

**[Report 1967] / Medical Officer of Health, Littlehampton U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Littlehampton (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1967

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Littlehampton Urban District

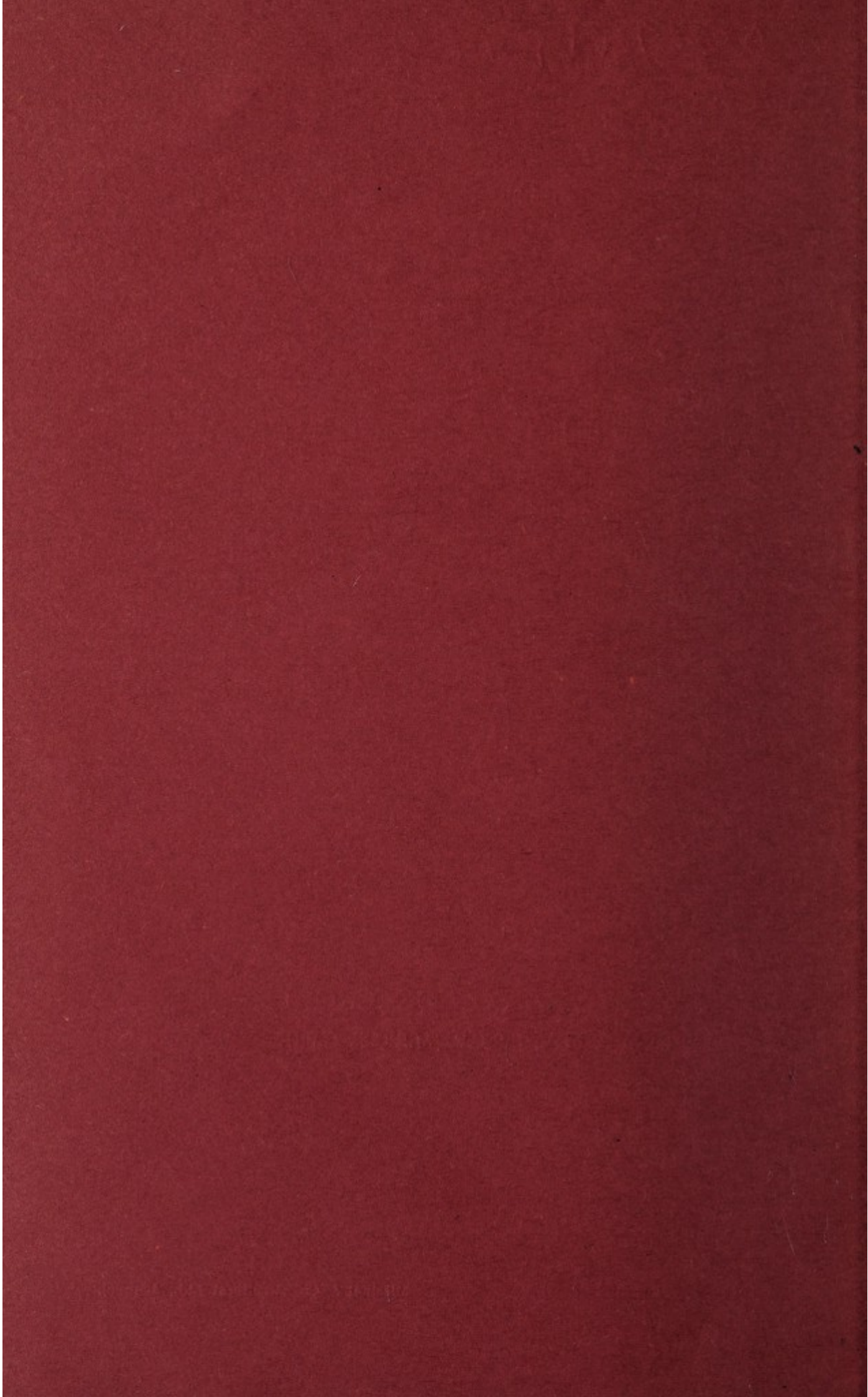


ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1967

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







# LITTLEHAMPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,

Littlehampton.

May, 1968.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1967.

Notifiable infectious diseases during the year were low in number. I had to exclude one lady from working in food premises because her child had dysentery and the Council had to pay her compensation for loss of earnings. No food poisoning organisms could be discovered from the only suspected case of food poisoning notified to me. This says a lot for the standard of hygiene to-day in food premises. Although some establishments do not reach the high standard we should like, many do and the majority realise the importance of preventing bacteria entering and multiplying in food. The Public Health Inspectors try and educate the staff where necessary in order to make them aware of the need for cleanliness.

The number of deaths during 1967 was 50 more than in 1966 and the highest annual figure recorded. However the adjusted death rate is virtually the same as the national rate. With the steady growth of population over the years a gradual rise in the number of births and deaths was to be expected, but a 22% requires some explanation. In 1966 there were fewer deaths than expected and 18 less than the previous year. Thirty-four of the extra deaths were in persons over 75—these were mainly due to coronary disease, angina and vascular lesions of the nervous system. There were also 18 extra deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus, and these occurred mainly in the 55 to 75 age group. I can only surmise that prolonged heavy smoking has been responsible for most of these deaths. There are people who proudly say they have smoked and drunk alcoholic beverages quite heavily all their lives and lived to a ripe old age. Of course this happens with some people, but it does not alter the fact that if you smoke heavily for a long time your chance of survival in a fit state to a ripe old age is considerably diminished.

The following are a few historical facts collated from previous reports of Medical Officers of Health:—

1861. Population of Littlehampton 2,351 and Wick 801.

Wick became part of Littlehampton, with a combined population of 7,363 in 1901.

1879 to 88. There were 1,019 births and 511 deaths, of which 91 were infants under 1 year.

In the ten-year period 1958 to 67 there were 2,652 births and 2,292 deaths, of which 54 were infants under 1 year.

1898. The infant death rate was 200, being the highest recorded. Out of 115 births 23 died under 1 year.

Water. The first well was commenced in 1877, but boring to 500ft. failed to find sufficient water. A second well 80ft. deep with two galleries going out from the bottom was completed in 1879. During the summer of 1900 it was reported that when the population was doubled with summer visitors the estimated supply of water per head was only 10 gallons. A new well 150ft. deep was completed at Warningcamp in 1902. In the meantime the Duke of Norfolk had helped out by supplementing Littlehampton's supply from Arundel. In 1936 the Burpham pumping station was opened by the Duke of Norfolk and this supplies the town to-day.

Sewage. The works were commenced in 1881 and finished in 1882. The drains were cleansed by river water flowing in at three places at high tide. Occasional reports of nuisance were received when the sewage was being discharged into the river. In 1902 the Surveyor recommended a sewerage scheme for Wick with a bacterial treat-



ment plant and the discharge of a clear effluent into the Black Ditch. In 1904 he drew up a scheme for treatment and discharge into the river. For seven years the matter was under discussion and then it was decided to increase the storage tanks near Littlehampton's outfall and pump Wick's sewage along to join the rest of the town's sewage, and so an opportunity to erect a treatment works, discharging a good effluent, was lost.

1905. Mr. Booker was appointed as the first full-time Sanitary Inspector. Previously the Surveyor had carried out the duties as well as those of Engineer and Surveyor.

At the beginning of the century the reports show that there were seven cowsheds and dairies, three slaughterhouses, eight bakehouses (five underground) and two common lodging houses. They regularly reported no cases of overcrowding, no cases in which it was necessary to condemn meat or any other article of food and that no proceedings were taken before the Bench during the year. Note the difference to-day when we are much more particular about food inspection and large quantities of food are condemned annually.

In 1881 there were 3.06% of males and 3.15% of females over 65 in West Sussex. At the 1961 census there were 6.8% of males and 11.6% of females. The percentage is increasing, but is much less than neighbouring coastal authorities. The result of this increase in the older population has meant a further worsening of the bed situation for geriatric patients in the Worthing Hospital Group Area. The Geriatrician, Dr. Franks, points out that there is hope for the future, as the building programme to develop Worthing Hospital is to include a large number of geriatric beds and a Day Hospital for geriatrics and other cases in need of rehabilitation and day care.

The Screening Clinic, which is held at the Elm Grove Health Centre each week, was begun in order that people of retiring age could attend and have a check-up. The intention of the Clinic is to see people who are not attending their own doctor and have not been doing so for some time. A social and medical investigation is carried out in order to see if there is any way in which they can be advised, so that they can live a happier life. An arrangement has been made so that when anyone commences to receive a retirement pension he/she is informed about the Clinic. In spite of this and the fact that it is free and by appointment, there has been no rush of applicants. Those who attend are mainly the very health-conscious ones who are not likely to be neglecting anything. The ones I should most like to attend are probably unlikely to do so for the very reason I want to see them.

I am particularly grateful to Mr. Rae for the way in which the routine work of the Health Department has been run.

I am indebted also to the other officers of the Council for much information and to the County Medical Officer for facts about the personal health services.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK COCKCROFT,

Medical Officer of Health.



## SECTION A

### GENERAL STATISTICS 1967

AREA 2,915 Acres

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION 17,900	SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE £3,335
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Population—Census 1961	...	...	...	15,699
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1967)	...	...	...	5,877
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£836,704

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Live Births</b>	130	147	277
Live birth rate per 1,000 population, crude	...	...	15.5
corrected	...	...	17.5

<b>Illegitimate live births</b>	10	13	23
Illegitimate live births % of total live births	...	...	8.3

<b>Stillbirths</b>	2	3	5
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	...	...	17.7

<b>Infant deaths</b> (deaths under 1 year)	3	4	7
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	25.3
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000...	...	...	23.6
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000	...	...	43.5

<b>Neo-natal mortality rate</b> (per 1,000 total live births)	
(first 4 weeks)	18.05

<b>Early neo-natal mortality</b> (per 1,000 total live births)	
(under 1 week)	18.05

<b>Perinatal mortality rate</b> (per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	
(under 1 week)	35.5

<b>Maternal deaths</b> (including abortion)	...	...	Nil
Maternal mortality rate (per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	...	...	Nil

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Deaths</b>	141	138	279
Death rate per 1,000 population, crude	...	...	279
corrected	...	...	11.4
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	37	28	65

#### Comparative Statistics, 1967

	England and Wales	West Sussex (Standardised Rate)		Littichampton U.D.
Birth Rate	17.2	15.4	18.7	15.5
Death Rate	11.2	10.0	9.1	15.6
Infantile Death Rate	18.3	14.2	14.8	25.3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.056
Cancer Death Rate	2.3	3.2	3.1	3.6
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	0.20	—	—	—

## Comparative Statistics, 1901—1967

	1901	1921	1931	1938	1946	1951	1961	1967
Population .. .. .	7,363	8,710	9,721	10,178	12,320	13,990	15,640	17,900
Birth Rate .. .. .	20.9	19.6	15.9	14.8	20.8	15.0	17.5	15.5
Death Rate .. .. .	13.7	13.5	14.8	11.9	14.7	12.7	14.1	15.6
Infantile Mortality Rate ..	143	88	51	48	47	23.8	25.6	25.3
No. Inhabited Houses ..	1,504	1,785	2,637	3,581	3,479	3,822	5,175	5,877
Average No. of Persons per House .. .. .	4.9	4.9	3.7	2.8	3.5	3.7	3.02	3.05

## PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1967

Causes of Death	All Ages	MALES					FEMALES				
		Under 45	45-64	65-74	75 and upwards	TOTAL	Under 45	45-64	65-74	75 and upwards	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1			1		1					
Syphilitic disease	1				1	1					
Other infective and parasitic disease	1	1				1					
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7		1	2	1	4			2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	26		7	10	6	23		3			3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	7						1	4	1	1	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1								1		1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	24		2	5	3	10	1	1	5	7	14
Diabetes	1									1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	39	1	2	1	12	16		3	4	16	23
Coronary disease, angina	63		12	13	16	41	1	3	7	11	22
Hypertension with heart disease	3			1		1				2	2
Other heart disease	27			2	9	11			3	13	16
Other circulatory disease	6				4	4	1			1	2
Influenza	1									1	1
Pneumonia	6				1	1			1	4	5
Bronchitis	12		2	1	5	8				4	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	6				2	2		2		2	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3								2	1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2				1	1			1		1
Nephritis and nephrosis	2						1			1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1				1	1					
Congenital malformations	2	2				2					
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	27	1	2		5	8	5	3		11	19
Motor vehicle accidents	5	2			1	3			1	1	2
All other accidents	4		1		1	2		1	1		2
Suicide	1								1		1
	279	7	29	36	69	141	9	21	30	78	138



## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

*Chairman of the Housing, Health and Welfare Committee :*

COUNCILLOR J. RICHARDSON.

*Medical Officer of Health :*

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

*Chief Public Health Inspector :*

W. P. S. RAE, M.A.P.H.I.

*Public Health Inspector :*

R. HARDHAM, M.A.P.H.I.

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

The Port Health District work is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspectors.

#### Services provided by West Sussex County Council

##### (a) *Nursing.*

The General District Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors employed in the area are now attached to general practitioners.

The telephone numbers of Midwives and District Nurses are listed in the telephone directory under 'Nurses—West Sussex County Council'.

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

Clinics are held as follows:—

Maternity and Child Welfare at Littlehampton Health Clinic weekly on Thursdays at 2.30 p.m.

Ante and Post-Natal at Littlehampton Health Clinic weekly on Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

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
204	1,175	86	87

Child Welfare Clinics:—

No. of Children attending	Total attendances
521	3,514

A Family Planning Clinic is provided by the County Council at Shoreham Health Clinic and the Family Planning Association operates one at the Health Clinic at Bognor Regis, Littlehampton and Worthing.



(c) *School Clinics :*

Minor Ailments	}	Littlehampton Health Clinic.
Eye		
Orthopædic		
Physiotherapy		
Speech Therapy		
Dental		

Expectant and nursing mothers may also receive free treatment at the Dental Clinics. Dental anæsthetics were given by a Consultant Anæsthetist from the Regional Hospital Board on a sessional basis.

(d) *Ambulance Service :*

The County Council operate the Ambulance Service (including the hospital car service) in the County. Requests are made through the doctor or hospital attending the patient, or through the Police or public in case of accidents or other emergencies.

(e) *Health Education :*

The County Council is 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 :*

The County Council is responsible for this service.

(h) *Chiropody Clinic :*

This is provided for those of pensionable age.

(i) *Health Clinic for the Retired :*

This is a Screening Clinic held weekly at the Elm Grove Health Clinic.

**Hospital and Specialist 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 Mobile Unit is also based at Portsmouth and covers this area and visits Littlehampton every Wednesday for cases referred by General Practitioners.

Chest Clinics are held at Worthing Hospital and at Aldingbourne Chest Hospital, 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.

### **Nursing Homes**

There are three private nursing homes in the district.

### **Homes for Old People**

There are 14 homes registered with the County Welfare Department accommodating 143 people at charges ranging between 5 to 15 guineas, and there is one blind home with accommodation for 24.

### **General Medical and Dental Service**

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

### **Meals-on-Wheels**

Meals are provided and delivered to old people in their homes by the W.R.V.S. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, approximately 390 meals a week being delivered—204 to the Littlehampton area and 186 to the Worthing Rural West area—at a cost of 1/6d. per meal to the consumer.

### **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.

### **Mortuary**

The Littlehampton Urban District Council provide a Mortuary which serves the Littlehampton area:—

The number of admissions during the year was 67.

### **Persons in need of care and attention**

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

### **Medical Examination of Staff**

Thirteen examinations were carried out for Superannuation purposes.

### **Cervical Cytology**

Every Wednesday a Clinic is held at Worthing Hospital for the early detection and prevention of cancer in the neck of the womb. Women between 35 and 55 are eligible to attend the Clinic.



## SECTION C

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### Water

Worthing Corporation Water Department supply Littlehampton with water from the Downs at Burpham via Borehole No. 2. The chemical and bacteriological examinations are carried out by Brighton Corporation Water Department. Their chemist reports as follows:—

1. The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. Chlorination is practised continuously.
2. Results of bacteriological sampling were:—

	No. of Samples	No. showing coliform organism in 100 ml.	No. showing E. Cols. present in 100 ml.	No. showing absence of coliform organism in 100 ml.
Raw Water ... ..	352	186	144	166
Treated (taken at Burpham)	351	0	0	351
Treated (taken at L'ton) ...	328	0	0	328

The bacteriological pollution and chemical character of the raw water show a correlation between the behaviour of the water in the River Arun and the water pumped at Burpham Pumping Station. Heavy pollution was only present in October and the first half of November.

3. The water is hard, being all obtained from the chalk and there is no evidence of any plumbo-solvent action.
4. Only two complaints were received during the year. One referred to the taste and the other was a suggestion that the water might have made the staff of a garage unwell. Neither complaint was substantiated.
5. The fluoride content of the water was less than 0.1 mgm. per litre. This means the water does not contain enough to protect against dental caries.

Your Health Department took five samples from wells and boreholes. All were satisfactory. Three samples were taken from houseboats and all were satisfactory. Only 12 houses are not supplied with water from public mains.

#### Drainage and Sewerage

The extension to the sewerage system of the area has been 1,280 yards of soil sewers and 260 yards of surface water sewers.

The sewage was still discharged untreated at a point about 80 yards beyond the wooden pier on the eastern bank of the River Arun.

Pollution of the Rope Walk Ditch occurred from time to time due to the unsatisfactory drainage in this area. This problem should be solved as far as sewage is concerned when the proposed new public sewer and disposal plant to serve this area is con-



structed. It is anticipated that this scheme will be commenced in 1968.

The Consultant Engineers acting for Littlehampton and Worthing R.D.C. were preparing a joint scheme of disposal. For both authorities it is essential that improved sewerage disposal arrangements are provided as soon as possible, particularly in view of the continued increase in population.

There are 68 properties on cesspool drainage.

### **Public Conveniences**

The Council maintain public conveniences for ladies and gentlemen at the following places:—

Near the Council Offices,  
The Pier,  
Maltravers Recreation Ground,  
Norfolk Road,  
Mewsbrook Park,  
North Street,  
Worthing Road,  
West Beach,  
Horsham Road Cemetery.

In addition there are male conveniences near the Bridge and off the High Street, and a ladies' convenience in Beach Road.

This makes a total of 21 conveniences in all, 10 for males and 11 for females.

### **House Refuse**

The refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping on the Council's disposal site in Ferry Road.

### **Swimming Baths**

Two swimming baths in the district were sampled. Seven samples were taken. Five were satisfactory and two were unsatisfactory.

The unsatisfactory samples were obtained prior to the bath being opened for use. Subsequent samples proved to be satisfactory.

### **Schools**

There are seven Primary and Secondary Schools in the district. A new Infants' School was opened, provided with the most modern facilities. Children at this school will have no excuse for not washing before their dinner. At St. Catherine's School, where sanitary arrangements were very poor, the children could hardly be blamed if they attained a lower standard of personal hygiene. Proposals to improve the sanitary accommodation and washing facilities at this school are at present awaiting the approval of the Department of Education. Apart from Lyminster School the other sanitary arrangements are modern and satisfactory.

### **Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963**

A satisfactory number of routine inspections have been carried out at premises where the Local Authority is responsible for



enforcing the provisions of the above Act. Fifty-four informal notices were served regarding contraventions. Occupiers have co-operated readily when their attention has been drawn to matters requiring attention and it has not been necessary to follow up informal notices with statutory action.

Certain exemptions from the provisions of the Act were granted to stalls and kiosks situated in parks, and by the sea-shore, by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act (Exemption No. 3) Order. This Order ceases to have effect from the 31st of December 1968, and from that date this type of premises will be required to comply with the Act.

Four cases of accidents to employees were reported to the Local Authority.

### **Common Lodging Houses**

There are no common lodging houses registered in the district.

### **Camping and Caravan Sites**

Eight sites are licensed under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Six of these sites have been licensed without time limitation and two subject to time limits varying with individual sites. All the sites are for permanent caravans. There are no facilities for mobile caravans.

In two cases caravans used for human habitation were found on unlicensed sites. These were moved after warning letters were sent to the owners of the land.

There is one camping site licensed for 210 tents alongside the River Arun. The site was well used during the peak holiday period and at times had to cater for more tents camped in adjacent fields. At times of greatest usage the water supply, on occasion, proved inadequate either to provide a good enough flow to fill the W.C. system quick enough, or to fill campers' water carriers fast enough.

### **Clean Air Act**

Notifications were received from six premises in accordance with Section 3 of the Clean Air Act relating to the installation of new furnaces. Five were oil fired and one was gas fired.

### **Noise Nuisance**

Seven complaints of alleged noise nuisance were received and investigated. This is a considerable reduction compared with previous years.

In five cases the nuisance was abated after informal action. In two cases relating to industrial noise after lengthy investigation of the problem no satisfactory solution could be found. When a noise nuisance arises from a trade or business the Council's powers are limited to requiring the best practicable means to be adopted to abate the nuisance. In cases such as these the most effective remedy is for the persons affected by the nuisance to take private action in the courts to obtain an injunction when the defence that they were taking the best practicable means to overcome the nuisance is not available to the defendants.



### Disinfection and Disinfestation

Number of premises disinfected	...	...	1
Number of domestic premises where disinfestation was carried out	...	...	25
Number of other premises where disinfestation was carried out	...	...	11
Number of treatments to destroy wasps' nests	...	...	53

Until recently all disinfestations, whether at domestic premises, or at industrial and commercial premises, have been carried out by the Department at no cost to the occupier. The Council has now resolved that while treatments at domestic premises will continue to be given free of charge, the cost of the work involved will be recovered in cases where treatments are carried out at other premises.

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

438 infestations, 370 in respect of rats and 68 in respect of mice, were dealt with during the year. In each case visits were paid until the rats or mice were exterminated. In all 2,016 visits were made.

Permanent baits are maintained at selected points on the Council's tip to ensure that no infestations arise.

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

The following table shows statistics in respect of works carried out during the year 1967:—

Amount of Warfarin poison bait used during the year = 896 lbs.

Number of properties treated = (a) for rats 370

(b) for mice 68

One Statutory Notice under the provisions of Section 4 of the above Act was served and complied with and three informal notices were served and complied with.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

During the year inspections have been as follows:—

#### Public Health Acts

Houses: initial inspections	...	...	...	51
Houses: re-visits	...	...	...	152
Animals, keeping of...	...	...	...	9
Drainage inspections and tests	...	...	...	180
Ditches, streams and river	...	...	...	27
Infectious disease and disinfection	...	...	...	23
Moveable dwellings (other than caravans)	...	...	...	7
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	36
Dirty and verminous premises	...	...	...	19
Port Health: ship inspections	...	...	...	82
Refuse collection and disposal	...	...	...	18
Workplaces	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	512



Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	145
Houseboats inspections	...	...	...	...	...	6
Hairdressers' premises	...	...	...	...	...	2
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	4

### Housing Acts

Houses: initial inspections	...	...	...	...	16
Houses: revisits	...	...	...	...	47
Houses in multiple occupation	...	...	...	...	15
Improvement grants and improvement areas	...	...	...	...	112
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	4

### Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Confectioners	...	...	...	...	53
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	8
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	36
Dairies and milk shops	...	...	...	...	47
Fishmongers including shellfish	...	...	...	...	16
Food kiosks	...	...	...	...	24
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	19
Greengrocers and fruiterers	...	...	...	...	42
Grocers	...	...	...	...	142
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	40
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	52
Restaurants and cafés	...	...	...	...	158
Canteens	...	...	...	...	40
Hotels other than licensed	...	...	...	...	11
Boarding and guest houses	...	...	...	...	85
Mobile shops	...	...	...	...	25
Old People's Homes	...	...	...	...	25
Other food premises	...	...	...	...	31

### Factories Act, 1961

Factories with power	...	...	...	...	27
Factories without power	...	...	...	...	10
Outworkers' premises	...	...	...	...	9
Building operations (Section 7)	...	...	...	...	8

### Visits under other Acts

National Assistance Act, 1948	...	...	...	...	2
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1948	...	...	...	...	2,016
Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	—
Clean Air Act, 1956	...	...	...	...	64
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960	...	...	...	...	29
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1964	...	...	...	...	266
Town Police Clauses Act, 1847	...	...	...	...	4
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952	...	...	...	...	—
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	...	...	...	...	31
Agriculture (Safety Health and Welfare Provisions Act) 1956	...	...	...	...	29
Pet Animals Act, 1951	...	...	...	...	3



**Sampling**

Ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Shellfish	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water—main	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water—well	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water—swimming bath	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

**Notices Served**

	Served	Completed
Housing Acts—informal	5	4
Public Health Acts—informal	82	65
Public Health Acts—statutory	20	23
Housing Acts—statutory	3	3
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	160	128
Agriculture (Safety Health & Welfare Provisions Act) 1956	10	6
Factories Act	4	6
Clean Air Act	6	7
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	54	38
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	4	4
Town Police Clauses Act	2	2
Shops Act	—	—
Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act	3	3
Noise Abatement Act	5	5
	<hr/> 355	<hr/> 291

**Complaints**

During the year a total of 451 complaints were received in respect of the following matters:—

Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	126
Insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	91
Housing defect	...	...	...	...	...	49
Accumulation of rubbish	...	...	...	...	...	20
Unsound food and food hygiene	...	...	...	...	...	29
Atmospheric pollution	...	...	...	...	...	16
Drainage defects	...	...	...	...	...	63
Noise	...	...	...	...	...	7
Offensive odours	...	...	...	...	...	5
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	...	4
Offices and shops	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty, or verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	5
Caravan sites	...	...	...	...	...	2
Unsatisfactory holiday accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houses in multiple occupation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	1
Refuse collection or disposal	...	...	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	9
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	2
Town Police Clauses Act	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ditches, streams, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	4
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	1



## IMPROVEMENT AND DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR

The following improvements have results from action taken by the Public Health Department:—

House repairs completed	...	...	...	59
Rooms cleansed or decorated	...	...	...	18
Drains repaired or improved	...	...	...	51
Water closets repaired	...	...	...	8
New dustbins provided	...	...	...	6
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	15
Other improvements	...	...	...	55

### Moveable Dwellings

Additional sanitary accommodation provided	...	...	...	—
Drainage improved	...	...	...	3
Other improvements	...	...	...	2
Movable dwellings removed/replaced	...	...	...	5

### Food Premises

Premises cleaned and redecorated	...	...	...	37
Tables, counters, etc. covered	...	...	...	3
Washing facilities provided, or improved	...	...	...	23
Hot water supply provided	...	...	...	12
Refuse disposal improved	...	...	...	3
Equipment, utensils, etc., cleansed	...	...	...	10
Sanitary accommodation provided, or improved	...	...	...	9
Clothing accommodation provided, or improved	...	...	...	2
Structural repairs and alterations	...	...	...	11
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	—
Screens for food provided	...	...	...	3
Lighting improved	...	...	...	—
Cold storage provided	...	...	...	1
First Aid equipment provided	...	...	...	8
Other improvements	...	...	...	53

### Shops and Offices

Sanitary accommodation repaired, or cleansed	...	...	...	7
Additional sanitary accommodation provided	...	...	...	—



Indicating notices to a sanitary accommodation provided ... ..	—
Provision for disposal of sanitary dressings provided	—
Additional washing facilities provided ... ..	1
Hot water supply provided . ... ..	5
Cleanliness improved ... ..	3
Thermometers provided ... ..	4
First Aid boxes provided ... ..	2
Ventilation improved ... ..	2
Heating improved ... ..	3
Clothing accommodation provided ... ..	1
Additional lighting provided ... ..	—
Seating facilities provided ... ..	4
Overcrowding abated ... ..	—
Defective floor, etc., repaired ... ..	7
Abstract of Act provided ... ..	6
Other improvements ... ..	20

#### Factories

Premises cleansed ... ..	1
Extra sanitary accommodation provided ...	—
Defective sanitary accommodation remedied ...	1
Other improvements ... ..	6



## Factories Act, 1961

## 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 ...	4	10	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities .	67	27	4	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	8	8	—	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>

## 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 ...	1	3	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	1	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences .	1	1	—	—	—
Total ...	4	6	1	2	—

### 3. Outworkers :

The following numbers of outworkers are employed in the area:—

Making, etc., of wearing apparel ... ..	2
Making of curtains and furnishing hangings ...	2
Making of stuffed toys ... ..	11
Making of artificial flowers ... ..	1



## SECTION D

### HOUSING

#### Housing Act, 1957

The Council made one Demolition Order in respect of a house unfit for human habitation. One undertaking was accepted from the owner of an unfit house and was subsequently cancelled when the house was made fit. One statutory notice requiring the abatement of overcrowding in a house let in lodgings was served and complied with.

#### Improvement Areas

The Council declared an Improvement Area covering all the houses in Stanhope Road in May, 1966. During the year five suspended notices and two immediate improvement notices were served, and four undertakings were received in relation to houses in this area. One suspended notice and two undertakings have been complied with. Improvement Area procedure is complicated and protracted, but it is felt that the final result is well worthwhile.

During the year a survey was carried out of the houses in the York Road, Connaught Road and Queen Street area with a view to deciding whether this district should be declared an Improvement Area, and the result of this survey was as follows:—

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	103
Number of houses occupied by a tenant	...	...	...	21
Number of houses owner/occupied	...	...	...	82
Number of tenanted houses lacking all or some of the five standard amenities	...	...	...	13
Number of owner/occupied houses lacking all or some of the five standard amenities	...	...	...	10

Since the Improvement Area procedure applied only to tenanted houses it was felt that owing to the small number of unimproved tenanted houses this was not a suitable area in which to use these powers. Instead tenants were informed of their individual rights to make application to the Council for the house to be improved. The responses to this was disappointing as only one application was received. While it is understandable that elderly tenants may not wish to face the temporary inconvenience of the alterations, I am surprised that tenants with young families do not appreciate that for the few extra shillings rent they would be getting a very good bargain indeed in the form of increased amenity and comfort.

Number of private houses built since 1948—1,541.

**SUMMARY OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES AS AT  
31st DECEMBER, 1967**

		Pre-war	Post-war	Total
Bed-sitting room Flats .	...	—	59	59
One-bedroom Flats	... ..	—	41	41
Two-bedroom Flats	... ..	—	194	194
Three-bedroom Flats	... ..	—	66	66
Bed-sitting room Bungalows	...	—	3	3
One-bedroom Bungalows	...	6	7	13
Two-bedroom Bungalows	...	15	25	40
Two-bedroom Houses	...	1	90	91
Three-bedroom Houses	...	208	247	455
Four-bedroom Houses	...	5	14	19
Five-bedroom Houses	...	3	—	3
Other properties	... ..	44	—	44
		<hr/> 282	<hr/> 758	<hr/> 1,028

**Waiting List for Housing Accommodation**

Total number of applicants on waiting list for houses at 31st December, 1967	...	...	294
Total number of applications received during 1967	...	...	206
Total number of families rehoused from list during 1967	...	...	45

During 1967 12 two-bedroomed flats and 3 three-bedroomed houses were completed. Construction on a further 96 three-bedroomed flats and 12 two-bedroomed flats was commenced and it is hoped that these will be ready for occupation during 1968. During the past year twice the number of housing applications have been received; no doubt this is due to the fact that the residential qualification was reduced from three years to two years. Also we had a very high number of cancellations, this mainly being due to applicants buying their own property.



## SECTION E

### FOOD HYGIENE

#### Inspection of Premises

854 visits were made during the year to food premises in the district.

The number of food premises in the district is as follows:—

Restaurants, Cafés, Snack Bars and Canteens	...	70
Licensed Premises (including shops)	... ..	39
Hotels and Guest Houses	... ..	77
Grocers and Confectioners	... ..	63
Greengrocers	... ..	11
Butchers	... ..	11
Wet Fish Shops	... ..	3
Fried Fish Shops	... ..	3
Icecream Premises	... ..	98
Bakehouses	... ..	2

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1960, are as follows:—

Sale and Storage of Ice Cream	... ..	89
Manufacture of Ice Cream	... ..	9
Sale of Prepared Meats and Sausages	... ..	13
Fried Fish Shops	... ..	3

A considerable increase was made in the number of routine inspections compared with the previous year. Many of the catering premises operate on a seasonal basis and others, as can be expected in a holiday resort, do the bulk of their trade in the summer months. The competition for temporary staff is keen at this time of year and many proprietors of food premises find difficulty in obtaining sufficient staff of the right calibre. Despite this, most food businesses operate satisfactorily and when one considers the high proportion of catering premises in the area, the number of serious contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations was not high.

One prosecution for contravention of these Regulations was taken in front of the local Magistrates. The proprietor of the cafe concerned was found guilty on eight counts and was fined a total of £50.

#### Food & Drugs Act, 1955

Twenty-three complaints were received regarding the sale of unsound food, or food containing foreign bodies, during the year. In six cases it was considered that the complaints were unjustified or that no offence had taken place. In two cases prosecutions were taken and the remainder were dealt with by sending warning letters to the firms concerned.

The amount and infinite variety of foreign bodies in food-stuffs continues to give cause for concern. Typical examples being an earwig in a bottle of milk; a matchstick in a packet of bubble gum; a wasp in a cornish pasty; and a piece of wire in a portion of fish and chips.



Numerous complaints of wrapped food such as bread, cakes and pies, affected with moulds occur, especially during warm weather, and it is often difficult to decide whether the fault lies with the manufacturer, the wholesaler or the retailer. Most manufacturers code stamp their products, so that the date of production can be ascertained and investigations usually point to bad rotation of stock by the retailer. It is, however, possible, where goods are delivered on a sale or return basis, for vanmen to withdraw date expired goods from one shop and re-issue them to the next unsuspecting retailer. This is a strong argument in favour of perishable wrapped foodstuffs being clearly marked with the date of manufacture instead of a code mark known only to the producer.

Two successful prosecutions were taken against retailers for the sale of food affected with mould. In one case relating to a pork pie, a fine of £10 and 5 guineas costs was imposed, and in a case relating to an apple turnover a fine of £5 and 4 guineas costs was imposed.

### **Milk and Dairies**

There are four registered dairies in the district. The number of distributors under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1958, is 18.

The number of visits made to dairies and distributors during the year was 47.

Two of the above dairies are pasteurising and bottling plants and as such are licensed by the Food & Drugs authority, which is the West Sussex County Council. Frequent samples of the milk and the empty bottles prior to filling are taken by the County Public Health Inspector.

Thirty-eight samples were taken from the remaining two and from distributors. Seven were found to be unsatisfactory.

Routine milk samples from premises not registered as dairies, i.e. grocers' shops and the like, had in the past been taken by sampling officers of the County Council. It was agreed with the County Medical Officer of Health that in future we would undertake the sampling from these premises. Seven such samples failed the Methylene Blue Test. These failures can be attributed to unsatisfactory storage or poor rotation of stock. No formal action was taken, but warnings and advice were given where appropriate.

### **Ice Cream Premises**

There are 89 premises registered for the sale and storage of ice cream in the district. Nine establishments are registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

During the year 41 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for grading. Twenty-eight samples were classified as Grade I; eight as Grade II; three as Grade III; and three as Grade IV.



### Inspection of Food :

The following items were inspected during the year and found to be unfit for human consumption:—

- 211 tins of meat.
- 498 tins of fruit.
- 584 tins of vegetables.
- 752 other pre-packed articles.
- 365 lbs. fish.
- 88 lbs. sausages.
- 59 lbs. cooked meats.
- 188 lbs. meat.
- 449 lbs. fruit.
- 143 lbs. vegetables.
- 136 lbs. bacon.

## SECTION F

## Notifiable Diseases in 1967

SCARLET FEVER 5 cases	Scarlet Fever is a mild disease and seldom requires hospitalization.
WHOOPING COUGH 3 cases	Immunisation undoubtedly keeps the number of cases low.
MEASLES 55 cases	This number is a considerable reduction on 1966. If immunisation against this disease becomes universal there should be very few cases notified.
ERYSIPELAS 2 cases	The number of cases remains low.
DYSENTERY 1 case	It was not possible to find the source of this one isolated case.
DIPHTHERIA Nil	This is the 17th year in succession in which there has been no case of Diphtheria notified.
SMALLPOX Nil	No case of Smallpox was suspected or notified during the year.
POLIOMYELITIS Nil	There has been no case of Poliomyelitis since 1955.
ENCEPHALITIS Nil	There were no cases notified this year.

	Under 1 year	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	Over 25	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	2	1	1	—	5
Whooping Cough ...	—	1	1	1	—	—	3
Measles ...	4	40	9	—	1	1	55
Dysentery ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2

## Notifications 1957—1967

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Measles ...	23	637	55	19	110	20	908	37	412	250	55
Whooping Cgh. ...	132	18	8	94	9	1	5	32	11	—	3
Scarlet Fever ...	8	16	13	8	5	14	1	7	6	15	5



There were no cases notified in 1967 of the following diseases:

Anthrax.	Meningococcal Infection.
Cholera.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.
Diphtheria.	Plague.
Encephalitis.	Pneumonia.
Enteric Fever.	Poliomyelitis.
Food Poisoning.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
Leprosy.	Relapsing Fever.
Malaria.	Smallpox.
Membranous Croup.	Typhus.

### TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Cases on Register 1.1.67 ...	25	9	2	2	38
Primary Notifications—1967 (both males, æt. 43 and 35)	2	—	—	—	2
Transfers to the district ...	1	—	—	—	1
Totals:	28	9	2	2	41
Deaths during 1967 ...	—	—	Nil	—	—
Removals from Register (both recovered) ...	—	2	—	—	2
Cases on Register, 31.12.67	28	7	2	2	39

One man, æt. 61, notified by the Registrar General as a Pulmonary T.B. death, was not on the Register, as above.

### IMMUNISATION

The following immunisations were carried out, on children under 16, during the year:—

#### Diphtheria and Tetanus:

Primary Injections	...	5
Reinforcing Injections	...	434

#### Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough:

Primary Injections	...	289
Reinforcing Injections	...	232

#### Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Initial vaccination of 2 injections, or 3 doses of oral vaccine.	...	307
Reinforcing procedures	...	519

#### Smallpox Vaccination:

Primary vaccination	...	255
Re-vaccinations	...	123

### INFLUENZA

The Council offered vaccination against influenza to its staff; 44 out of 160 took advantage of the Council's offer.

## METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1967

SUNSHINE AND RAINFALL STATISTICS				
Month	SUNSHINE		RAINFALL	
		Average hours for 53 years		Average inches for 53 years
January	...	81.1	2.98	2.98
February	...	95.2	2.08	2.08
March	...	178.5	1.81	1.81
April	...	188.2	1.85	1.85
May	...	220.0	1.83	1.83
June	...	243.5	1.62	1.62
July	...	269.5	2.07	2.07
August	...	202.2	2.35	2.35
September	...	134.9	2.38	2.38
October	...	112.2	3.00	3.00
November	...	99.8	3.35	3.35
December	...	57.4	3.08	3.08



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
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
1957	1866.9	5.11	306	26.49	150
1958	1626.3	4.46	299	33.31	162
1959	2146.1	5.88	312	25.08	134
1960	1658.3	4.54	292	45.00	185
1961	1911.1	5.2	310	31.86	137
1962	1805.2	4.9	307	25.61	143
1963	1708.3	4.6	277	29.07	158
1964	1743.1	4.8	247	25.59	135
1965	1725.9	4.7	311	30.68	156
1966	1687.1	4.6	296	32.87	171
1967	1882.5	5.2	310	30.11	158





