Nursing.*

5 General District Nurses, 2 Midwives, 2 Health Visitors and 1 School Nurse are employed in the area. Lists showing their names and addresses may be seen at County Libraries, Town Halls or Offices of local District Councils, and the Public Health Department, County Hall, Chichester.

#### (b) *Maternity and Child Welfare.*

A Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic (weekly on Mondays and Thursdays, 2.30 p.m.) and an Ante-Natal Clinic (fortnightly on Tuesdays, 10 a.m.) are provided at Littlehampton Health Centre, Elm Grove Road.

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.
232	686	117	142
CHILD WELFARE			
No. of Children attending.		Total attendances.	
746		5,087	

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 Wick for the treatment of children with decayed teeth. Expectant and nursing mothers may also receive free treatment at the Dental Clinics. Dental anæsthetics are given by the Medical Officer when required.

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, Bognor Regis, and Littlehampton Health Centres.

Orthopædic Clinics are held at the Littlehampton Health Centre to which children are taken by appointment for treatment of crippling defects. The orthopædic nurse holds physiotherapy sessions at the Littlehampton Health Centre and also supervises children who have been prescribed exercises by the orthopædic surgeon.

(d) *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.

(e) *Health Education.*

The County Council are responsible for this service, a great amount of which is done by the Health Visitors both in the homes and at the Clinics.

(f) *Mental Health.*

The County Council is responsible for a domiciliary mental welfare service, but institutional and out-patient treatment is provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

(g) *Home Help Service.*

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

Meals are provided and delivered to old people in their homes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, approximately 90 meals a week being delivered at a cost of 1/3d. per meal to the consumer.

## **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. A new Mobile Unit at Portsmouth will bring the service to this district.

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

#### *Venereal Disease.*

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

### **General Medical and Dental Services**

Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Service Executive Council for West Sussex, 175, Broyle Road, Chichester.

### **Laboratory Facilities**

The following Laboratories are available for the examination of specimens:

The Public Health Laboratory, Brighton.

The Worthing Hospital Laboratory.

The Public Analyst's Laboratory, Lewes.

### **LEGISLATION IN FORCE**

No Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts or Byelaws relating to the public health have come into force during 1956.

### **PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION**

It was not necessary to take any action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1947.

## SECTION C

### 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 26 samples of water after chlorination were sent for bacteriological examination. Two samples of water were taken from private wells. All the results were satisfactory. Four samples were sent for chemical analysis and proved satisfactory.

Nine houses are not supplied from the public mains. Eight of these are on two farms.

Extensions of mains during the year were as follows:—

Holmes Lane ...	95 yards.
St. Mary's Close .	30 yards.

#### Drainage and Sewerage

The only extensions of soil or surface water sewers were in new streets.

The drainage and sewerage system discharges through tanks into the river at a point about 80 yards beyond the wooden pier on the eastern bank.

The new pumping station was completed. This enables the sewage to be lifted to a higher level from where it can gravitate out to sea at states of the tide when it was not previously possible. The advantage to the health of the town should be two-fold. Firstly, the possibility of flooding of premises due to surcharging of the drainage system will be greatly diminished. Secondly, by being better able to empty the storage tanks at the correct state of the tide, any risk of pollution of the beaches should be further diminished.

#### Sanitary Accommodation

All dwelling houses in the district have proper water closets, with the exception of 19 which use pail closets and 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.

#### Public Conveniences

There are 17 Public Conveniences, eight Ladies' and nine Gentlemen's, and they have been maintained in a satisfactory condition during the year.



### House Refuse

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

### 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.

There are six private schools in the district. All have satisfactory water supply and sanitation.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

During the year 4,840 inspections and visits have been made as follows:—

Infectious diseases and contagious diseases (including Tuberculosis) ... ..	37
Nuisances and complaints ... ..	144
Revisits to property under notice ... ..	409
Revisits where work was in progress ... ..	162
Interviews with owners, agents or builders ... ..	463
Drainage inspections, smoke and water tests to drains .	216
Butchers' shops ... ..	265
Dairies and milkshops ... ..	164
Bakehouses ... ..	44
Factories ... ..	88
Workplaces ... ..	14
Re refuse receptacles and sanitary conveniences ...	122
Re overcrowding ... ..	7
Ice cream premises ... ..	47
Refreshment rooms ... ..	163
Cinemas ... ..	7
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	22
Food preparation Premises... ..	253
Re smoke observations ... ..	11
Re tents, vans, sheds and similar structures ... ..	144
Re swine and fowls ... ..	5
Re water supply ... ..	36
Vermin ... ..	322

Refuse accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	58
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	175
No. of houses inspected under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	146
Re Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	110
No. of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	38
Visits re state of garden, dustbins and rats	...	...	...	...	...	1171

### Notices served

Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	3
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	409

### Outstanding Notices

At the end of 1956 11 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 173 complaints were received and had reference to the following matters:—

Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	78
Vermin and insects	...	...	...	...	...	33
Noise	...	...	...	...	...	3
Smells	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	3
Decomposed fish	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fouling of land	...	...	...	...	...	2
Smoking chimney	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective manhole cover	...	...	...	...	...	2
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	25
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective or unsatisfactory condition of toilets	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective roof	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective floor	...	...	...	...	...	2
Need to empty dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective sewer vent pipe	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective chimney	...	...	...	...	...	1

### Sanitary improvements and defects remedied during the year:

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	56
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	86
Floors relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	37
Ceilings repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	48
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
Walls repaired and repointed	...	...	...	...	...	175
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	106
Eaves or downspouting provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	55



Doors provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	21
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	58
Sanitary conveniences repaired or provided with cisterns	...	...	...	...	67
New dustbins and covers provided	...	...	...	...	14
Drains relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	...	...	61
Inspection chambers, interceptors and traps provided to drains	...	...	...	...	27
Overflowing cesspools	...	...	...	...	6
Sanitary sinks provided	...	...	...	...	4
Sink or bath wastes repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Insufficient ventilation	...	...	...	...	1
Insufficient light	...	...	...	...	2
Town's water supply	...	...	...	...	3
Verminous rooms cleansed and bedding destroyed	...	...	...	...	48
Overcrowding remedied	...	...	...	...	1
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	30
Accumulations of rubbish and manure removed	...	...	...	...	23
Soil pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Caravans: insanitary sites and providing of W.C.'s, etc.	...	...	...	...	7
Yards paved or yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Yards cleansed	...	...	...	...	10
Food Premises: Drains cleansed and sanitary accommodation repaired, walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	68
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—contraventions	...	...	...	...	11
Bakehouses: cleansing, repairs, etc.	...	...	...	...	17
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924—contraventions	...	...	...	...	17
Factories: Sanitary accommodation improved or repaired, rooms repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	14
Ice Cream Premises: Cleansed, repaired, dirty and uncovered containers, etc.	...	...	...	...	16
Shops Act, 1934—contraventions	...	...	...	...	34
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	3
Nuisance abated from the keeping of animals and swine	...	...	...	...	5
Dairies and milk shops cleansed or repaired and contraventions remedied	...	...	...	...	3
Stagnant water removed from ponds and ditches	...	...	...	...	3

# Factories Acts, 1937 and 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 ... ..	19	20	4	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	67	68	10	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	86	88	14	—

## 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	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:—					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	5	5	—	—	—
Total ... ..	14	14	—	—	—

There are two Outworkers in the district.



### **Shops Act, 1950**

There are 326 shops in the district and during the year 110 visits have been paid, and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found:—

Need for sink with hot and cold water	...	...	...	4
Need for wash hand basin with hot and cold water	...	...	...	2
Need for additional dustbins	...	...	...	5
Need for hot water over sink	...	...	...	3
Need for separate toilets for males and females	...	...	...	3
Need for cleansing of toilets	...	...	...	12
Need for cleansing of yard	...	...	...	1
Need for redecoration of premises	...	...	...	3
Need to remove accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	1

### **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 under the Public Health Act for a total of 47 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, and water-closets or Elsan-closets, and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed during the year:—

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	2
Caravans on unlicensed land	...	...	...	...	...	2
Need to provide new soakaways	...	...	...	...	...	2
Need for new water supply pipe	...	...	...	...	...	1

### **Smoke Abatement**

No. of observations made	...	...	...	...	...	11
No. of notices served	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	3

### **Eradication of Bed-bugs**

One Non-Council house was found to be infested with bed-bugs. This was disinfested by the Council by the use of D.D.T. insecticides.

### **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 48 verminous rooms cleansed. In one case bedding was removed for destruction.

### **Disinfection**

During the year 38 rooms have been disinfected.

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

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

### **Mosquitoes**

No complaints were received in respect of mosquitoes.

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

There are two premises licensed under this Act.

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

Eighty-one 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 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 1956.



## 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	4,363	13	485	4,883
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ... ..	(a) 4	81	—	17	102
(b) Survey under the Act...	(b) 20	81	10	32	143
(c) Otherwise ... ..	(c) —	310	—	1,188	1,498
III. Number of properties found to be infested by rats					
Major	1	—	—	—	1
Minor	6	99	—	17	122
IV. Number of properties found to be seriously infested by mice .	—	28	—	2	30
V. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	7	127	—	2	136
Total treatments carried out ...	22	1,127	—	2	1,151
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4:—					
(1) Treatment	—	4	—	7	11
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out ... ..	—	24	—	—	24

## SECTION D

### HOUSING

The following housing statistics are of interest in the development of the town:—

No. of Council Houses existing before the war ...	...	238
No. of Council Houses erected since the war ...	...	476
	Total	<hr/> 714 <hr/>

No. of Private Houses built since 1948 ...	...	304
--	-----	-----

During 1956, 28 Council Houses and 53 Private Houses were erected.

At the same time the Council proceeded with its Slum Clearance Programme and the following properties were dealt with:—

Clearance Area in South Passage: 2 houses demolished.

Clearance Area in Pier Road: 4 houses demolished.

1 individual unfit house in River Road closed.

1    "       "       "       "       " Gladstone Terrace closed.

1    "       "       "       "       " East Street closed.

A Clearance Area comprising three houses in High Street was approved but the houses have not yet been demolished.

Apart from those living in houses affected by a Clearance Order or Demolition Order, only a limited number of those requiring rehousing were able to be found suitable accommodation. Those in exceptional need on health grounds were given special consideration by the Housing Committee.



## SECTION E

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

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

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Food preparation premises	...	...	...	...	62
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	4
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	11
Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	7
Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	...	...	64
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	97

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	...	...	...	...	97

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

Number of inspections of registered food premises:

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	22
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	47
Dairies	...	...	...	...	164

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

The principal means of educating food handlers has been by the personal visit of the Public Health Inspector during his routine inspection.

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.

### **Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955**

The bringing in of the Food Hygiene Regulations has given more powers for enforcing cleanliness and improvements.

The amount of work carried out under this important Section depends on the time the Inspectors can allocate to it. With only one Inspector it is not possible to carry out as much supervision as I should like, but he has done his best to inspect as many premises as possible.



At the premises visited the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found:—

Need for wash hand basin with hot and cold water	...	25
Need for proper locker for cloths	... ..	6
Need for sink with hot and cold water for utensils, etc.	...	6
Need for first aid equipment	... ..	4
Need for redecoration of premises	... ..	10
Need for new cutting bench	... ..	7
Need for provision of soap, towels, and nail brushes	...	10
Need to cleanse and redecorate sanitary conveniences	...	2
Need to provide additional dustbins	... ..	4

### Ice Cream

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

### Dairies and Milkshops

At the end of 1956 there were four 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.

One hundred and sixty-four inspections were made of dairies during the year when the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need for proper cleansing of milk bottles	... ..	1
Need for milk to be kept in proper refrigerator	... ..	1
Need for proper covering of milk during hot weather	...	1

### Milk (Special Designations) Regulations

The following licences were granted during 1956 under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

Dealer's licence authorizing the use of the special designation Tuberculin-tested	... ..	6
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 or Sterilised.

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

One hundred and twenty-four samples of designated milk (112 Pasteurised or Sterilised, 11 Tuberculin-tested, and one



Raw) have been sent for bacteriological examination. All samples satisfied the standard prescribed by the Regulations.

Sixty-nine samples of milk were taken during the year for biological examination. The presence of Tubercle bacilli was detected in none of these by the Laboratory, but *Brucella abortus* was isolated in five cases. The milk in which *Brucella abortus* was isolated was subsequently pasteurised and therefore there was no risk of the public getting Brucellosis. All reports on biological examination of milk 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 265 visits were paid to butchers' shops and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need to cleanse yard ... ..	3
Defective condition of floors ... ..	1
Need to cleanse floors ... ..	3
Need to cleanse refrigerators ... ..	2
Need to cleanse utensils ... ..	1
Need for additional dustbins ... ..	3
Need for wash hand basin with hot and cold water ...	4

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

1,143 lbs. Beef.	163 lbs. Offal.
1,185 lbs. Mutton.	17 lbs. Pork Sausages.
33½ lbs. Pork.	

### Food Preparation Premises

During the year 253 visits were paid to food preparation premises and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need for new cutting bench ... ..	1
Need for redecoration of food store ... ..	2
Need for additional dustbins ... ..	4
Need to cleanse yard ... ..	1
Need to cleanse premises ... ..	1
Need for wash hand basin with hot and cold water ...	10
Need for locker accommodation for clothing ... ..	1
Need for first aid equipment ... ..	1

All premises where food is prepared are periodically visited.

The following were surrendered as unfit for food:—

21 jars crab.	2 tins crab.
11½ stone fish.	3 dozen eggs.
70 tins fruit.	1 bottle pickle.
82 tins meat.	2 tins pilchards.
41 tins vegetables.	1 tin prawns.
29 tins ham.	384 fish sticks.
29 lbs. cheese.	6 gallon shrimps.
2 tins milk.	18 packets kippers.
1 tin egg powder.	4 dozen escallops.

### Restaurants and Cafes

There are at present 64 premises on the register and 163 inspections of these premises have been made.

The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need to provide wash hand basin with hot and cold water	8
Dirty condition of yard ... ..	3
Accumulation of refuse ... ..	1
Premises in need of cleansing... ..	5
Need for additional dustbin ... ..	9
Need for provision of sink with hot and cold water ...	1
Choked and defective condition of drains ... ..	2
Utensils in need of cleansing ... ..	2
Need to cleanse sanitary accommodation ... ..	4
Need for additional sanitary accommodation ... ..	1
Need to provide locker for clothing ... ..	5
Need for first aid equipment ... ..	2

### Ice Cream Premises

During the year there were 97 premises at which ice cream was prepared, stored or offered for sale, and in connection with these premises 47 inspections were made.

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

Need for additional dustbins ... ..	7
Need for removal of refuse ... ..	1
Need to cleanse premises ... ..	2
Need to cleanse yard ... ..	1
Need to cleanse utensils ... ..	1
Defective condition of drains ... ..	1
Choked condition of drains ... ..	1
Unsatisfactory condition of toilets ... ..	2



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

No. of samples.	Grade.	Average fat content.
7	I	13.4%
5	II	13.1%
3	III	10.7%

### **Bakehouses**

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

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

Need for redecoration of premises	...	...	...	...	11
Need to repair drains	...	...	...	...	2
Need to exterminate vermin	...	...	...	...	1
Need for sink with hot and cold water	...	...	...	...	1
Need for wash hand basin with hot and cold water	...	...	...	...	1
Need for locker for clothing	...	...	...	...	1

### **Fried Fish Shops**

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

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

## SECTION F

### 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 .....	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	4
Whooping Cough ..	1	2	4	5	2	—	—	14
Ac. Poliomyelitis:								
Paralytic ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	1	1	4	7	—	—	—	13
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	4	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	14	3	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	—
Measles ...	13	1	—
Pneumonia ...	1	1	1
Dysentery ...	1	1	—
Erysipelas ...	3	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—

#### IMMUNISATION

In many infectious diseases to-day, immunisation is one of the most important measures of prevention.

During the year 197 children completed a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria and 95 children received a 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	1951-56
No. cases notified	182	211	89	73	17	0
No. deaths ...	31	10	6	9	0	0

Immunisation against Whooping Cough done on a larger scale would have resulted in fewer cases. I strongly recommend parents to get their babies protected when they are four months old.

Very welcome was the introduction of Poliomyelitis immunisation. Limitation of the amount of vaccine available meant that only very few Littlehampton children received a complete course.

Smallpox vaccination should not be forgotten and is best given at about three months of age.

## 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	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—

In order to try and protect adolescents leaving school, the County Council started, towards the end of the year, offering B.C.G. vaccination to secondary school children over 13 who had had a negative result on being tuberculin tested. At the same time, arrangements were made for those with positive results to have their chests X-rayed by the Mass Radiography

Unit. Family contacts of the positive ones were also encouraged to go for X-ray.

The following table shows the number of children involved.

		Boys	Girls	Total
No. skin tested	... ..	198	316	514
No. positive	... ..	30	57	87
No. X-rayed	... ..	29	54	83
No. vaccinated	... ..	157	255	412

The visit of the Worcester Park Mass Radiography Unit enabled the general public to have their chest X-rayed in order to find or exclude the presence of tuberculosis and other chest and heart abnormalities. 1,457 males and 2,103 females were examined by the Unit. Three cases of active and 98 cases of inactive tuberculosis were found, together with 176 non-tuberculous abnormalities.



# SUNSHINE AND RAINFALL STATISTICS

Month	SUNSHINE (Hours)		RAINFALL (Inches)	
	1956	Average for 40 years	1956	Average for 40 years
January	70.7	65.7	4.95	3.02
February	100.7	83.5	0.59	2.08
March	165.1	140.3	0.29	1.79
April	175.3	178.2	1.56	1.79
May	276.7	226.8	0.41	1.85
June	162.9	235.4	2.06	1.59
July	194.9	221.8	2.61	2.11
August	209.9	210.7	2.68	2.24
September	138.2	163.0	2.99	2.33
October	128.8	123.9	1.76	2.39
November	83.4	74.3	0.78	3.29
December	19.7	57.8	4.24	2.95
	<u>1726.3</u>	<u>1781.4</u>	<u>24.92</u>	<u>27.43</u>

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
1954	1583.0	4.33	292	32.05	177
1955	1903.2	5.22	305	24.39	146
1956	1726.3	4.72	304	24.92	147