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Longbenton
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

County of Northumberland

ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR

1960

OF

A. W. HAY

M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

AND

WILLIAM N. LOCKEY

C.S.I.B., Certified Meat Inspector

Senior Public Health Inspector





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OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Officer</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>
Medical Officer of Health...	ARTHUR W. HAY	M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Senior Public Health Inspector	WILLIAM N. LOCKEY	M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert., Sanitary Science Cert., R.S.H.
Additional Public Health Inspector	ROBERT P. BRUCE	M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert., Smoke Inspector's Cert. R.S.H.
" " "	NEIL W. CROSBY	M.A.P.H.I., Cert.P.H.I.E.B. Appointed June, 1960.

Longbenton Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ARTHUR W. HAY

for the year ended 31st December, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the

Longbenton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report for the year ending the 31st December, 1960.

The population of the area has risen during the year by 2,030 to a new record total of 49,810 persons. The increase has taken place mainly in the new housing estates of Longbenton, Forest Hall and Wideopen, and many of those concerned have been re-housed from Newcastle upon Tyne. In addition to the re-housing, there is also the fact that during the year the number of births in the district exceeded the number of deaths by 545.

Infectious disease continues to decline and once again there were no cases of diphtheria, poliomyelitis, typhoid or smallpox. Only 8 cases of dysentery were reported, which compares favourably with 15 the year before and 39 two years ago. Only four years ago there was a total of 113 cases of dysentery in the district and it is pleasing to see that all the work the Public Health Inspectors have done during the past few years, investigating this disease and collecting bacteriological specimens, is having such good effect. It is gratifying to report that the infantile mortality in the district during the year was only 17, which is less than the national average and a distinct improvement on last year when the figure was 27. It should be remembered that as recently as 1940, the figure for the district was 85.7.

The main cause of death in the district was once again diseases of the heart and circulation and, although coronary thrombosis was one of the main causes, the number of deaths from it was slightly lower than previously, 63 deaths being

reported as compared with 67 last year. The number of cases of tuberculosis continues to decline, and for the second year running there were no deaths from this disease.

A fair amount of time has been taken up during the year in dealing with Problem Families in the area. These are families in which the wife is a bad manager and unable to cope with her household duties. The house is usually chaotic, the children neglected, and the husband indifferent to the appalling conditions under which the family lives. These families often run into heavy debt through unwise spending, particularly by the wife committing herself to hire purchase agreements, which require too high a proportion of the weekly housekeeping money. A Committee of medical, social and welfare workers meets regularly to discuss ways of helping these families and there has been some concern over the past year at the ease with which hire purchase facilities are given, frequently in cases where there is already considerable debt. It seems that firms who engage in door-to-door sales methods should make more searching enquiries than they do at present before pressing the woman of the house to sign a hire purchase agreement.

I would like to offer my thanks to Mr. Lockey and the staff of the Health Department for their assistance during the year and also to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their continued encouragement and support.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. W. HAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	6,786
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population mid-year 1960	49,810
Number of inhabited houses (31/12/60) according to Rate Book	14,190
Rateable Value (1/4/61)	£431,122
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1960/61) ...	£1,725

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The chief industry is coal mining, with the exception of the residential area of Benton and Forest Hall.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

			Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...	485	407	892
Illegitimate	...	...	10	10	20
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			495	417	912
Still Births—Legitimate	...	...	3	12	15
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			3	12	15
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
DEATHS.			226	161	387

Comparability Factors:—

Births	...	...	...	0.85	
Deaths	...	...	...	1.61	
Live Births per 1,000 Population	...	18.30	corrected	15.55	
Still births per 1,000 Live and Still Births	16.00	„		13.60	

DEATH RATE.

The Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	7.77	„	12.50
--	------	---	-------

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still Births)
------------------------------	--------	--

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	...	...	1	1.06
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			1	1.06
			<hr/>	<hr/>

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR
OF AGE

					Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	11	5	16
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
					<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>16</u>

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS
OF AGE

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	10	3	13
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
					<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>13</u>

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	10	3	13
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
					<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>13</u>

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS OF INFANTS UNDER
1 YEAR OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	17.54
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births				17.92
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				—

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS OF INFANTS UNDER
4 WEEKS OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	14.25
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births				14.57
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				—

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1
WEEK OF AGE

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	14.25
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births				14.57
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				—

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	62
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE LONGBENTON AREA, 1960.

Causes of Death						Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	226	161
1—Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
2—Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3—Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
4—Diphtheria...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5—Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6—Meningococcal infections...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
7—Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
8—Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9—Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
10—Cancer of stomach	...	...	...	...	...	7	2
11—Cancer of lung and bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	13	2
12—Cancer of breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	5
13—Cancer of uterus	...	...	...	...	...	—	4
14—Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	...	19	10
15—Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
16—Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	—	4
17—Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	36	28
18—Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	38	25
19—Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
20—Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	25	30
21—Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	5	7
22—Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
23—Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	11	5
24—Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	20	9
25—Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
26—Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
27—Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
28—Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
29—Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
30—Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
31—Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
32—Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	19	13
33—Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
34—All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	8	3
35—Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
36—Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	—	—

There is no evidence of any excessive or unusual mortality during the year.

I have no evidence, statistical or otherwise, that conditions of occupation or environment have exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of adults. There is, however, evidence that the general health and physique of children, both of pre-school and school age, are generally improving.

TABLE SHOWING THE INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES SINCE THE FORMATION OF THE LONGBENTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL IN 1935.

1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
78.3	85.22	87.3	70.27	51.9	85.7	60.6	51.8	61.1
1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
35.95	76.54	35.95	36.68	43.68	38.87	31.47	25.80	38.31
1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	
23.76	24.41	35.18	20.40	16.52	18.18	27.71	17.54	

SECTION B.

1. (i) Public Health Officials : see page 2.
- (ii) (a) Laboratory facilities are now available at the General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne.
- (b) The Ambulance Service is under the jurisdiction of the Northumberland County Council. As from the 1st November, 1952, the Ambulance Service for Longbenton Urban District Council is centered in Wideopen Depot which also supplies the ambulance needs of the South Area Northumberland County Council.
- (c) Nursing in the home is controlled by the Northumberland County Council.
- (d) Scaffold Hill Hospital is the only hospital in the district. This hospital is administered by the South East Hospital Management Committee (Northumberland) on behalf of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. The primary function of this hospital is to provide accommodation for the care of aged sick men and women and one pavilion is set aside for convalescent cases. All infectious disease cases for the area are accommodated at Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne and Moor Park Hospital, North Shields.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 47.

It was not necessary to take any action under the above section during the year.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICE.

This service is operated and controlled by the Northumberland County Council.

SECTION C.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

- (i) The water supply for the area during the last year has been satisfactory. All the water for the district is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.
- (ii) *Drainage and Sewerage*—Conditions remain the same.

- 2. (i) *Rivers and Streams*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (ii) *Public Cleansing*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (iv) *Shops and Offices*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (v) *Camping Sites*.—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (vi) *Clean Air Act, 1956*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (vii) *Swimming Baths and Pools*—There are no swimming baths in the area.
- (viii) *Eradication of the Bed Bug*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (ix) *Head Lice*—No special treatment was given.
Body Lice—No special treatment was given.

SCHOOLS.

All schools in the area are provided with a sufficient and suitable water supply from the mains supply together with a water carriage system of sanitary accommodation. Periodical inspections are made of all schools and particular attention paid to those schools provided with school meals facilities, including kitchens.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) *Milk Supply*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (b) *Meat and other Foods*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (c) *Adulteration*—This service is administered by the County Council.
- (d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food*—Samples of milk and ice cream are taken for Bacteriological examination by this Authority. These samples are examined at the Public Health Laboratory.
- (e) *Nutrition*—Talks were given to young mothers at Child Welfare Clinics.
- (f) *Shellfish (Molluscan)*—There are no shellfish beds or layings in this area. Shellfish is rarely sold in this area.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table gives the numbers and age groups of
the cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year :—

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1960.

NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED													
	Age Group										Hospital	Deaths	
	At all Ages (1959)	U'der 1 year	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 and over			Age not k'wn
Scarlet Fever	11 (46)	—	—	1	2	1	5	2	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough	2 (29)	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles	10 (1221)	—	2	5	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	89 (15)	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	4	—	—	
Pneumonia	10 (12)	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	6	—	16	
Erysipelas	(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	(2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Food Poisoning	(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTAL	41 (1327)	3	3	7	2	5	9	2	—	10	—	16	

The following table shows the number of bacteriological specimens from the Longbenton Area examined in the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle, during 1960.

Examination Requested.	Positive	Negative.	Total.
Vincent's Angina	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Haemolytic Strep.	—	7	7
Tuberculosis Sputa	3	—	3
Enteric and Dysentery Groups ...	66	239	305
Clinical Specimens	—	—	—
Staphylococcus Aureus	—	—	—
	69	246	315

POLIOMYELITIS.—No cases of Paralytic Poliomyelitis were notified.

SCARLET FEVER.—Notifications show a decrease of 35 cases : all were of a very mild form.

PNEUMONIA.—Notifications show a decrease, 10 cases as against 12.

MEASLES.—There is a very large decrease in the number of cases notified: 10 in 1960 as against 1,221 in 1959.

WHOOPING COUGH.—There was a decrease in the number of cases notified, 2 as against 29 in 1959.

FOOD POISONING.—No cases of food poisoning were notified.

DYSENTERY.—There was a decrease in the number of cases notified during the year, 8 as against 15 in 1959.

VENEREAL DISEASE.—Full support has been given to the Northumberland County Council in their propaganda against Venereal Disease. Posters have been published and handbills distributed and full information as to the places and times of the Clinic supplied to enquirers at this Public Health Department.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.—No cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.—No action was necessary under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1935, with regard to persons employed in the milk trade, nor in the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1960.—The following Tables are self explanatory :—

	NEW CASES NOTIFIED FORM A				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 14 years ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 24 years ...	2	2	1	1	—	—	1	—
25 to 44 years ...	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
45 to 64 years ...	2	—	2	—	—	1	—	—
65 years and over ...	1	1	—	—	3	—	—	—
Age not known ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	9	4	5	1	3*	3* ¹	1*	—

*Cases removed from register but principal cause of death not given as Tuberculosis.

CASES TRANSFERRED INTO AREA.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years ...	—	—	—	—
5 to 14 years ...	—	—	1	—
15 to 24 years ...	2	4	2	—
25 to 44 years ...	8	10	1	—
45 to 64 years ...	4	—	1	—
65 years and over ...	1	—	—	—
Age not known	—	—	—	—
	15	14	5	—

PARTICULARS OF TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER
as at 31st December, 1960.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary and Non- Pulmonary
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	Total
Cases on Register at 1/1/60 ...	312	323	635	39	55	94	729
New Cases ...	9	4	13	5	1	6	19
Cases transferred into area	15	14	29	5	—	5	34
Cases Reinstated	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Cases Removed	37	49	86	3	4	7	93
Cases on Register at 31/12/60 ...	299	293	592	46	52	98	690

Longbenton Urban District Council
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year ended 31st December, 1960

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the Public Health and Refuse Collection Departments for the year 1960.

HOUSING.

Details, showing the number of families re-housed during 1960 and the numbers still remaining on the Housing Applications List, have been kindly supplied by the Housing Manager.

The following Table shows the number of houses allocated to the various types of applicants:

POINTS SCHEME.

Categories :	A	B	C	D & O.P.	Total
	21	2	48	34	105

OTHERS.

Exchanges to abate overcrowding	...	91
Slum Clearance	... ..	65
Eviction Orders and Special Allocation	...	2
Transfer of Tenancy	... ..	60
		<hr/> 218 <hr/>

The following table shows the fluctuation of the number of applicants for Council Houses between 1/4/49 and 1/4/60 :—

CATEGORY 'A.'															
Applicants															
with homes of															
their own and															
residing in															
overcrowded															
conditions	282	261	255	212	236	205	116	98	86	55	32	39	59	50	
CATEGORY 'B.'															
Applicants															
without homes															
of their own															
and residing in															
overcrowded															
conditions	225	240	213	103	150	138	24	15	6	4	7	8	5	11	
CATEGORY 'C.'															
Applicants															
without homes															
of their own															
but not over-															
crowded	449	481	503	376	446	532	465	550	484	411	183	397	353	379	
CATEGORY 'D.'															
Normal															
applicants															
desiring															
improved hous-															
ing accommo-															
dation but not															
overcrowded	477	575	615	582	666	740	717	761	722	765	431	557	604	586	
	1433	1557	1586	1273	1498	1615	1322	1424	1298	1235	653	1001	1021	1162	
										1236				1026	

SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME.

The total re-housing from Clearance Areas confirmed in 1958 was not completed in 1960. A new 5-year programme of 313 houses was approved for years 1961-1965 and it is anticipated 120 houses will be provided in the 1961 building programme for re-housing from Clearance Areas or Individual Unfit Houses.

REPAIR OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOUSES.

The policy of securing repairs to private houses by informal action has again been pursued. 74 Informal Notices were served. in 6 instances it was necessary to serve Statutory Notices, Specifications were prepared and tenders obtained to do the work in default at nine properties, the total cost being £901 10s. 4d.

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

Applications were received for Discretionary Improvement Grants to 13 houses. All were approved.

STANDARD GRANTS.

16 applications were received. All were approved, 4 only were completed.

RENT ACT, 1957.

It would appear that there is a considerable amount of agreement between the landlords and tenants relative to the carrying out of repairs as no applications were made for Certificates of Disrepair.

The Table below shows the number of applicants for Certificates of Disrepair :—

Applications received for Certificates of Disrepair ...	—
Applications for Certificates of Disrepair—refused ...	—
Undertakings by Landlords—accepted	—
Certificates of Disrepair—issued	—
Application for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	—
Certificates of Disrepair, cancelled	—
Certificates of Disrepair, not cancelled	—

TABLE 1.

	Number of Inspections during year.	Number of Defects or Contraventions of Bye-Laws.	Number of Informal Notices served	Defects remedied by Informal Action	Number of Statutory Notices served	Defects remedied after Statutory Notices	Legal Proceedings
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
HOUSING—							
Structural Defects
Defective Food Store
Dampness
Overcrowding
WATER SUPPLY—							
Insufficient
Unsatisfactory
DRAINAGE							
Insufficient
Unsatisfactory
SANITARY CONVENIENCES—							
Insufficient
Defective
Defective Dustbins
Nuisances, Watercourses and Offensive Accumulations
Tents, Vans, and Sheds
Infectious Diseases
Rodent and Pest Control
Keeping of Animals
FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955-1960—							
Public Houses and Food Premises
Food and Drugs Act, 1955
Shops Act
Milk and Dairies Regulations
Meat Inspection Slaughter Houses
Public Cleansing
Factories Act
Clean Air Act, 1960
Rent Act, 1957
Petroleum Regulations
Agriculture, Safety Health and Welfare Regulations
TOTALS	5431	820	338	700	11	175	—

TABLE II.
HOUSING.

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1960.

Houses Completed during the Year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
By Local Authority	100	—	100
By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
By private persons	—	420	420
Total	100	420	520

Total number of Inhabited Houses in District, 14,190.

Total number of Houses owned by Local Authority 3,246.

CLOSING AND DEMOLITION OF HOUSES.

A. FORMAL ACTION.

- (1) Number of houses demolished during 1960 as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action 1
(Number of houses included in above which were from pre-war confirmed Clearance Areas) ... —
- (2) Number of houses *closed* but not demolished as a result of formal action —

B. INFORMAL ACTION.

- (1) Number of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above —
- (2) Houses demolished —

RECONDITIONING AND REPAIR.

Number of houses made fit during 1960 by procedure under either Housing or Public Health Acts :

- (a) As a result of Informal Action 105
- (b) By owners as a result of statutory notice ... 4
- (c) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 11

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

A. *Discretionary Grants.*

1. Applications submitted to Local Authority during year	13
2. Applications rejected by Local Authority during year	—
3. Applications approved by Local Authority during year	13
4. Approximate average Grant approved per house	£179-17-0
5. Total number of houses approved for grant since inception of scheme	115

B. *Standard Grants.*

1. Number of separate houses for which grants were made during year	4	Total to Date. 8
2. Number of houses so provided with—		
(a) Bath or shower	2	4
(b) Washhand basin	1	4
(c) Hot water supply	1	4
(d) Water Closet	4	7
(e) Food Store... ..	3	5

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Oc'piers P'cuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	7	10	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	66	69	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises)	15	15	2	—
Total	88	94	6	—

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp'ctor	By H.M. Insp'ctor	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	9	9	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	7	3	4	—	—
Total	19	15	4	2	—

TABLE OF OUTWORKERS.

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers in August List.	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing Apparel Making, etc.	2	—	—	—	—	—
All other outworkers	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	—	—	—	—	—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

It was necessary to serve formal notice, under Section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (as amended by Sec. 30 of the Water Act, 1945), in one instance only to secure repairs to the water supply to a dwelling house within the district. Informal procedure resulted in the restoration of a further three supplies to dwelling houses.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

The regular sampling of domestic water supplies throughout the district was continued, in all some 27 samples were taken : of these two showed signs of slight contamination but this was only localised and check samples showed that this had been rectified.

The number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination, together with the results, are set out below :—

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Coliform Bacilli per 100 ml.</i>	<i>Bacilli Coli per 100 ml.</i>
25	Nil	Nil
1	11	Nil
1	8	Nil

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are only three dry closets remaining in the district, one is at a farm where drainage is not available and the other two are at houses, both of which are scheduled for early Slum Clearance.

Informal Action secured in 28 instances the necessary repairs to defective W.C's. It was, however, necessary to serve two statutory notices, under Section 45 of the Public Health Act, 1936, on the owners of the property to carry out works of repair. In all cases notices were complied with by the owners and it was not necessary for the Council to undertake the work in default.

ASHBINS.

Informal Action was taken for 121 defective ashbins and, in this respect, 106 Informal Notices were served. In two instances, however, it was necessary to serve Statutory Notices under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to secure the provision of new bins. The Council decided that the notices should be served upon the owners of the property and not on the occupiers.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The dispute between the owners of the land upon which the stream had been obstructed, reported last year, was resolved during the year and the matter was amicably settled. The nuisance no longer exists. No further incidents were noted during the year.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD.

Section 50 National Assistance Act, 1948.

It was not necessary for the department to take action in this respect during the year.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

Complaints received with regard to the presence of vermin have now reached low level. In only one instance has there been any evidence of the bed bug and two of fleas. There are a very large number of complaints received of cockroaches, in all 88 Council and 44 private houses were treated. In the treatment we always endeavour, in the case of semi-detached or blocks of four, to treat the whole block and the Council agreed that in the case of Council houses the costs should be charged against the Housing Revenue Account. In the case of private houses, 5/- per house is charged. We are finding that it is advisable to give a second treatment, three or four months after the initial treatment, so as to effectively deal with any cockroaches which have hatched out after the first treatment.

The furniture of all tenants moving into Council houses is inspected for bed bugs and, if necessary, is sprayed with a solution of D.D.T. in Kerosene. In all 242 visits were made.

The following table shows the number of treatments given for both Council and private houses :—

	Council.	Private.	Total
Cockroaches	88	44	132
Furniture	112	130	242
Bugs	—	1	1
Fleas	1	1	2
Wasps	4	4	8
Red Spiders	—	7	7
Earwigs	1	4	5
Blow Flies	1	—	1
Woodlice	1	—	1
Totals	208	191	399

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Application was made for the licensing of two caravans. Working in conjunction with the County Planning Authority, licence was refused and an appeal made to a Magistrates' Court. At the same time an appeal was made on the grounds of Town Planning, therefore, consideration by the Magistrates was deferred. Eventually the Planning Appeal was refused and the appeal to the Magistrates' Court withdrawn.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

(i) Number of Food Premises in the Area ...	...	249
(ii) Registered Premises ...	...	121
(iii) Number of inspections of registered premises ...		281

MOBILE SHOPS.

There is a considerable number of mobile shops operating throughout the district, not only on the new estates where new shops have not yet been provided, but in the whole of the district. There appears to be a trend to purchase from the mobile shop rather than make shopping visits. Vans are inspected regularly to see that the Food Hygiene Regulations are being complied with.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924—1952.

There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the district where regular slaughter takes place.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNATIONS.

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number Killed	1541	376	46	6040	2077	10080
Number Inspected	1541	376	46	6040	2077	10080
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCII						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	2	—	18	—	20
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	575	164	1	109	548	1397
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	37.31%	44.15%	2.17%	2.10%	26.38%	14.05%
Total weight of meat and offal condemned (lbs.) ...	6109	2777	2	1362	2146	12396
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organs were condemned	5	3	—	—	69	77
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.32%	0.8%	—	—	3.32%	0.76%
Total weight of meat and offal condemned (lbs.)	135	69	—	—	988	1172
CYSTICERCOSIS						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	19	2	—	—	—	21
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of Bovine Carcasses inspected affected with C. Bovis.	1.23%	.53%	—	—	—	1.09%
Total weight of meat and offal condemned. (lbs.)	438	65	—	—	—	503

TABLE IV.
FOOD INSPECTION.

Unsound Food			Sur-rendered	Seized	Legal Pro-ceedings
1.	Beef (Home-Killed)	...stones	—	—	—
2.	Beef (Imported)	... "	—	—	—
3.	Mutton (Home-Killed)	... "	—	—	—
4.	Mutton (Imported)	... "	—	—	—
5.	Pork (Home-Killed)	... "	—	—	—
6.	Pork (Imported)	... "	—	—	—
7.	Game	... lbs.	—	—	—
8.	Poultry	... "	—	—	—
9.	Fish	... "	—	—	—
10.	Fruit	... "	—	—	—
11.	Canned Goods	... Tins	361	—	—
12.	Bacon	... lbs.	—	—	—
13.	Cheese	... "	—	—	—
14.	Butter and Margarine	... "	—	—	—
15.	Lard	... "	—	—	—
16.	Eggs (frozen and powdered)	... "	—	—	—
17.	Flour	... "	—	—	—
18.	Sugar	... "	—	—	—
19.	Other Foods	... "	—	—	—

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following are the registrations now kept by the Council under the above regulations :—

Number of persons registered as distributors ... 118

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Dealers' Licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk sold from premises within the district ... 1

Number of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk retailed within the district ... 5

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Dealers' Licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" and "T.T. Pasteurised" in relation to milk sold from premises within the district ... 21

Number of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" in relation to milk sold from premises within the district ... —

Number of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" and "T.T. Pasteurised" in relation to milk retailed from premises outside the district.	16
Number of Dealers' Licences to use the special designation "Sterilised" in relation to milk sold from premises within the district	65
Number of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation "Sterilised" in relation to milk sold from premises outside the district	10

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Samples of milk from each supply were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for Bacteriological Examination. The following tables show the results of the sampling for the year.

T.T. RAW MILK.

Examination	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total	% Satisfactory
Methylene Blue Test ...	9	2	11	81.8

PASTEURISED AND T.T. (PASTEURISED) MILK.

Examination	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total	% Satisfactory
Methylene Blue Test ...	40	2	42	95.2
Phosphatase Test ...	42	—	42	100

STERILISED AND T.T. (STERILISED) MILK.

Examination	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total	% Satisfactory
Turbidity Test ...	16	—	16	100

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM.

Almost all ice cream sold in the district is pre-wrapped hard frozen. Nine samples were taken for Bacteriological Examination and all were certified to be Provisional Grade I.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Particulars of samples of Food and Drugs taken in the Urban District have been kindly provided by Mr. C. L. Arlidge, County Weights and Measures Inspector.

The following is a list of the samples taken :—

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. taken</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Milk	59 (Formal)	58	1
Milk	22 (Informal)	22	—
Other samples...	86 (Formal)	86	—
Other samples...	25 (Informal)	25	—
		<hr/> 191	<hr/> 1

There were 23 samples of Milk taken at Schools and one other sample taken at a School Kitchen.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

The aim of the Council to collect each bin once per week and others three times per fortnight, or twice per week, has been maintained throughout the year. During the latter part of the year, however, we were able to collect from the mining areas twice per week.

The Council have decided that the workmen should receive the same holidays as the office staff, but in the refuse collection department it was agreed that instead of the extra days being taken, Boxing Day, the day following Easter Monday, Whit Monday, etc., time should be allowed during the summer months on Fridays when it was anticipated the refuse would be lighter and, thereby, not reduce the force at the most inopportune time. This meant that an additional five days' holiday had to be given on Fridays, when Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday and Bank Holiday Monday are added gives a total of eleven 4-day weeks in the year. This extra holiday was given on the understanding that the work would not be allowed to fall behind, but it has been noted that more recently it has been necessary occasionally to work overtime the week following the 4-day week in order to maintain the service necessary.

In all, some 6,735 loads of refuse were collected and disposed of.

STATISTICS.

I beg to append statistics with reference to the refuse collected. The figures are based upon the estimated population for mid year 1960—49,810 and 14,565 premises at 31/12/60.

HOUSE REFUSE ONLY.

Estimated quantity removed	...	...	23,572 tons
Approximate average weight per house	...	...	1.16 tons
Average quantity per house per annum	...	...	5.54 cu. yds.
Average per 1,000 population per day (366 days)	...	...	25.3 cwts.
Total cost of collection (Refuse, Salvage and Kitchen Waste)	...	...	£27,667
Cost of Disposal	...	...	£7,098
			<hr/> £34,765
Less Income from Salvage, Tips, Bins, etc.			£5,800
Nett Cost—Collection and Disposal	...	...	<hr/>£28,965

UNIT COSTS.

(Income from Salvage, excluding Kitchen Waste, is credited to Disposal).

	<i>Collection.</i>		<i>Disposal.</i>		<i>Total.</i>	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Gross cost per ton, labour only	...	...	...	...	...	...
	14	1	3	0	17	1
Gross cost per ton, transport only	...	...	...	...	...	...
	8	10	1	0	9	10
Nett cost (all expenditure)	23	1	1	6	24	7
	<hr/> £		<hr/> £		<hr/> £	
Nett cost per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...
	545		36		581	
Nett cost per 1,000 premises	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1,865		123		1,988	
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
			£	s. d.		
Average cost per establishment	...	...	1	19 7		
Average cost per head population	...	...	11	7		
Cost on the rates in the £	...	...	1	4.7		
Average cost for emptying one bin	...	...		7.18		

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

The whole of the refuse, and that of Gosforth, has been tipped under strict controlled tipping lines in the Benton Quarry. The tip was sprayed with an insecticide at frequent intervals so as to prevent the spread of flies, cockroaches, crickets, etc., and is examined periodically for rat infestation. It is interesting to note that not once was any evidence of rat infestation found on the tip although rat infestations were found in property in the vicinity.

TRADE REFUSE.

Contracts have been made with shopkeepers for an annual charge, payable in advance, of 13/- per bin. Traders invariably object to paying for the removal of trade refuse but, generally, this system works satisfactorily.

SALVAGE.

The table shows the amount of salvage sold during the year. It is noted that we have been able to increase the waste paper from 414 tons to 520 tons. This increase has been possible owing to our better facilities for baling paper during the latter part of the year.

<i>Tons</i>	<i>Waste Paper</i>		<i>Tons</i>	<i>Rags</i>	
	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>cwts.</i>	<i>Value</i>
520	16 $\frac{3}{4}$	£4,310 8s. 7d.	1	6	£20 6s. 2d.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Regular inspections and treatment were made to the refuse tip and sewerage disposal works. Allotments and small-holdings in the district are kept under strict observation. Inspections are made by the Council's rodent operator and co-operation has been obtained with the respective owners where any infestation of rats has been found. We have contracts with a number of farmers and their premises are given four regular services per year, although the treatments necessary are comparatively small, the farmers seem to be quite satisfied in that we are keeping the premises free from large infestations. Sewers in the area have been test baited where necessary, although very little evidence of infestation has been found.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :—

Type of Property		No. of Properties in District	No. of Properties Surveyed (Inc. Re-surveys)	No. of Inspections Made	No. treated by L.A.
Local Authority ...		14	37	59	5
Business ...		1093	75	182	29
HOUSES	L.A. ...	3246	179	344	30
	Private ...	10603	335	629	134
Agri-cultural	Allotments ...	360 approx	273	322	28
	Others ...	28	40	150	28
Totals... ..		15344	939	1626 1686	254

Bodies recovered : 125 Rats and 21 Mice.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

On the 1st April, 1958, the Volumetric Atmospheric Pollution Gauge and SO₂ Recorder, sited within the offices of the Public Health Department, were brought into operation. The table shows the maximum, minimum and average monthly readings for smoke and SO₂ recorded. Whilst it is too early to draw definite conclusions from these figures it is apparent, even at this stage, that our greatest pollution is in the drift from the industrial areas lying to the south and the minimum pollution is found when the wind is from the West after having passed over what is virtually a green belt.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION, 1960.

MONTH	SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE		
	Micrograms per cubic metre.			Micrograms per cubic metre.		
	Monthly Average.	Highest daily Average.	Lowest daily Average.	Monthly Average.	Highest daily Average.	Lowest daily Average.
January ...	210	1040	20	89	317	26
February ...	190	610	10	94	243	34
March ...	130	240	70	72	146	26
April ...	120	300	30	102	369	51
May ...	80	130	40	106	149	37
June ...	40	100	0	72	146	9
July ...	60	110	10	63	109	26
August ...	60	120	10	68	109	20
September ...	90	190	40	89	154	49
October ...	220	450	100	89	240	31
November ...	280	700	70	149	372	46
December ...	240	850	0	126	409	46

The record of deposits for the year ended 31st December, 1960, taken by the Scientific Department, National Coal Board, at their Headquarters have been supplied by the courtesy of Dr. J. Gibson, Divisional Chief Scientist, and the table set out below shows the total deposits since 1951 and the other data for 1960.

Year	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Tons per sq. mile	236	208	197	146	191	185	177	196	159	141
Rainfall	19.7 inches.				
Insoluble Deposit	79 tons per sq. mile.				
Soluble Deposit	62 tons per sq. mile.				
Total Solid Deposit	141				

The total deposits for the year are the lowest ever recorded since records were first kept in 1951 although not much better than the 1954 figures. The insoluble deposits have been reduced by 22% whereas the soluble deposits are increased on last year. In the figures obtained from the Volumetric Atmospheric Pollution Gauge it will be noted that during the months of May, June, July, August and September the figures were exceptionally low which does point to the fact that the smoke is low when domestic fires are not burning. This would appear to be due, to some extent, to the advent of electric water heaters whereby householders can have hot water without coal fires and it may be construed that a large percentage of our pollution is correspondingly from domestic fires.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

The Council have not yet decided to take any steps as to the formation of Smoke Control Areas as, up to date, no definite instruction has been received as to whether or not Longbenton is in a "black area."

In conclusion I would like to pay tribute to the inspectorial staff, Mr. R. P. Bruce and Mr. N. W. Crosby, Mr. Atkinson for work in connection with rodent and pest control and Mr. A. G. Lister for work in the refuse collection service and the clerical staff of the department for their loyalty and co-operation throughout the year.

Yours faithfully,

W. N. LOCKEY,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

