

[Report 1959] / Medical Officer of Health, Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough.

Contributors

Newcastle-under-Lyme (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1959

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/engw6f4x>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

2 February

Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme

Scott



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1959

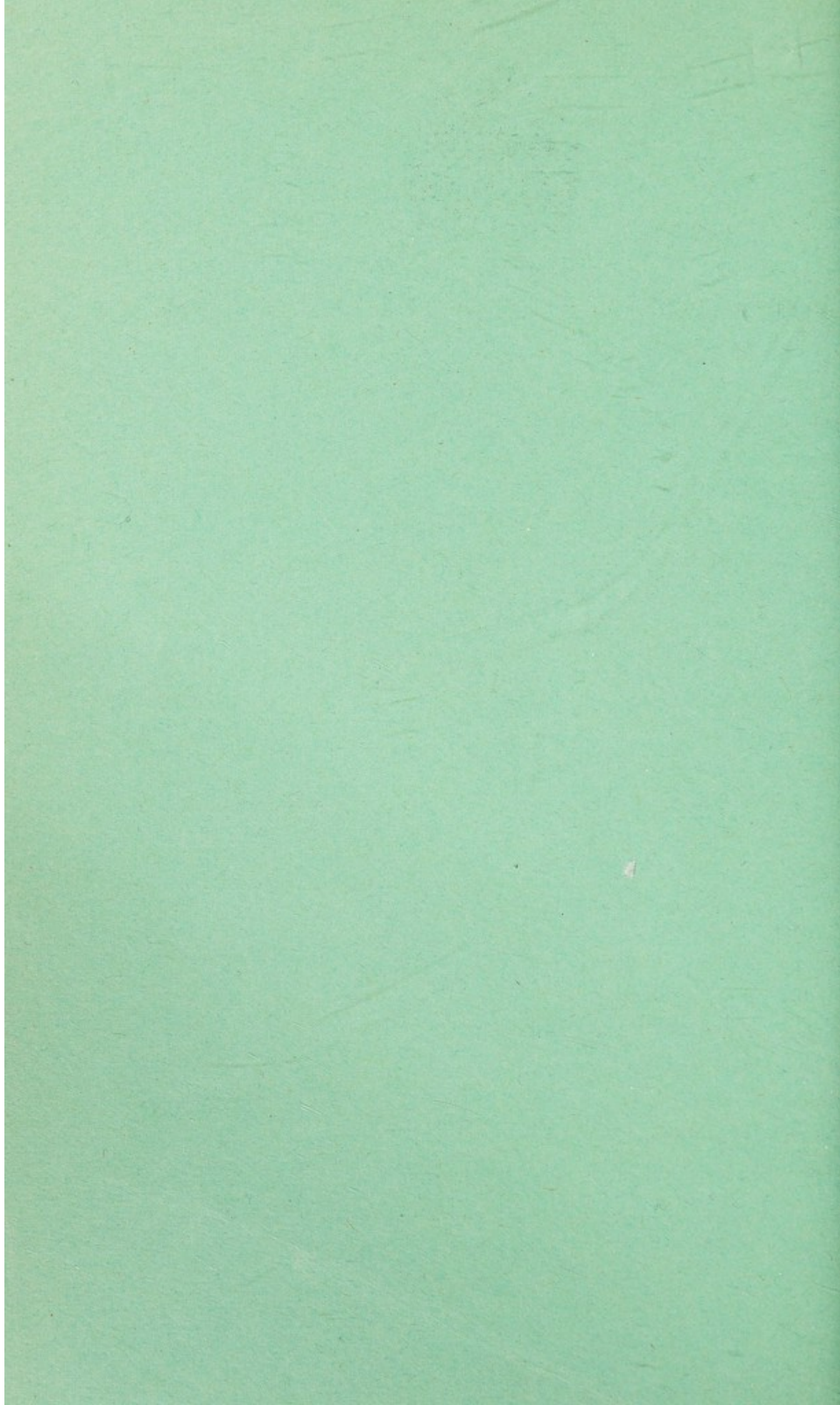
JOHN WARRACK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

CHRISTOPHER A. WOOD, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.P.C.

Chief Public Health Inspector

B





BOROUGH OF NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME

CONTENTS

	Page
Members of Health Committee	2
Staff	3
Introduction	4
Statistics and Social conditions of the area	6
Public Health Services	7
Medical examinations of Corporation Employees	8
Atmospheric Pollution	9
Water Supply	13
Drainage and Sewerage	14
Swimming Baths	14
Sanitary Inspection of the area	15
Inspection of Factories	16
Housing	17
Inspection and Supervision of Food	19
Vans, etc., Smoke Abatement, Eradication of bed bugs, Shop Sanitation, Offensive Trades	25
Sanitary Accommodation	26
Public Cleansing	26
Street Cleansing	27
Public Conveniences	28
Rodent Control	29
Vermin Infestation	30
Tables—Causes of Death	31
Food Poisoning	31
Cases of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)	32
Deaths from Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)	33
Notifications of and Deaths from Tuberculosis	34

Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(as at 31st December, 1959).

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ex-officio).

Alderman T. Bethell (Chairman).

Councillor J. G. Jones (Vice-Chairman).

Alderman W. Evanson.

Alderman H. Huxley.

Alderman C. S. Whalley.

Councillor J. Bowler.

Councillor N. F. Bradshaw.

Councillor C. Carroll.

Councillor T. Ford.

Councillor Mrs. E. Jones.

Councillor C. G. Mothershaw.

Councillor N. Nixon.

Councillor W. Nixon.

Councillor G. A. Poole.

Councillor Miss E. Shaw.

Councillor Mrs. L. Whalley.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

Medical Officers—

John Warrack, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health and Borough School Medical Officer.

Hugh Rintoul Morrison, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Borough School
Medical Officer.

Public Health Inspectors—

C. A. Wood, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.P.C., Cert. Meat Insp.,
Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

T. H. Evans, M.A.P.H.I., A.Inst.P.C., Cert. Meat Insp.,
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Deputy Cleansing
Superintendent.

J. W. Millington, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Insp.,
District Public Health Inspector.

E. Warrillow, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Insp.,
District Public Health Inspector.

R. P. Tabbinor, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat Insp.,
District Public Health Inspector.

D. B. Morris, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Insp.,
District Public Health Inspector.

R. C. Price, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Insp.,
District Public Health Inspector.

B. J. Simcock, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,
District Public Health Inspector.

C. C. Wood, M.A.P.H.I. (Appointed 1/8/59).
District Public Health Inspector).

Clerical Staff—

Chief Clerk	...	Miss M. E. White.
-------------	-----	-------------------

Wages and Costing Clerk	...	Mr. A. Gumbley.
-------------------------	-----	-----------------

Senior Shorthand Typist	...	Mrs. D. Warrillow.
-------------------------	-----	--------------------

General Clerks and Shorthand Typists—

Mrs. E. Plant, Mrs. G. Palin, Miss A. Hoare, Miss Z. Cooper,
Miss J. Wootten, Mrs. T. Garratt.

Junior Clerks—

Miss J. M. Ford, Mr. J. M. Rigby, Miss J. Poole.

Public Health Department,
6, Queen Street,
Newcastle-under-Lyme,
Staffs.

Telephone : Newcastle, Staffs. 67801/2/3.

July 1960.

**To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Newcastle-under-Lyme**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit my report on the health of the Borough for the year 1959.

As will be seen under "Statistics and Social Conditions" the population of the Borough has shown again a similar increase to that of recent years being now 74,890 compared with 74,200 for 1958. At this rate of progress there is every likelihood that the 75,000 mark will be reached by next year. Prior to the introduction of the Local Government Act 1958 this figure was one of the essential requirements of a local authority seeking County Borough status. Unfortunately, the figure has now, under the new Act, been increased to 100,000 — so once again this goal has slipped from our grasp.

However, under the same act we have delegated to us from the County Council many of the services which the Corporation administered before the introduction of the National Health Service Act in 1944. Consequently it is anticipated this report will be the last of those which do not give a complete picture of all the health services operating within Newcastle.

The number of inhabited houses has increased during 1959 to 24,620 from the previous year's figure of 24,312. This gives a pointer to today's improved social conditions which are further emphasised by the vast amount of work which has been carried out in house improvement and which has rated for grant during the year. The number of such completed schemes in 1959 was 47 and involved £7,177 compared with 1958's figure of 28 schemes costing £5,007.

Satisfaction can be expressed in the fact that the stillbirth rate has considerably decreased since last year, although it is still slightly above that for England and Wales as a whole. Also there has been no maternal death during 1959, whilst the total death rate in the Borough is identical with the previous year's figure.

In Table 3, towards the end of the report, it will be observed that an outbreak of measles occurred during 1959, in which 741 cases were notified compared with 477 in 1958. The number of cases of dysentery remained more or less constant as also did that for food poisoning. This indicates the need of still greater care in food handling and in personal hygiene and I whole-heartedly endorse the remarks of the Chief Public Health Inspector under "Inspection and Supervision of Food". Although neither of these diseases are normally fatal the number of man-hours lost owing to them is considerable and, of course, they are not always easily eradicated, there being a tendency in many cases for a carrier state to be produced and for this to continue for many months. This adds to the risk of spread of infection and makes control even more difficult.

As will be seen in the report a start has been made on the implementation of the Clean Air Act 1956. The area which has been chosen to be dealt with first consists mainly of residential premises of moderately recent construction but even so the elimination of smoke from that considerable part of the Borough should be a step in the direction of cleaner air and the eradication of atmospheric pollution and its attendant dangers to human life and destruction of property and vegetation.

In conclusion I must express my grateful thanks to all members of the Council who have shown interest in the working of the department during the year and particularly to the enthusiasm and staunch support which, at all times, I have received from the Chairman. He has in many ways helped me in my work and I feel sure he has done much to facilitate the efficient working of the department. I express also my gratitude to my fellow officials of the Corporation for their courtesy and help and, as always, last but not least, my appreciation of the willing co-operation and loyalty I have received at all times from my own staff.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN WARRACK

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area..

The area of the Borough is 8,882 acres.

Population, etc.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population for 1959 is 74,890.
The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1959 was 24,620.

Rateable Value, etc.

The rateable value of the Borough is £806,759 and one penny rate in the £ (General Rate) produces £2,920.

Vital Statistics.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	652	635	1287
Legitimate	630	617	1247
Illegitimate	22	18	40

Live Birth Rate— per 1,000 estimated population 17.2
(England and Wales 16.5)

Stillbirths	14	15	29
Legitimate	14	15	29
Illegitimate	nil	nil	nil

Stillbirth Rate— per 1,000 live and still births 22.0
(England and Wales 20.7).

Total Live and Stillbirths— 1,316

Infant Deaths	15	14	29
Legitimate	15	14	29
Illegitimate	nil	nil	nil

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births 22.5.
(England and Wales 22.0).

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births 23.3
" " " " " illegitimate live births nil

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (First four weeks) per 1,000 live births 16.0
(England and Wales 18.8).

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births 3.1.

Maternal Deaths (including abortion) nil.

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths nil.
(England and Wales 0.38).

	Male	Female	Total
Total Deaths	405	388	793
Rate per 1,000 population 10.6 (England and Wales 11.6).			

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.

National Assistance Act, 1948, and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It is gratifying to record that during 1959 no one was found to require removal under the powers contained in the above Acts.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 50.

Burial of Destitute Persons.

This Section of the Act enables a local authority to arrange for the burial or cremation of "the body of any person who has died or been found dead in their area, in any case where it appears to the authority that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been or are being made."

During the year no burials took place in which the cost was borne by the Council.

Post-Mortem Examinations.

During 1959, 68 bodies were removed to the City General Hospital Mortuary on the instructions of the Borough Coroner and in each case post-mortems were carried out.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR SUPERANNUATION AND SICK PAY PURPOSES.

During 1959, 46 Corporation Employees were medically examined for fitness for admission to the Corporation Superannuation Scheme. The examinations were carried out by the medical staff of the Public Health Department.

Arrangements were made with a General Practitioner for 18 employees to be medically examined for suitability for inclusion in the Corporation's Sick Pay Scheme.

The following table gives details of the numbers of employees and staff examined and the Departments concerned :—

Department	Superannuation Scheme			Sick Pay Scheme		
	Total	Passed	Failed	Total	Passed	Failed
Borough Surveyor's	19	15	4	5	5	—
Borough Treasurer's	2	2	—	5	5	—
Cemeteries	2	2	—	2	1	1
Cleansing	6	6	—	—	—	—
Estate Office	1	1	—	—	—	—
Libraries	1	1	—	1	1	—
Parks	9	7	2	3	1	2
Public Baths	2	1	1	—	—	—
Public Health	1	1	—	2	2	—
Town Clerk's	3	3	—	—	—	—
Weights and Measures	—	—	—	—	—	—
Markets and Fairs	—	—	—	—	—	—

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

During the year the first steps were taken to establish Smoke Control Areas under powers contained in the Clean Air Act 1956. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government in Circular No. 5/59 requested that there should be prepared a phased programme for establishing smoke control areas over the next five years.

The Ministry in a memorandum states that the establishment of smoke control areas will necessarily be gradual, it will need to be undertaken in stages over a period of years, progress will be governed by the supply of smokeless fuels, the rate at which appliances can be converted or replaced and the rate at which local authorities are able to formulate and carry through their smoke control plan.

After an area is established, only smokeless fuel or "Authorised Fuels" as they are called may be burnt in houses within the area. It will be necessary for stool-bottom grates and other solid fuel appliances in which smokeless fuel cannot be burned satisfactorily to be altered or replaced. In private dwellings, other than new dwellings, the greater part of the cost of these adaptations (7/10th) will be borne by the local authority and the Exchequer but the adaptation must be carried out with the approval and to the satisfaction of the local authority.

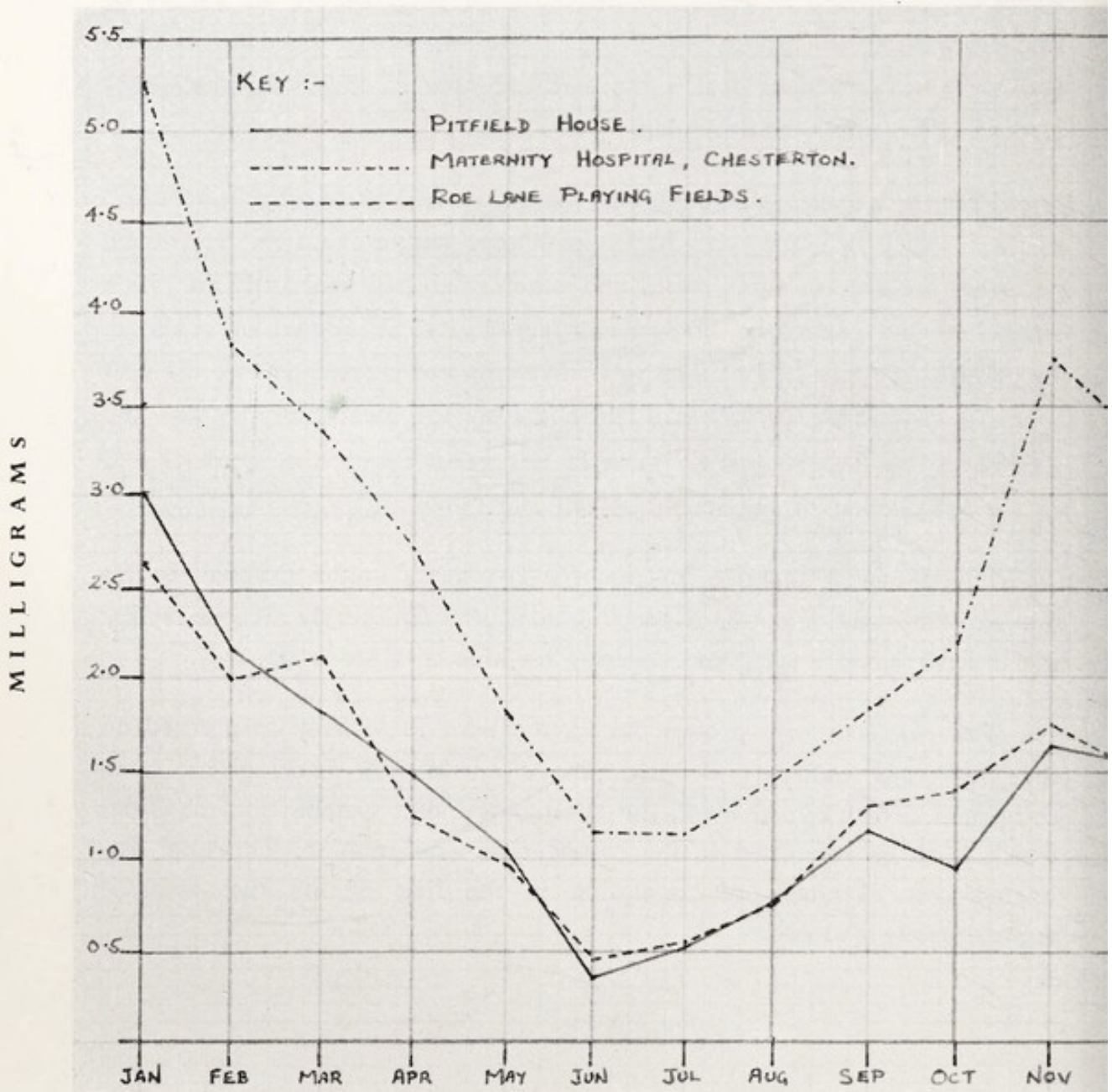
The phase, as planned for the first five years in the Borough covers the Westlands and Clayton districts, divided into five yearly areas involving in all some 4,000 houses and covering an area of 2,300 acres.

The Ministry gave provisional approval for the survey to proceed on the first area and the detailed inspection of 528 dwellings has been completed. The Council made the Westlands No. 1 Smoke Control Order which is to be submitted to the Minister for confirmation. The total estimated cost of works of adaptation in the first of the five areas is approximately £11,000.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Sulphur Dioxide Deposits

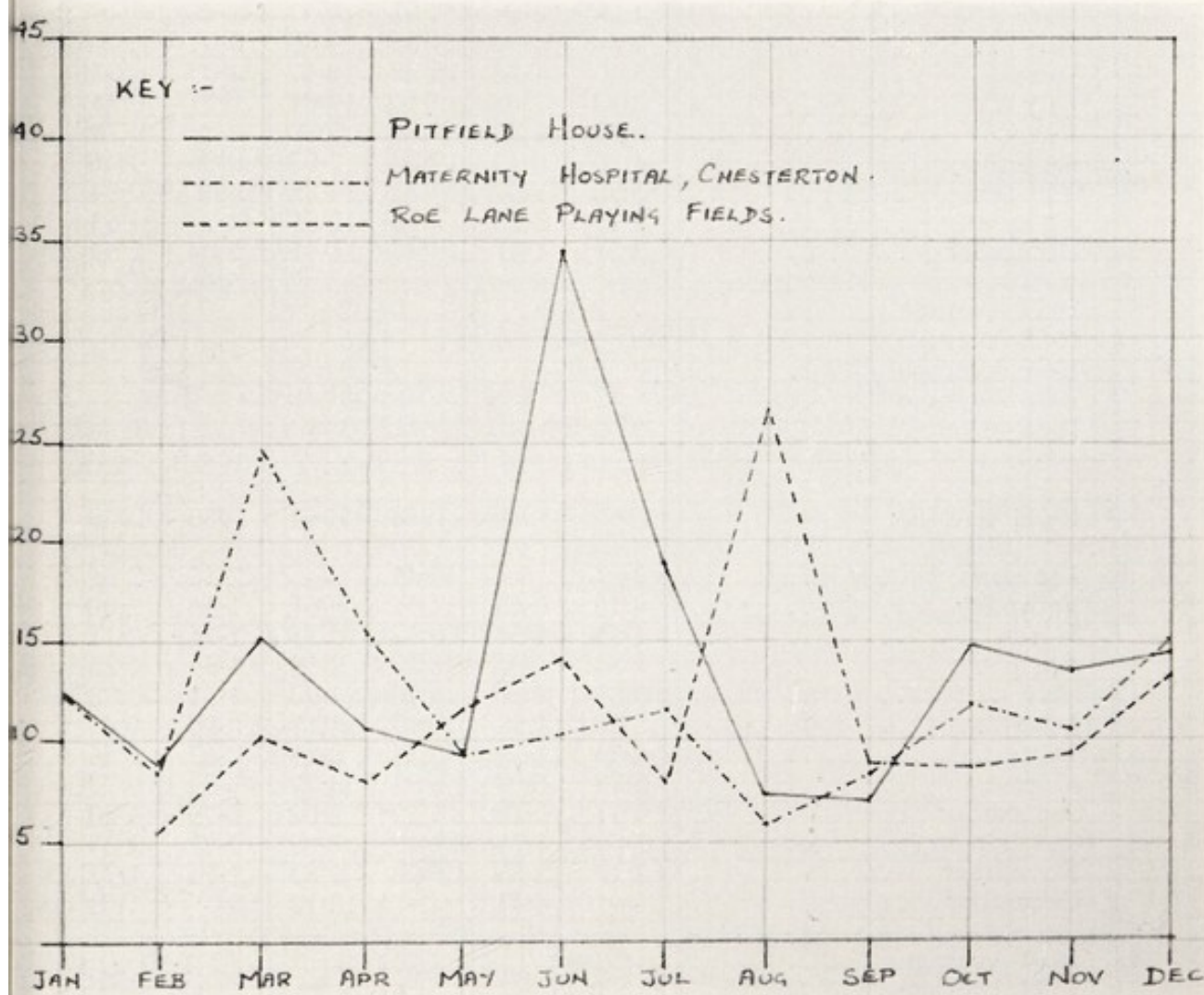
(expressed as Mg/SO_3 / Day / 100 sq. cm. of Batch 'A' Lead Peroxide exposed under a louvered cover).



ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Monthly Deposits in tons per square mile

Smoke Deposited Matter



A record on the rainfall and the pollution of the atmosphere is kept at three sites within the Borough. The following shows the rainfall and pollution at each station :—

MONTH	Rainfall in inches		Total solids in tons per square mile		SO ₃ mg/DAY/100 sq. cms.	
	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959
PITFIELD HOUSE :						
January	3.51	3.11	17.82	12.34	3.37	3.01
February	4.37	0.48	13.85	8.95	1.72	2.17
March	2.13	1.85	15.47	15.13	2.26	1.83
April	1.34	3.94	14.92	10.57	1.48	1.48
May	3.62	1.06	14.35	9.20	0.61	1.04
June	5.40	1.34	15.82	34.57	1.09	0.35
July	3.94	1.85	9.99	19.01	0.77	0.51
August	3.43	1.22	9.33	7.39	0.56	0.78
September	4.30	0.13	17.33	7.07	0.86	1.16
October	3.90	1.97	14.51	14.87	0.92	0.94
November	2.13	3.78	7.16	13.51	1.99	1.63
December	3.31	4.81	19.42	14.41	2.64	1.53
1959 Average	2.13		13.92		1.37	
1958 Average	3.45		14.16		1.52	
1957 Average	3.07		14.29		1.30	
1956 Average	2.77		18.79		1.84	
1955 Average	2.23		18.53		1.65	
ROE LANE :						
	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959
January	3.43	—	19.41	—	2.66	2.65
February	4.10	0.45	11.72	5.61	1.30	2.00
March	1.85	1.54	10.32	10.51	1.74	2.11
April	1.38	2.56	8.99	8.03	1.59	1.23
May	3.59	1.58	15.79	11.78	1.31	0.98
June	5.38	1.58	10.67	14.11	0.96	0.46
July	4.53	1.89	12.51	8.01	0.67	0.56
August	3.78	0.99	6.93	26.79	0.53	0.77
September	4.57	0.20	10.50	8.92	0.99	1.30
October	3.59	1.93	11.98	8.80	0.81	1.39
November	2.17	3.55	8.96	9.39	1.94	1.77
December	—	4.41	—	13.18	—	1.51
1959 Average	1.88		11.34		1.39	
1958 Average	3.45		11.62		1.32	
1957 Average	2.98		10.02		1.39	
1956 Average	2.54		11.98		1.61	
1955 Average	2.16		10.61		1.47	

MONTH	Rainfall in inches		Total solids in tons per square mile		SO ₃ Mg/DAY/100 SQ. CMS.	
	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959
CHESTERTON :						
January	2.88	2.52	15.39	12.16	3.64	5.28
February	3.62	0.37	14.72	8.46	3.05	3.85
March	1.46	1.62	10.87	24.73	3.14	3.36
April	1.30	3.59	9.65	15.40	2.92	2.72
May	—	1.10	—	9.35	1.49	1.82
June	4.73	—	16.60	—	1.58	1.15
July	3.59	1.22	13.55	11.72	1.11	1.14
August	3.31	0.51	12.71	5.98	0.95	1.44
September	4.22	0.07	13.39	8.40	1.73	1.84
October	3.59	1.77	12.03	11.90	2.14	2.19
November	2.01	3.03	11.15	10.44	3.16	3.76
December	2.96	3.94	21.58	15.17	4.85	3.31
1959 Average	1.79		12.16		2.65	
1958 Average	3.06		13.79		2.48	
1957 Average	2.54		11.42		2.42	
1956 Average	2.36		17.04		2.52	
1955 Average	2.06		15.54		2.33	

WATER SUPPLY.

The following information on water supply has been supplied to me by (1) the Chief Public Health Inspector and by (2) the Engineer and Manager of the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board.

(1) "The whole of the area is served by a piped supply on the constant system through the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board, the Borough Council being a constituent authority of that Board. Analysis of a private supply in the Silverdale area showed it to be unsatisfactory and four houses involved have been transferred to the Board main. Ten outlying isolated houses and farm premises derived their water supplies from wells and springs, and in four instances where water is not reasonably accessible, the houses involved are included in the five year housing clearance programme.

One sample of drinking water was examined and reported as satisfactory.

(2) "The water supplied by the Board to the Newcastle Borough area is derived from two sources, being deep wells and boreholes sunk in the New Red Sandstone. All the water is treated with chlorine, being chloramination at both sources.

"During 1959 bacteriological examinations on 134 samples were made, of which 60 were of untreated waters at the sources, and 74 of the chloraminated water going into supply. All were of the highest purity and 100% free from faecal coli organisms. 17 Chemical samples were analysed, showing moderate mineral and saline content, neutral reaction and an absence of metals. The water is also of moderate hardness ; it is not softened, nor is it plumbo-solvent.

“ All the waters in supply were certified by the Board’s chemist as conforming to the highest standards of bacterial purity and organic quality, indicative of a water pure, wholesome, and suitable for purposes of public and domestic supply.

“ The consumption of water for domestic purposes, unmetered trade and waste in the whole of the Board’s area of supply for the year 1959 averaged 29.85 gallons per head per day.”

The Chief Public Health Inspector has reported to me as follows :—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The greater part of the district is sewered, one portion on the combined system, the remainder having a separate system for surface water. Portions of the area as yet unsewered include (a) Audley Road (part) and Springwood, (b) High Lane and Black Bank and (c) Seabridge.

During the year 3,575 yards of new foul sewers and 2,466 yards of storm water sewers were laid. 185 inspections regarding sewers, street gullies, etc., were made and twenty nuisances in connection with complaints were abated.

SWIMMING BATHS

During the year samples of water were taken from the two swimming baths in use in the Borough. The results were as follows :

High School Bath— 5 Bacteriological—5 satisfactory.

„ „ „ — 5 Free Chlorine — 4 satisfactory.

—1 unsatisfactory.

King’s Memorial Bath—5 Bacteriological—5 satisfactory.

„ „ „ — 5 Free Chlorine—5 satisfactory.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Record of Inspections and Results.

Inspections made with respect to :	No of Inspections	Nuisances or defects reported	Re-visits made re abatement	Nuisances or defects remedied
Public Health Acts—				
Housing	202	574	374	356
Other Nuisances	84	70	114	78
Water Supply	53	29	65	34
Overcrowding	16	—	—	—
Drains—Inspected	348	92	261	105
Tested	154	3	18	1
Sewers, Street Gullies, etc ..	185	33	38	20
Sanitary Accommodation ..	33	8	10	6
Ashes Accommodation ..	212	—	—	—
Accumulations	81	14	30	19
Swine, Fowl or other Animals	10	4	6	4
Rivers Pollutions Acts ..	6	—	—	—
Rats and Mice Infestations	290	6	31	4
(Visits by Inspectors)				
Houses let in Lodgings ..	11	—	1	—

Other visits :—

Infectious Diseases	...	...	390
Verminous Conditions	...	...	119
Disinfection	...	...	11
Schools, Public Buildings, Cinemas, etc.			46
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	2742
Interviews—owners and tradesmen	...		708

Notices served and complied with

	Notices served		Notices complied with	
	Prelim.	Statutory	Prelim.	Statutory
Public Health Acts—				
Housing Defects ..	149	19	119	18
Nuisances	53	3	46	2
Smoke Nuisance ..	2	—	1	—
Housing Acts	—	—	3	—
Factories Acts	2	—	4	—
Food and Drugs Act ..	29	—	38	—
Bye-Laws and Local Acts ..	—	—	6	—
Shops Acts	1	—	1	—
Prevention of Damage by				
Pests Act, 1949	3	—	3	—
Milk and Dairies Act, 1950 ..	—	—	—	—
Quarry Fencing Act ..	—	—	—	—

Inspection of Factories.

(a) Inspections.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	60	19	—	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	204	110	3	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	37	40	—	—
Total	301	169	3	—

(b) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were :—				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Re-medied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	—	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total	7	9	—	1	—

(c) Outworkers' premises.

Business carried on	No. of Premises	No. of Visits
Making of Wearing Apparel	8	8
Total	8	8

HOUSING.

Housing Census :—

- | | | |
|-----|---|--------|
| (1) | Total number of inhabited houses in the Borough | 24.620 |
| (2) | Number of new houses erected during the year :— | |
| (a) | by Private Enterprise 209 | } |
| (b) | by Local Authority 253 | |
| | | 462 |

The principal work done under the Housing Act, 1936, can be summarised as follows :—

Clearance Areas.

Eleven areas were represented involving a total of 130 houses and necessitating 1,396 visits.

The following 10 areas were confirmed by the Minister :—

AREA	No. of Houses involved	No. of Families	No. of Persons
Johnson Street, Silverdale, Area No. 118 C.P.O.	2	2	3
Litchfield Street, Silverdale Area No. 119, C.P.O.	64	69	187
Church Street, Silverdale Area No. 120, C.P.O.	18	20	54
Red Lion Square, Chesterton Area No. 121, C.P.O.	10	10	23
Crackley Bank (No. 2), Chesterton Area No. 122, C.P.O.	4	4	11
Crackley Bank (No. 3), Chesterton Area No. 123, C.P.O.	4	4	10
Mount Pleasant, Chesterton Area No. 124, C.P.O.	6	6	23
Brook Street, Silverdale Area No. 125, C.P.O.	31	34	96
Apedale Road, Chesterton Area No. 127, C.P.O.	38	37	95
Dixons Row, Chesterton Area No. 128, C.P.O.	21	21	59

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 151 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 383 |
| (c) | Number of unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied | 175 |

In addition 29 individual unfit houses were dealt with as follows :—

Section 17, Housing Act, 1957 — Demolition Orders —23.
Closing Orders —6.

Overcrowding.

The number of cases recorded as legally overcrowded at the end of the year was 6.

In the absence of a census it is impossible accurately to assess the present position with regard to overcrowding. Ten new cases brought to notice were recorded, and five cases were abated.

Housing Act, 1949, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 and Rent Act, 1957.

Improvement Grants.

117 applications for grant for improvements and conversions have been received and in 99 cases it has been recommended that they are suitable for consideration for grant.

Expenditure ranking for grant approved during the year on 72 applications £12,963 13 0

Expenditure ranking for grant on 47 applications completed during the year £7,177 16 4

Certificates of Disrepair.

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

(1) Number of applications for certificates	...	11
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	...	—
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates—		
(a) in respect of some but not all defects		5
(b) in respect of all defects	... ..	6
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	...	2
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	... ..	Nil
(6) Number of Certificates issued	... ..	9

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates.

(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	... ..	3
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates		Nil
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenant's objection	... ..	Nil
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...	3

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1956.

Efforts have been made to inspect as many as possible of the various types of food premises. In public health environmental work it is difficult to assess which is the more important, Is it wise to concentrate on one particular section at the expense of others? The results of the neglect of some work is not so apparent either to the Local Authority or the public.

Despite our increased knowledge of food hygiene and the application of hygienic procedure in food establishments, over the country as a whole, the incidence of food borne infection still remains at too high a level.

The practice nowadays appears to be for shops to sell everything, the butcher is now in the grocery trade with frozen foods and the grocer returns the compliment by selling prepacked meat.

Small front room food shops sell a conglomeration of articles and invariably are badly overstocked which is not conducive to good hygiene practice. Often they have not the room or the desire to install necessary equipment such as refrigerator or hot water for washing facilities and when asked to do so feel aggrieved and complain they are being driven out of business. But on the shopkeeper rests the responsibility of supplying clean and wholesome food.

A practice to be deprecated in some butchers shops is the proximity of trays of cooked foods, such as boiled ham, roast pork and corned beef, to raw meat, the same knife is often used for both types of food thus allowing possibly harmful organisms from the uncooked to be passed to the cooked meats which are ready for immediate consumption.

In outside markets no food which runs the risk of contamination should be sold from open stalls. All should be prepacked. Low quality food will not stand wrapping, if you have wrapped food the quality tends automatically to improve.

Improvements and additions to satisfy the Regulations have been carried out at various school canteens and it can be reported that the standard of hygiene in these premises is very satisfactory.

Record of Inspections and Results.

	No. of Premises	Inspection	Re-Inspection	No. of Premises Visited	Nuisances or defects	
					Found	Abated
Dairies & Milkshops	228	131	15	116	—	—
Ice Cream Premises	212	169	20	135	12	14
Food Preparing Premises ..	144	253	53	139	56	115
Bakehouses ..	27	65	11	26	15	22
Slaughterhouses ..	3	325	9	3	—	—
Butchers' Shops ..	74	145	11	74	5	20
General Shops selling Food ..	720	584	61	249	157	126
Market & Stall Inspections ..	28	183	3	28	5	4

(a) **Milk Supply.**

Number of Dairy Farms in the Borough	...	...	...	28
Producers of graded milk	...	...	...	12
Number of Retail Purveyors of milk	...	...	...	275
(a) Resident	...	...	...	258
(b) Non-Resident	...	...	...	17

Of the resident purveyors, 217 retail sterilised bottled milk only.

Number of Dairy Milk Shops	11
----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Fifty-eight retail purveyors hold licences for the sale of graded milk.

The following licences in connection with such grades were issued during the year—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	52
Pasteurised	...	...	...	58

Two bottling licences were issued during the year—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised	...	...	...	1

There is one licensed pasteurising plant in the Borough.

Number of Ice Cream premises registered under Private Act—

Sale only	...	...	...	208
Manufacture and Sale	...	...	...	4
				} 212

Bacteriological Samples.

Type	No. Submitted	No. failed Cleanliness Test
MILK:		
Heat Treated	*119	—
Ice Cream and Lollipops	14	—

* All samples passed Heat-treatment Test

Other articles examined in connection with food inspection, etc. :—

Article	Purpose of Examination
Tins of Chopped Pork	Presence of pathogenic organisms
” ” ”	” ” ”
Tins of Minced Salmon	” ” ”
Dates	Suspected food poisoning

Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

All meat condemned by the Food Inspectors is stained in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations and disposed of either by the Local Authority by incineration in the case of small quantities or where whole carcasses are involved through approved collectors.

With regard to other foods (tinned goods, etc.,) these are incinerated or buried at the Council's controlled tip.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

Number of butchers' shops registered under Private Act (including Market Stalls) ...	74
Number of Preserved Food preparing premises registered (including Fish Fryers, 34) ...	144
Number of licensed slaughterhouses ...	3
Number of men licensed to slaughter animals in accordance with the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	9
Number of Meat and Food inspections ...	528

**Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned
in whole or in part.**

	Cattle exclud'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed (if known) ..	121	63	3	1034	178	—
Number Inspected	121	63	3	1034	178	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	54	29	—	78	14	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ..	44.6	46.0	—	7.5	7.8	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	21	16	—	—	3	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	17.3	25.4	—	—	1.7	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total weight condemned, 16 Cwts, 79 lbs.

Surrenders of Other Food

					lbs.
Flesh Meat	...	...	...	...	40
Poultry, Game, etc.	...	...	...	...	94
Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	14
Bacon and Ham	...	...	...	...	249
Sausages	...	...	...	...	37
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	443
Water Cress	...	...	...	...	9
Cheese	...	...	...	...	15
Pickles and Sauces	...	...	...	...	1
Preserves	...	...	...	...	5
Cereals	...	...	...	...	6
Cake	...	...	...	...	28
Tinned Meat	...	...	...	...	2560
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	...	91
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	652
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	...	310
Tinned Soup	...	...	...	...	274
Tinned Fruit	...	...	...	...	3926
Fresh Fruit	...	...	...	...	34

Total 8,788

(3 tons, 18 cwts., 52 lbs.)

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Total number of samples taken — 196

Milk	...	...	165	Currants	...	...	4
Cheese	...	...	3	Sultanas & Raisins	...	...	6
Butter	...	...	3	Iced Lollies	...	...	2
Margarine	...	...	2	Mineral Water	...	...	1
Sausages	...	...	2	Lard	...	...	2
Self-Raising Flour	...	...	1	Tea	...	...	1
Plain Flour	...	...	1	Coffee & Chicory	...	...	2
Jam	...	...	1				

One sample was adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst :—

Sample No. 70 of T.T. sterilised milk was 2.0% deficient in solids-not-fat, and containing at least 0.7% of added water. On investigation at the dairy concerned, a slight leak was discovered in a separating plate to a water cooler, which was remedied and subsequent follow-up samples proved satisfactory.

All the milk samples were reported by the Analyst to be free from preservative and artificial colouring matter.

Number of approved premises—

Wholesale Dealers in Margarine ... 6

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Number of Vans existing at the end of the year :—

(a) 1 Permanent Site	...	...	...	22
(b) 8 Other Sites	...	...	...	13
Number of vans, etc., in possession of owner-occupiers	...	...	...	32
Number of vans, etc., known to be overcrowded				1
Number of vans, etc., unfit for habitation	...			1
Number of visits and inspections made	...			240
Nuisances or defects found	...	...	...	8
Nuisances or defects remedied	...	...	...	3

Smoke Abatement.

Number of recorded observations made	...	19
Number of notices served	...	—
Number of notices complied with	...	—
Premises visited following observations	...	27

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Particulars of action taken is as follows :—

COUNCIL HOUSES				PRIVATE HOUSES			
Inspections	Infested	Dis-Infested		Inspections	Infested	Dis-Infested	
		HCN	Other Insecticides			HCN	Other Insecticides
70	1	—	1	49	11	—	11

Shop Sanitation

Number of sanitary visits made to shops	...	9
Number of nuisances or defects found	...	6
Number of nuisances or defects remedied	...	7

Offensive Trades.

Number recorded as being within the Borough		9
Fat Melters, etc.	...	6
Tripe Boilers	...	1
Rag and Bone Dealers	...	1
Bone Boiler	...	1
Number of new offensive trades established	...	Nil
Number of inspections made	...	19
Nuisances or defects found	...	3
Nuisances or defects remedied	...	3

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The following is a summary of the various types of sanitary convenience existing in the Borough at the end of the year :—

No. of houses served by waste water closets	...	107
No. of houses served by hand-flushed water closets	...	83
No. of houses and premises served by privies (53)	...	43
No. of houses and premises served by pail closets (58)	...	49
No. of houses and premises served by ash pits (2)	...	2

Particulars of conversions made during the year :—

Privies converted to water closets	...	4
Pail closets converted to water closets	...	—
Waste water closets converted to flushed water closets	...	13
Hand-flushed closets provided with cisterns	...	1
Standard dustbins replaced or provided through the Local Authority (excluding new houses erected)	...	1,896

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

SERVICES :

The following is a summary of the cleansing services performed during the year ending 31st March, 1960 :—

Refuse Collection :—

Number of houses and other premises receiving regular refuse collection service	...	25,145
Number of premises receiving special trade refuse collection service	...	370
Average number of ashbins cleansed per week	...	25,324
Number of separate Waste Food Bins in use	...	133
Average number of privies cleansed per week	...	53
Average number of pail closets cleansed per week	...	58

Number of cesspools cleansed during the year (excluding work undertaken outside the area) ...	28
Total refuse collected—Dry (estimated) ...	22,425 tons
Salvage (estimated) ...	780 tons
Wet (estimated) ...	308 tons
Weight collected per 1,000 population per day (Dry refuse and salvage) ...	16.9 cwts.

Refuse Disposal :—

Total estimated refuse dealt with at Destructor Plant or Tips (excluding wet refuse, or cover- ing material)	24,537 tons
(Incineration 3%, Tipped 97%).	

Most of the refuse collected in the Borough is disposed of at disused marlholes at Crackley Bank, Chesterton. The first marlhole is nearing completion and when levelled will be used for industrial development. In the case of the second one the water has been pumped out, approach roadways constructed and it has been brought into use.

STREET CLEANSING.

Mileage : Trunk Road (6.46 miles), County Roads (29.78 miles), District Roads (66.87 miles), Unadopted Roads (18.19 miles). Total 121 3 miles.

Mileage of Streets cleansed : 103.11.

Frequency of Cleansing.

(a) At least once daily	1%
(b) Three to five times weekly	3%
(c) Twice weekly	8%
(d) Once weekly	60%
(e) Less than once weekly	28%

Number of Street Gullies :— 6,549.

Number of Gully Cleansings during year :— 25,216.

The Staff employed in these services is as follows :—

	Average
Refuse collection and salvage	74
Refuse disposal	5
Street cleansing	23

In addition to the above there is one cleansing foreman, a foreman mechanic and two mechanics for vehicle maintenance.

COSTS :—

The following figures show the estimated total cost for all services, with salvage income shown separately.

Net Expenditure—

Refuse Collection	...	...	...	£43,560
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	£5,504
(Salvage Income £5,265).				
				<hr/>
				£49,064
Street Cleansing (all roads)	...	...	...	£13,478
Gully Cleansing	...	...	...	£2,334

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES :

The following conveniences are maintained and supervised :—

Newcastle :—

Hassall Street (Males and Females)
Pepper Street (Males and Females)
Marsh Street (Males and Females)
Liverpool Road Urinal

Wolstanton :—

High Street (Males and Females)
Bradwell Lane (Males and Females)
Jubilee Road Urinal

Silverdale :—

Crown Street (Males)

Knutton :—

Cross Roads Urinal and W.C. (Males)

Chesterton :—

Victoria Street (Males)
Dragon Square (Males and Females)

Net Cost of Services — £7,210.

RODENT CONTROL.

One full-time and two part-time operators are employed to undertake treatment on all Council and Private properties and to give advice generally following receipt of complaint. In addition, systematic treatment is carried out in connection with the 63 annual contracts with traders affecting factory and business premises.

Sewer maintenance treatments have been carried out during May and October with an operating squad consisting of two rodent operators, two sewer men and the use of a van. A total of 1,304 sewer manholes were inspected and of these 1,253 were baited and 366 showed pre-bait takes.

In the course of sewer baiting, on one of the new estates, owing to the manhole chambers being constructed of precast concrete the stereotype bait trays for the rats to feed off could not be fixed. This was overcome by a rather novel method of suspending the bait in bags made from stockinette in such a position that the rat was able to reach it, perch on the top and nibble through the container to obtain the bait a little at a time without releasing the whole.

3,346 visits were made by the operators and the number of rats destroyed was :—

(a) Caught and Trapped 730. (b) Estimated by baits 2,341.

The rodent problem in the Borough is still mainly minor scattered infestation and the maintenance treatments of sewers, together with block control measures has kept the district reasonably satisfactory.

During the investigation of complaints it is found that far too much food finds its way to lawns by bird lovers with the result that rats are attracted and the local authority then has to provide a free service to eradicate the rats.

The refuse disposal tips receive regular attention and give very little trouble.

The two methods of rat destruction employed are gassing and poisoning. The poisons and baits used are those approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, which include : oatmeal, sausage rusk, zinc phosphide, warfarin, red squills, arsenic, antu, tracking dust and cymag gas.

The following is a copy of the table included in the annual return submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food :—

	Type of Property				(5) Agri- cultural
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Author- ity	(2) Dwelling houses (in, C'ncil houses)	(3) All other (includ'g business premises)	(4) Total of Cols (1) (2) & (3)	
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	89	23,559	2,930	26,578	51
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
Notification	17	139	22	178	2
Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	24	279	72	375	4
III. Number of properties inspected (in Section II) which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats (Major .. .)	1	—	2	3	—
(a) Rats (Minor .. .)	6	78	23	107	1
(b) Mice (Major .. .)	—	—	1	1	—
(b) Mice (Minor .. .)	13	34	36	83	—
IV. Number of infested prop- erties (in Section III) treated by the L.A.	20	112	62	194	1

The gross expenditure on rodent control during the year was £914

Vermin Infestation.

In addition to the service for rats and mice destruction, the Department gives advice on methods to eradicate most known insects found in and about dwellings and other premises.

Where a house from which a tenant is to be re-housed in a Council house is found to be infested with vermin, the house and furniture, etc., are disinfested before removal takes place.

The number of complaints regarding the presence of cock-roaches, bugs, silver fish, spiders or wasps received have tended to increase. Several cases of infestation by plaster or book lice occurred in newly constructed houses, where the new plaster and damp provided the suitable conditions for their existence. When the walls dried out, destroying the mould on which the lice feed, they disappeared. There was no complaint regarding infestation of food-stuffs by insects during the year.

Table 1—CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSES OF DEATH			MALES	FEMALES
All Causes			405	388
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	3	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	..	..	1	—
3. Syphilitic disease	..	..	1	1
4. Diphtheria	..	..	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	..	..	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	..	..	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	—	—
8. Measles	..	..	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	17	12
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	25	8
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	—	16
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	—	10
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	37	33
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	..	..	1	1
16. Diabetes	..	..	1	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	62	64
18. Coronary disease, angina	..	..	61	57
19. Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	2	9
20. Other heart disease	..	..	43	65
21. Other circulatory disease	..	..	14	18
22. Influenza	..	..	4	3
23. Pneumonia	..	..	24	18
24. Bronchitis	..	..	19	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	13	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	8	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	2	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	2	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	5	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	..	..	4	5
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	27	32
33. Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	9	6
34. All other accidents	..	..	13	8
35. Suicide	..	..	7	7
36. Homicide and operations of war	..	..	—	—

Table 2—FOOD POISONING

The following table shows the position regarding the cases of food poisoning which occurred in the Borough during the year:

(a) Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected) as returned to Registrar General.					
1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total	
—	—	6	4	10	
(b) Cases otherwise ascertained.					
1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total	
—	—	1	—	1	
(c) Symptomless Excreters.					
1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total	
—	—	1	—	1	
(d) Fatal Cases.					
1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total	
—	—	—	—	Nil	

Table 3.—Cases of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1959

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	AT ALL AGES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED AT ALL AGES											
		Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 65	65 years and over	
Small-pox	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	39	1	—	—	5	8	24	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pemphigus Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Encephalitis Lethargica (Post-Infectious)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cerebrospinal Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Non-Paralytic	741	33	72	109	80	113	314	18	1	1	—	—	
Measles	8	—	1	1	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough	155	8	5	12	10	10	60	17	6	12	14	1	
Dysentery	10	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	1	4	—	
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

Table 4.—Deaths from Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1959.

Notifiable Diseases	Total Number of Deaths												
	AT ALL AGES	Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 years and over
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth Abortion ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	42	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	30
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 5.—Notification of and Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1959

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and under 15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 and under 25	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
25 and under 35	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 and under 45	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
45 and under 55	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 and under 65	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
TOTAL	13	9	1	1	3	1	1	—