MALVERN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1954

M A L V E R N U R B A N D I S T R I C T

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

FOR THE YEAR 1954

by

H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

and

HUGH L. WHITWHAM, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	HUGH L. WHITWHAM, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspectors	RICHARD CRUDDAS, M.C., M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I. JAMES B. FRANKS, C.R.San.I., R.S.I., Meat & Foods.
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Public Health Department, The Council House, Malvern.

Telephone: Malvern 1531

The Council House,

Malvern.

July, 1955.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1954 which has been held up by unfortunate periods of sickness amongst the staff.

By the end of 1954 it was possible to foresee that a time would come when the rate of increase in the total accommodation for housing purposes in Malvern would of necessity slow up. This inevitably focused our interest upon improvement of existing accommodation to bring it up to reasonable standards and also upon the need for maintaining the housing accommodation in a proper state of repair. To this end the Council decided to give encouragement to private owners wishing to improve existing houses by making Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1949. At the start many owners felt that it was possible to obtain these grants merely in order to help with current repairs and dilapidations. The purpose of the grants, however, is specific; namely to increase the amount of accommodation by the addition of new features which would bring the property up to modern standards or to increase the total accommodation, e.g. by the division of a large house into a block of flats. For the first few months after the scheme was brought into force a great deal of additional work was thrown upon our department. In the body of the report you will find the details by which this programme of assistance towards the up-grading of dwellings generally in the town is being carried out.

It is worth while looking back each year at the old Annual Reports. The manner in which we die is often a good indication of the manner in which we live. In the year 1929 there were 246 deaths in Malvern in a population of 17,660, whereas in 1954 there were 278 deaths in a population of 24,460.

	1929	1954
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	18	1
Cancer	28	49
Diseases of the Heart and Arteries	56	155
Violence	10	8
Nephritis	11	2

These figures suggest that the stress of modern life is taking its toll of the heart and arteries. We fall short of living a healthy life more in our tendency to worry about what we are doing than in our control of the sanitary conditions under which we live. In my clinical work I am impressed by the number of people who find it difficult to accept themselves as they are and to make the best of the abilities and shortcomings that they actually possess. People seem to want to be somebody different and to worry because they are not. We do not know why worry associated with the anxiety of responsibility should be more prevalent now than it was 30 years ago, nor do we know how it is that this worry should so affect the heart and arteries. Part, but only part, of the increase in the number of people dying of diseases of the heart and arteries is due to the fact that on the whole people are living longer than they did and therefore the vascular system does finally wear out.

In conclusion, I should like to express my gratitude to the staff, particularly for the happy relationship that has grown up between the Public Health Department and the Housing Department, indeed, between the Committees concerned, thereby making the work of both departments much more efficient.

H. F. GREEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

Area of land and inland water	7,400 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population ...	24,460
Number of dwelling houses	6,654
Total number of Assessments	7,572
Rateable Value at 31.12.54	£189,053
Sum represented by a penny rate at 31.3.55	£756

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population) ...	16.1
Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still-births)	16.7
Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population) ...	0.25
Death Rate (per 1.000 estimated resident population)	9.3
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	36.7

No deaths in 1954 were attributable to puerperal or maternal causes.

COMPARABLE DATA FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, 1954.

Live Births (per 1,000 total population)	15.2
Death Rate (" " " ")	11.3
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related births)	25.5

DEATHS

Cause of Death - All Ages	Total	Male	Female
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	1	0
" (Other)	0	0	0
Cancer (all forms)	49	20	29
Diabetes	2	1	1
Diseases of the Heart and Arteries	155	58	97
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	2	0
Respiratory disease (excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer)	21	11	10
Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer	2	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	3	0
Congenital Malformations	2	1	1
Violence	8	4	4
All other causes	33	10	23

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Water Supplies

There are two main sources of Malvern water. First a deep borehole at Bromsberrow which has been sunk into new red sandstone. It provides an abundant and good water supply showing an average total hardness of 17. It is not contaminated in any way. The second is water collected from the hills around the British Camp, the reservoir lying in a hollow in these hills. This supply is more in the nature of a standby than a main supply and the analysis is typical of hill water, that is, containing few "Solids in Solution" and having a low total hardness.

Regular monthly samples have been taken by your Surveyor and the reports have been uniformly satisfactory. An average report is given below.

MALVERN WATER

Physical Characters	30th March, 1954.	10th November, 1954.
Colour	Clear	Clear
Odour	None	None
Deposit	None	None
	pH 7.0	pH 7.1

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per 100,000)

Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C)	Nil	Nil
Solids in Solution (dried at 180°C)	25	20
" " " After ignition	21	18
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	3.3	2.8
Hardness - Permanent	4	4
Temporary	14	9
Total	18	13
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.002	Trace
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.001	0.001
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.53	0.57
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	Nil	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C ($N/_{80}$ Permanganate)	0.013	0.013
Toxic Metals	None detected	None detected
Total Residual Chlorine	Nil	0.002

No faecal coli have been found in any waters sampled at source or elsewhere in the piped water supply system during the year.

Water Supply from Wells

Only a few houses are supplied with water obtained from shallow wells. Samples are submitted from time to time to the Laboratory for analysis. One sample of well water was taken during the year 1954.

Public Cleansing

This work is carried out under the direction of the Surveyor. The disposal of household refuse is undertaken at the Guarlford Sewage Works by means of tipping. Street sweeping in central area daily, elsewhere once weekly. Cesspool emptying by mechanical means as required.

Swimming Baths and Pools

(a) Public swimming pools or baths	-	Public Pool owned by Local Authority.
(b) Privately owned swimming baths or pools open to public	-	None.
(c) Action taken to ensure the satisfactory condition of water	-	Routine sampling.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Services

Chemical analysis is carried out, as before, by arrangement with the County Laboratory at the County Buildings. Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Clinics

There are none provided by this Authority.

The following clinics are provided by Voluntary Committees in Malvern on behalf of the County Council:-

Infant Welfare Centres

"Sydenham Villa" Newtown Road	Tuesdays	2.0 - 4.0 p.m.
Free Church Hall, Malvern Link.	Wednesdays	2.0 - 4.0 p.m.
Methodist Church Hall, Lansdowne Crescent.	Fridays	2.0 - 4.0 p.m.
Village Hall, Lower Wyche.	1st Tuesday in the month	2.45 - 4.0 p.m.

The following clinics are provided by the County Council:-

Ante-Natal

"Sydenham Villa" Newtown Road.	1st and 3rd Tuesdays	10 a.m.

Eye

"Sydenham Villa" Newtown Road.	As required (by appointment only)	

Speech Therapy

"Sydenham Villa" Newtown Road.	Thursdays (cases referred by School Health Service)	10.0 - 12 noon

Minor Ailments

"Sydenham Villa" Newtown Road.	Fridays (School Children only)	9.30 - 10.30 a.m.
Chase Secondary Modern School.	Wednesdays	9.30 - 10.30 a.m.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious diseases notified during 1954.

Disease	All Ages	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	Ages N.M.
Scarlet fever	30	-	1	5	14	8	-	2	-
Whooping cough	67	4	24	14	23	-	1	1	-
Measles	8	-	1	4	1	1	-	1	-

	All Ages	0-	5-	15-	45-	65-	Ages N.K.
Ac. Pneumonia	12	-	3	2	4	3	-
Dysentery	4	-	1	-	1	2	-
Meningococcal infection	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Erysipelas	4	-	-	2	2	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	1	-	-	-

	All Ages	0-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	Ages N.K.
Tuberculosis -								
Respiratory	8	-	-	2	3	3	-	-
Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	4	-	2	1	1	-	-	-

Other Notifiable Diseases

Puerperal Pyrexia - 1 case

PROPHYLAXIS

Diphtheria Immunisation

	Ages 0 - 4 years	Ages 5 - 14 years	Total for Year
Children who received a full course of primary immunisation	234	20	254
Children who received a re-inforcing injection	17	194	211

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1954.

Age at 31.12.54	0 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	Total under 15
No. of children immunised	891	1,384	981	3,256

Smallpox Vaccination

239 children under the age of one were vaccinated this year, being 68% of the number of children born during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47.

I am happy to report that no action has been taken under this Section of the Act during the year.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,

Public Health Department,

The Grange,

MALVERN.

July, 1955.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The following is a report on the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1954.

The year under review presented two major changes in our activities and responsibilities; the decision of the Government to end meat rationing resulted in the necessity for meat inspection to be undertaken at private slaughterhouses licensed for re-use and the welcome decision of the Council to exercise their powers under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949 by introducing a system of Improvement Grants to property owners, provided the opportunity to extend our duties in environmental matters relating to the improvement of standards of housing accommodation.

The co-operation of the Housing Committee in allocating houses to families occupying unfit dwellings enabled us to continue our efforts in dealing with some of the worst of the individual unfit houses, thus preventing any build up of slum conditions.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Inspections of Movable Dwellings	76
" " Shops	314
" " Factories	196
" " Bakehouses	43
" " Restaurant Kitchens	69
" " Outworkers Premises	18
" " Slaughterhouses	490
" " Butchers Shops, P.H. Meat Regs.	624
" " Stables and Piggeries	33
" " Dairies	156
" " Ice Cream Premises	58
" " Food Shops	217
" " Fish Friers Premises	6
" " Places of Public Entertainment	18
" " Schools	30

Inspections of Licensed Premises	46
" " Public Conveniences	71
Special Visits, Advisory Interviews etc., ...	2,247
Visits re Infectious Disease	83
Rat Infestation	354
Atmospheric Pollution	6
Miscellaneous	103
National Assistance Act	16
Housing	947
	6,221

COMPLAINTS

The Register shows that 411 complaints were received during the year under review, these having reference to the following matters:-

Blocked and Defective Drainage	62
Defective Closet Accommodation	47
Insanitary Conditions of Dwelling-houses	129
Smells from Public Sewers	10
Smells from Drains	43
Accumulations of Offensive Matter	3
Non-Collection of House Refuse	46
Verminous Premises	15
Miscellaneous	56

The high cost of repairs and maintenance is more often than not the cause of neglect on the part of the landlord to remedy minor sanitary defects and in cases where the tenant is either incapable or reluctant to co-operate, results in complaint being made.

Informal procedure by letter or interview is generally found to be effective without resort to formal action under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, though I have mentioned in previous reports our efforts are becoming increasingly difficult.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

This Act came into operation on the 30th August, 1954. The Public Health Committee gave their consideration to the Provisions of the Act and a Sub-Committee was appointed to deal with applications for Certificates of Disrepair. Publicity by posters and literature containing all the information required by landlord or tenant were available to persons calling at this office.

Three applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received and two Certificates were granted. In the third case the applicant withdrew the application, having reached a mutual settlement with his landlord.

One Revocation of Certificate of Disrepair was issued on completion of the needful work.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT

DRAINAGE AND SANITARY FITTINGS

Number of Houses and Premises Re-drained	16
Repairs or Amendments to existing Drains	33
Drains or Gullies Unstopped or Cleansed	56
Length in yards of stoneware drains laid	873
Length in yards of heavy cast iron drains laid	NIL
Manholes Provided	42
Manholes Repaired	33
Intercepting Traps fixed	18
Fresh Air inlets provided or Repaired	23
New Gully Traps fixed	83
Gully curbs provided or Repaired	10
New Soil Pipes and Ventilating Shafts provided	41
Soil Pipes and Ventilating Shafts repaired	47
Water Tests Applied	157
Smoke Tests Applied	64
New W.C. Pedestals fixed	46
W.C's. Unstopped,Cleansed or Repaired	24
Existing Flushing Cisterns repaired	23
New Flushing Cistern fitted W.C's.	49
Joints between W.C's. and flush pipes Repaired	8
New W.C. apartments provided	5
New Urinals provided	2
Lavatory Basins Provided	39
Baths Provided	27
New Impervious Sinks provided	56
Sinks Repaired or Refixed	7
New Waste Pipes Fixed	146
Waste Pipes Trapped, Repaired or Unstopped	17
Cesspools and Stagnant Ditches Cleansed	2
W.C.Apartments Cleansed	11

MISCELLANEOUS

New Roofs	9
Roofs Repaired	64
Eaves Guttering Renewed, Cleansed or Repaired	48
Rainwater pipes provided, repaired or unstopped	32
Damp Walls Remedied	46
Walls Repointed or Repaired	38
Ventilation under Floor Provided	8
Yards Paved	3
Paving of Yards Repaired	16
Floors of Rooms Relaid	44
Floors of Rooms Repaired	73
Rooms Cleansed, Distempered or Re-papered	127
New Windows Provided	14
Windows repaired and/or made to open	26
New Sash Cords Provided	64
Window Sills Repaired or Provided	2
Doors Provided or Repaired	29
Staircases Repaired	14
Workrooms (including Bakehouses) cleansed and Repaired	16
Water Service Pipes Repaired	23
Movable Sanitary Dustbins Provided	6
Accumulations of Refuse Removed	4
Accumulations of Manure Removed	4
New Ranges and Stoves Provided	36
Stoves and Ranges Repaired	14
Verminous Rooms dealt with	63

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year
   (1) (a) Total of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 382
   (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose 587

   (2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 7

   (3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 159

11. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices.
   Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 151

111. Action under statutory powers during the year.
   (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936
   (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 1

   (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
   By Owners 1

   (b) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.
   (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 7

   (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 9

   (c) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.
   Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 1

1V. Housing Act, 1936 - Part 1V - Overcrowding
   (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 4
   (2) Number of families dwelling therein 7
   (3) Number of persons dwelling therein 23½

   (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 25

   (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 27
   (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 125½

HOUSING ACT, 1949 - Improvement Grants

Local Authorities were reminded by the Minister of Housing and Local Government by means of Circular 36/54 of the desire of the Government to give every possible encouragement to private owners wishing to modernise and make better use of existing houses by improvements and conversions. The Public Health Committee resolved to recommend the Council to execute their powers to make Grants to property owners for improvements or conversions of housing accommodation and with the co-operation of the Finance Committee a scale implementing the Grant Scheme within the statutory limits was decided upon, subject to the following conditions.

(a) That applicants be asked to obtain two estimates from builders; but, if in any particular case this is impossible, one estimate only will be required, provided the Chief Sanitary Inspector is satisfied that it is a reasonable one.

(b) That the owner or leaseholder of the property be required to bear the first £50 expenditure in the case of each scheme approved, and that a grant of up to one-half of the remainder of the approved expense be made.

(c) That if the total cost of a scheme does not exceed £200, the amount of the Council's grant be paid in one lump sum on completion of the work.

(d) That application for grant be not considered unless the Council have approved the scheme of improvements or conversion for grant purposes before the work is commenced.

In the report for 1953 I mentioned under this heading that there are many small dwellings in Malvern suitable for improvement by provision of indoor sanitation, fixed bath and the installation of a domestic hot water system. These dwellings, there are approximately 800, are in the main semi-detached cottages built between 1870 and 1914 and classed as artisan dwellings. They are soundly constructed and capable of reconditioning and modernisation. I am confident that if these houses can be provided with amenities in keeping with present day standards and kept in repair, they will be good for another thirty or forty years.

In the other extreme in the classification of dwelling-houses, there are in Malvern many large residences outmoded because of their size, to meet the present housing needs of the community. During the past twenty-five years very many of this type of property have been taken over as private hotels, school boarding houses or converted for use as offices or flats. Occasionally such a house may remain vacant for a period and it can be assumed that high costs of building work are a deterrent to possible conversion schemes which can only reflect in high rents being necessary to make such a venture an economic proposition. For these reasons, the wise decision of the Council to exercise their powers in making Improvement Grants may very well save such properties as I have mentioned becoming slums of the future.

Eleven applications for Grants were received and five of these were approved; four being in connection with improvements and one for conversion and improvement

HOUSING ACT, 1936 - Houses Unfit for Habitation.

The following dwelling-houses were demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders:

148, West Malvern Road
140, Guarlford Road
Vine, Honeysuckle and Ivy Cottages, Guarlford Road
11, Wyche Road
61 and 63, Old Wyche Road
The Cottage, Upper Welland

A Closing Order was made in relation to two basement rooms at:

116, West Malvern Road

Demolition Orders were made in respect of the following dwelling-houses:

54, Brook Place, Upper Howsell Road
36, Newtown Road
43, 45 and 47, Old Hollow Road
Moxham Cottage, 101, Poolbrook Road
69, West Malvern Road

The following unfit dwelling-houses were rendered fit in accordance with the terms of undertakings to execute works:

116, West Malvern Road
113, Tanhouse Lane

In the latter case the action taken was informal.

OVERCROWDING IN DWELLING-HOUSES

The conditions under which the families of applicants for Council Houses are living are investigated by your Sanitary Inspectors and a report on each case is submitted to the Housing Committee.

Reports on 415 cases were submitted to the Committee during the year and by this means the Members of the Committee have first hand information in concise form which provides a reliable guidance in the adjudication of the housing needs of the applicant. Special consideration is always given to families living in overcrowded conditions and the incidence of Tuberculosis.

Twenty-five new cases of statutory overcrowding were reported, thus increasing the number of known cases to thirty-one. Twenty-seven cases were abated leaving four on our records at the end of the year.

REQUISITIONED HOUSES

The twelve houses remaining under requisition were released before the end of the year. Of the seventeen licensed occupiers, thirteen were rehoused by the Council, three found their own accommodation and one was rehoused by the Housing Committee acting for the Scientific Establishments.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 50 of this enactment provides that it shall be the duty of the Council to cause to be buried or cremated the body of any person who has died or has been found dead in the Urban District, in cases where it appears that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been or are being made otherwise than by the Local Authority.

It was brought to the notice of this Department by the Police that a Miss Florence Katharine Valentine, aged 68 years, of 46, Somers Road, Malvern Link had died and in the absence of relatives no suitable arrangements were being made for the disposal of the body. In the circumstances, instructions were given for the burial to be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of this section of the Act.

The welfare of aged and possibly infirm persons who may at sometime be in need of care and attention is constantly in the minds of your Sanitary Inspectors and liaison is made with the Welfare Officer of the County Council when the need arises. The register now kept in this

office of persons whose circumstances in life are such that action may be required by your Medical Officer under the provisions of the Act to secure proper care and attention is serving a very useful purpose.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

Fourteen licences were granted under the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, authorising persons to station and use movable dwellings. Twelve of these were for one year and two for a six monthly period.

Renewal of a licence is considered on the grounds of housing needs of the applicant and the suitability of the site.

Applicants are informed that certain provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act must be complied with and liaison is made between this office and the Surveyor's Department in the approval of land proposed to be developed by the siting of movable dwellings.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

Sanitary improvements and new drainage work continues to receive strict supervision by inspections made whilst work is in progress. Builders are very co-operative in complying with the requirements of the Public Health Act in giving notice when drainage work is undertaken.

Sixteen houses were entirely re-drained during the year under review and the drainage systems of thirty-three were partially reconstructed.

With the exception of the outlying part of the area known as Interfields, the entire Urban District is sewered. There are very few houses without water-borne sanitation since the majority of houses in the unsewered part drain to septic tank systems of disposal.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Investigations following the notification of Infectious Disease to the Medical Officer of Health were carried out in accordance with the usual practice. Following the removal of patients to the Isolation Hospital, disinfection of the patient's home and articles of infected bedding and clothing were supervised by your Sanitary Inspectors. The cost of stoving articles of bedding and clothing in the steam disinfector at the Hospital is charged to the Council by the Regional Hospital Board.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

The number of rooms fumigated was 36 and 29 loads of bedding were removed to the Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection. 7 loads of bedding were destroyed.

2 houses were treated for the eradication of bed bugs. The insecticide used is manufactured by Messrs. Cooper, McDougall and Robertson Ltd., which has been found to be reliable in the extermination of this pest.

Infestations of cockroaches, fleas, ants and flies have been dealt with at various premises including dwelling-houses and schools

35 wasps nests were also destroyed.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 - 1948

The provisions of the Factories Act, 1937 - 1948, which your Council has to administer, chiefly relate to the following matters:-

(1) Factories where mechanical power is used.

(a) Provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences for both sexes.

(b) The provision of means of escape in case of fire in factories.

(2) Factories where mechanical power is not used.

(a) Cleanliness
(b) Overcrowding
(c) Ventilation
(d) Drainage
(e) Provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences for both sexes

(3) Provision of means of escape in case of fire in factories, Fire Certificates are issued by the Clerk of the Council.

Your Sanitary Inspectors liaison with the Chief Officer of the Worcester City and County Fire Service who causes a survey to be made of factory premises and subsequently furnishes this department with a report stating, when applicable, structural alterations and/or equipment needed to fulfil the requirements of the Act and compliance with the details set out in the Fire Officers Report qualifies a Certificate to be granted. Two certificates were issued during 1954.

(4) Sanitary Regulations for Bakehouses.

(5) Homework.

The following table shows the list of factories on the Register.

Agricultural Engineers	2
Bakehouses	10
Beer Bottle Washing	1
Boot Repairing	20
Boots and Saddlery	3
Builders etc.	32
Cabinet Making	4
Concrete Slabs	3
Dairies	5
Dressmakers, Millinery etc.,	8
Furniture Manufacturing	4
General Engineers	1
Glass Syringes	1
Hemp Drying and Processing	1
Laundry	1
Marine Dealer	1
Motor Repairs	24
Organ Maker	1
Photographic	2
Picture Framer	1
Printers	3
Sausage Making	16
Saw Mills	1
Spectacle Makers	1
Stone Crushing	3
Stone Masons	3
Tailoring	3
Tarmac Manufacturing	1

Tinsmiths	4
Upholsterers	5
Vehicle Painting	3
Watch Repairers	7
Welding	6
Wines and Mineral Waters	3
Wireless T.V. and Electrical Repairs	9

The number of inspections made of factories are as follows, the table being in accordance with the requirements of the Home Office:-

Premises	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Factories (Mechanical Power)	73	NIL	NIL
Factories (Non-Mechanical Power)	123	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	196		

Defects found in Factories are as follows:-

Particulars	Number of Defects			
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts.				
Want of Cleanliness	7	7	NIL	NIL
Want of Ventilation	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Other Nuisances	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Accommodation:				
Insufficient	2	2	NIL	NIL
Unsuitable or Defective	4	4	NIL	NIL
Not Separate for Sexes	-	-	NIL	NIL
Offences under Factories Act:	-	-	-	-

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The requirements of this Act are now administered by your Council as a result of the population of the Urban District, according to the published return of the 1951 Census, exceeding 20,000.

Your Sanitary Inspectors were appointed Inspectors for the purposes of the Act and the Regulations made thereunder, by formal resolution.

The following is a summary of improvements and repairs carried out at shop premises during the year.

Additional Sanitary Accommodation	5
Lavatory Basins Fixed	4
Heating Installations	4

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

Action taken with regard to the administration of:-

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949
The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949
The Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949
The Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act,1950

Number of Dealers Licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during the year in respect of:-

Tuberculin Tested Milk:	(1) Bottling	4	(2) Distribution	5
Accredited Milk:	(1) Bottling	-	(2) Distribution	-

Number of Licences issued in respect of Heat Treated Milk:

(1) Pasteurising Plants	NIL	(2) Distributors	6
(1) Sterilised Milk Plants	NIL	(2) Distributors	NIL

Any refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licences for graded milk with reasons for the refusal or revocation...NIL

The distribution of milk within the district is generally satisfactory.

20 dairymen or milk purveyors (other than cowkeepers) are registered as distributors.

156 visits were made to dairy premises for the purpose of inspection of the dairies or to collect samples of milk on arrival from the place of production.

Samples of raw milk are taken to the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, for statutory, biological and bacteriological examination, details are given in the following table:

Class	Number of samples taken for examination	Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory
Designated "Tuberculin Tested"	51	51	-
"Accredited"	14	14	-
"Pasteurised"	2	2	-
Ordinary	25	25	-

Biological Tests

Biological tests were made in respect of 58 of these samples referred to in this table, with negative results.

Statutory examinations carried out on 30 samples were found to conform to the required standards.

2 samples of Pasteurised milk were subjected to the phosphatase test with satisfactory results, and 2 informal samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act were also found to be satisfactory.

7 milk containers were examined at the Public Health Laboratory with satisfactory results.

ICE-CREAM

During the year 1954, 3 applications were received for registration for the sale of ice-cream, making a total of 67 premises registered.

4 samples of ice-cream were submitted for analysis, all proved to be satisfactory.

BYE-LAWS - FOOD HANDLING

Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, have been in operation since July, 1950. Inspections are made at food shops and catering establishments for the purpose of securing observance of satisfactory hygienic standards in the handling and preparation of food.

Proprietors and Managements of hotels, canteens, restaurants and food shops were circularised regarding the provisions of the Council's Bye-laws with special reference to Bye-law 6 (d):

> "Cause to be affixed and maintained in a prominent and suitable position near every sanitary convenience provided by him for the use of employees in that business a clearly legible notice requesting such employees to wash their hands after using the convenience."

A supply of plaques, suitably worded and pictorially illustrating the requirements of this important Bye-law relating to personal hygiene, was obtained through the courtesy of the British Holiday and Travel Association and these were supplied free of charge to food traders on request.

It is opportune to make special reference to a visit of Mr. Morley Parry of Food Standards and Hygiene Division of the Ministry of Food for the purpose of acquainting himself with the staff of this office and observing methods of administration in matters relating to Public Health and Food Hygiene. I look upon this visit as a pleasurable occasion since I was impressed by the kindly spirit and helpfulness of the conversation which transpired in the interchange of opinions and ideas gained in this field of experience.

BUTCHERS SHOPS

There are 19 butchers shops in the district to which frequent visits are made by your Inspectors. The shops continue to be well maintained.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Centralised slaughtering was continued at the Worcester City Abattoir until the 29th June, this being the date on which the Ministry of Food ceased to be responsible for the slaughter of animals.

The Council were required to ensure that sufficient slaughtering accommodation was available to meet the needs of the district and with this in mind consultations with representatives of the Malvern Master Butchers Association were arranged. Accordingly it was recommended that six of the private slaughterhouses be re-licensed for the period of one year from 5th July. Particulars of these premises are set out overleaf.

Name of occupier	Address of Slaughterhouse
Messrs G. C. Hewer & Son	Moorlands Road
Mr. R. Hill	311, Worcester Road
Mr. T. R. Hope	Lower Road, West Malvern
Mr. T. W. Lane	Old Hollow, West Malvern
Mr. A. V. Layland and Miss M. E. Layland	136, Worcester Road
Messrs C. Spencer & Son	Wedderburn Road

Slaughtering takes place at fixed times on fixed days in compliance with the requirements of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, and the inspection of all animal carcases and organs is undertaken at the time of slaughter in accordance with the code of practice laid down in Memo 3/MEAT of the Ministry of Food. The responsibility of meat inspection involves extra hours of duty for your Inspectorate either early morning or evening as well as on Sundays.

The following table shows the numbers of animals slaughtered from 5th July to the end of December.

Bullocks	157
Heifers	277
Calves	27
Sheep	1,522
Pigs	381

It was ascertained that several of the butchers intended to make arrangements to obtain supplies of home-killed meat from wholesalers outside the district. The source of these supplies of carcase meat was investigated and in certain cases it was thought desirable to inspect the meat and offal as it arrived at the shops. Every co-operation has been received by the butchers to facilitate this being carried out.

The premises situated in Quest Hills Road and used by the Malvern Butchers Retail Buying Committee as a distribution centre, being no longer required following the derationing of meat, were closed.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

The important requirements of this Act which the Council are required to administer relates to the stunning of animals prior to slaughter and the licencing of persons engaged in slaughtering operations.

Slaughtermen's licences were granted to eighteen persons after satisfactory evidence of their efficiency had been supplied.

UNSOUND FOOD

The following is a list of the diseased or unsound meat and other food which was detected by your Inspectors and subsequently destroyed:-

Tuberculosis

Bovines	Heads and Tongues	7
	Lungs	6
	Livers	NIL
	Mesenteries	12

Swine	Heads	14
	Mesenteries	3
	Spleens	1

(I think it is most expedient to record by the following table the incidence of tuberculosis found on post norten examination of animal carcases and organs:

	Number examined	Found to be Tuberculous	Percentage
Beasts	434	21	4.839
Pigs	521	17	3.263

With special reference to the number of pigs, 140 of these were brought into shops from outside the Urban District. Tuberculosis was located in 4 carcases, giving a percentage of 2.857).

Conditions other than Tuberculosis

BOVINES

Carcase Meat:	Bruising and Bone Taint.	228 lbs.
Heads and Tongues:	Actinobacillosis/Actinomycosis	2
Livers:	Abscesses 8 Angiomatosis 1 Cirrhosis 1 Distomatosis 22 Tumour 1 Peritonitis 2 Fatty degeneration 1	36
Kidneys:	Nephritis	2
Lungs:	Pleurisy/Congestion	3
Skirts:	Pleurisy/Peritonitis	2

SHEEP

Livers:	Distomatosis 9 Cysts 1 Abscesses 1 Necrosis 4	15

SWINE

Carcase and Organs:	Dropsy	1
Lungs:	Congestion 7 Pleurisy 1	8
Hearts:	Pericarditis	1
Livers:	Cysts	1

Meat, Poultry, Fish and Miscellaneous Foods.

Ducklings	3
Chickens	3
Rabbits	27
Wet Fish	69 lbs.
Bacon	139 lbs.
Cooked Salted Beef	11 lbs.
Pig's offal	71 lbs.
Currants	148 lbs.
Prunes	220 lbs.
Sweetmeats	18 lbs.

Tinned Meat

46 Tins	162½ lbs.

Tinned Ham

4 Tins	46 lbs.

Tinned Food other than Meat

Fruit	195 Tins
Vegetables	121 Tins
Fish	37 Tins
Soup	36 Tins
Milk	72 Tins
Miscellaneous	101 Tins

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

This Act came into operation on the 1st November, 1951 and is designed to lay down certain standards of cleanliness in the manufacture, use and storage of rag flock and other filling materials. The Act provides for the registration of upholsterers and certain other businesses, such as toy makers and the licensing of manufacturers of rag flock etc.

Two premises are registered under the provisions laid down by this Act.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

314 treatments for the destruction of rodents were carried out during the year.

Special attention is paid to periodical survey of the hedgerows and streams adjacent to farms and allotments where there are piggeries. Constant inspections and treatments are made at the Council's refuse tips and Sewage Disposal Works.

A test treatment was carried out on the entire sewerage system which was followed up by two maintenance treatments on the sections of the system where minor infestation was discovered as a result of the test.

Full details of investigations made and the results of the treatments carried out are recorded as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING

No applications for Building Licences were received during the year, this was no doubt due to the fact that the Control of Building Operations Order (No. 19) Order (S.I. 1953 No. 1793) prescribed that for the Calendar year 1st January, 1954 to 31st December, 1954 the financial limits within which building and civil engineering work may be done without licence on any single property, even if the cost together with the cost of any previous work carried out to the property without licence in the same year, does not exceed £1,000

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

It was not necessary to institute legal proceedings during the year.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion I again wish to thank Dr. Green for his co-operation and the Clerk of the Council for his advice on legal matters.

I also wish to record my thanks to the Additional Sanitary Inspectors and members of the Clerical Staff for the interest displayed in the new responsibilities acquired during the year and for their loyal support.

It has always been a pleasure to record with appreciation the support given by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and the Housing Committee which stimulates assiduity in our work for the improvement in health and environmental matters of the community of this town.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HUGH L. WHITWHAM