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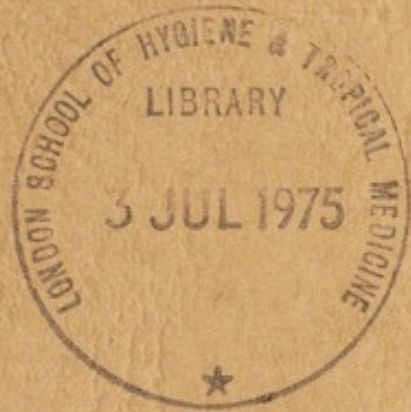
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COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year
1972



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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
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1972

E. M. YOUNG, M.B., B.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.



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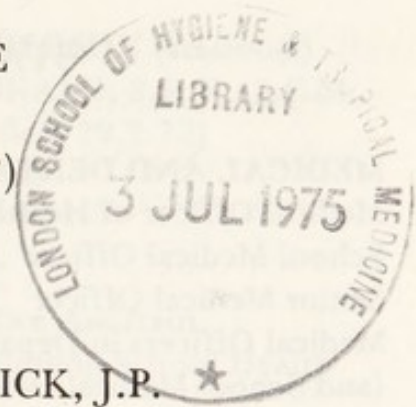
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HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at December, 1972)

**THE MAYOR:****COUNCILLOR V. FITZPATRICK, J.P. ★****CHAIRMAN:****COUNCILLOR M. DIAMOND****HEALTH COMMITTEE**

Alderman J. B. Abbott

Alderman A. M. Southwick, OBE

Councillor R. J. Barry

Councillor T. Bell

Councillor P. U. Byers

Councillor R. Cain

Councillor E. Diamond

Councillor A. L. Elliott

Councillor G. Graham

Councillor M. H. Lynn

Councillor H. K. Malcolm

Councillor M. C. Pearson

Councillor R. Ramsey

Councillor V. I. Webster

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Mr. J. S. Fraser

Mr. S. Hannay

Dr. N. Cowley

Dr. F. H. Robson

STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(as at December 1972)

MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health, Principal	ENID M. YOUNG, M.B., B.S., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
School Medical Officer	M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
Senior Medical Officer	Vacant
Medical Officers in Department (and School Medical Officers)	JEAN WALMSLEY M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., P.A.Y., NARAYANAN M.B., B.S., D.P.H. JANET C. HIRST, M.B., Ch.B., (left 31.3.72) VALERIE CALDER, M.B., B.S., S. P. MUKHERJEE (Sessional) (Commenced 31.5.72)
Chief Dental Officer and Principal School Dental Officer	T. W. CLARKSON, B.D.S.
Dental Officers (and School Dental Officers) ...	D. ATKINSON, B.D.S. Mrs. J. H. YOUNG, L.D.S. (left 26.9.72) J. P. BLUNT, L.D.S. (sessional) D. C. F. BANKS, M.D., D.A. (sessional)
Consultant Dental Anaesthetist	Vacant
Consultant Psychiatrist (Child Guidance- in conjunction with Sunderland County | Borough)	Vacant
Consultant Chest Physician* ...	P. M. ROOZE, M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.
Consultant Adviser in Venereal Diseases*	Col. B. LEVY, M.B., B.S. M.D.
Consultant Adviser in Paediatrics*	MARGARET TAYLOR, D.C.H., M.R.C.P.
Consultant Adviser in Mental Subnormality	H. K. CARPENTER, M.B., Ch.B., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., M.R.C. Psych. D.P.M.
Consultant Adviser in Mental Illness	N. J. KELLY, M.B., D.C.H., D.A.O., D.P.M.
NURSING AND ALIED STAFF:	
Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse	Mrs. P. M. STEWART, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., (Cert.) 14 Health Visitors 8 School Nurses 4 Clinic Assistants 2 Screening Technicians
Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives	Miss J. BARKER, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D., 14 Domiciliary Midwives

* In conjunction with Newcastle Regional Hospital Board.

Physiotherapist	Miss R. HENDERSON (sessional)
Superintendent Home Nursing	Miss J. McDONALD, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., (Cert.) (left 29.2.72)
	21 Home Nurses
General Administration and Clerical Staff:	
Chief Administrative Assistant ...	R. G. DICKIE
	1 Administrative Assistant
	20 Clerks (including School Health Service)
	2 Shorthand Typists
Educational Psychologist (in conjunction with Education Committee)	I. R. MCKENZIE, B.Sc., (Psych)
Other Staff:	
Speech Therapists	Vacant
Ambulance Service:	
Ambulance Superintendent ...	H. BAILEY, F.I.A.O.
	27 Driver Attendants
	4 Controllers
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORATE:	
Chief Public Health Inspector ...	R. V. ROBINSON, D.M.A., F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	J. SMITH, M.A.P.H.I.
	4 Senior District Public Health Inspectors
	4 District Public Health Inspectors
	2 Technical Assistants
	3 Pupil Public Health Inspectors
	3 Rodent Operators
	1 General Assistant (Infectious Diseases)
Borough Analyst	W. GORDON-CAREY, F.R.I.C. (part time)

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough and the work of the Department in 1972.

The birth rate showed a slight fall to 13.0 per 1000 population compared with 13.9 per 1000 population in 1971; the illegitimate birth rate rose to 11% after remaining at 10% for the previous three years.

The commonest form of cancer causing death remained cancer of the lung (87 deaths of a total of 261); death rate from coronary disease remained steady at 26.6% in 1972.

Immunisation and vaccination rates remained high with the exception of measles vaccination; the acceptance rate is disappointing, only 353 children under 5 and 6 over 5 were vaccinated in 1972;

Potential contacts of infectious disease arriving from abroad were followed up by medical and public health inspectorate staff. One seaman found to be suffering from typhoid was admitted to hospital, no other cases occurred.

There was a rise in the number of new cases of gonorrhoea, 143 in 1972 compared with 119 in 1971, although the total number of new cases of venereal disease showed a slight drop, 711 in 1972 compared with 724 in 1971.

In the environmental health field applications for house improvement grants continued unabated. The temporary period in which 75% grants could be paid under the 1971 Housing Act was extended from June 1973 to June 1974. In spite of the additional burden this work placed on them, the staff of the Public Health Inspectorate had to continue their work in other fields for the protection of the public. I would like to record my appreciation to the staff for the way in which they dealt with this additional burden.

The year under review was an eventful year in this Department. All three nursing services became attached to general practices. The nurses instead of working in traditional geographical areas provide their services to the persons on particular general practitioners lists. This scheme enables doctor and nurse to have more frequent contact with the result of better working relationships and consequently better and more co-ordinated patient care. A new management structure in the nursing service as recommended by the Department of Health and Social Security was accepted by Health Committee and towards the end of the year a Director of Nursing Services was appointed to commence duty in the New Year.

The first Health Centre in the Borough was opened to house eight General Practitioners in three practices and their attached Local Authority nursing staff; a second was in the planning stage, building to commence in 1973 and two others were under discussion at the end of the year.

In the second half of the year the pending reorganisation of local Government and the National Health Service was brought closer by the setting up of various Working Parties for Local Government and the Joint Liaison Committees for National Health reorganisation.

In 1867 B. Disraeli, Lord Beaconsfield said "Change is inevitable in a progressive country. Change is constant", this still holds true today. Health Departments are accustomed to change; their services have evolved over the last century to meet the changing need of the community they serve. It is important however to ensure that in the enthusiasm for reorganisation the services to the general public do not suffer and that old links are not irreparably broken. There will still need to be close collaboration between the Community Services provided by the National Health Service and Local Government especially in the fields of environmental health, social services and education.

I am sorry to report that recruitment of medical, dental, nursing and public health inspectorate staff remained difficult and I suspect will remain so until some of the uncertainties caused by the two reorganisations are settled.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, my colleagues in the other departments of the Corporation for their support and co-operation throughout the year. My thanks too to the Voluntary Associations for the help given and to the staff of this Department especially Mr. Robinson, Mr. Dickie and Mr. Johnson for their invaluable help in compiling this report.

E. M. YOUNG

Medical Officer of Health

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS

PART I

General Data and Vital Statistics

Area and Population

Vital Statistics

Natural, Social and Economic Conditions

Births

Deaths

Mothers and Infants

AREA AND POPULATION

Area of Borough in acres	4,877
Including inland water but excluding foreshore and tidal water — 301 acres	
Population:	
Census 1971	100,505
Estimated June 1972	98,610
Density (persons per acre)	22.2
Inhabited houses (at 31 December 1972)	36,640
Rateable Value	
Product of 1p Rate (estimated)	£33,735

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births (corrected)	
Number	1,283
Rate per 1,000 population	13.0
Illegitimate live births (per cent of total live births)...	11.0%
Still Births	
Number	19
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	15.0
Total live and stillbirths	1,302
Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)	31
Infant Mortality Rates	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	24.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	42.0
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)	16.0
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	14.0
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)...	28.0

ANNUAL REPORT

Natural, Social and Economic Conditions

Water Supply

Details of the town's water supply are included in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

Industries and Unemployment

I am indebted to the Manager of the Department of Employment, Mr. J. Gillespie, for the following information relating to unemployment.

The average numbers on the live registers taken from the monthly returns were as follows:

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Men (aged 18 - 64)	2461	2750	2593	2997	3261
Boys (aged 15 - 17)	114	149	143	195	200
Women (aged 18 - 24)	320	307	362	455	627
Girls (aged 15 - 17)	36	44	60	121	165
	2931	3250	3158	3768	4253

The principal industries in the Borough are shipbuilding, shiprepairing and coalmining. Other important industries employing industrial workers include marine contracting, ironfounding, woodyards, heavy and light engineering, the manufacture of batteries, clothing, fire place surrounds, tape recorders and telephone equipment. Although there are no shipowning firms in South Shields, a considerable number of men seek their living in seagoing employments.

The maximum number of registered unemployed persons during 1972 was as follows -

Men	3,670
Boys	155
Women	713
Girls	154
	4,692

The minimum number of registered unemployed persons was in the period ending June 1972 the figures being as follows -

Men	2,981
Boys	174
Women	596
Girls	123
	3,874

Although unemployment continued to rise during the year, there were signs of improvement towards the end of the year and, in fact, the December figures showed a decrease of 167 when compared with the same month in 1971.

Births

There were 1283 live births during the year, comprising 681 males and 602 females. The crude birth rate per 1,000 population was 13.0. The birth rate for 1971 was 13.9 per 1,000 population. The area comparability factor was 1.11 giving an adjusted birth rate for 1972 of 14.4 per 1,000. The birth rate was once again lower than the rate for the whole of England and Wales, which in 1972 was 14.8

per 1,000 population. The decline in both the local and national birth rate continues.

Stillbirths

The number of stillbirths recorded was 19 (13 males and 6 females) representing a stillbirth rate of 15.0 per total live and still births. The corresponding figure for 1971 was 11.0. The stillbirth rate for England and Wales was 12.0 per 1,000 total births.

The major factors associated with the stillbirths in 1972 were prematurity, antepartum haemorrhage and congenital abnormalities.

Illegitimate Births

There were 143 (83 male and 60 female) illegitimate live births, this being 11.0% of the total live births, compared with 10.0% in 1971. There were two illegitimate stillbirths, representing 10.5% of the total stillbirths in the town. The stillbirths rate for illegitimate birth is therefore 13.9 per 1,000 total illegitimate births compared with 13.7 per 1,000 in 1971.

Deaths

There were 1 369 deaths (732 male and 637 female) registered during the year among South Shields residents. This represents a crude death rate of 13.9 with the rate of 12.6 per 1,000 population for 1971. The comparability factor for South Shields is 1.06 and this gives an adjusted death rate of 14.7 per 1,000 population.

Table 1, page 7 compares the 1972 birth and death rates for South Shields with the national rates and those of neighbouring authorities.

Causes of Death

The principal causes of death are given in the following table —

Cause	No. of Deaths	% 1972	% 1971
Diseases of the heart and circulatory system	697	50.9	50.6
Cancer (including Leukaemia)	261	19.1	20.8
Respiratory diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	209	15.2	13.0
Accidents suicides and violence	42	3.1	3.6

The detailed breakdown of deaths by age, sex and cause is given in Table 2 on pages 8 to 11.

Deaths from Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System

This group remains by far the most common cause of death in the community accounting for half the total deaths in the Borough. Of this number, 365 (26.6%) were due to coronary disease and angina.

In South Shields 105 of the deaths from this cause occurred in men and women under the age of 65, representing 7.7% of all deaths.

Cerebro-vascular disease of the nervous system, more commonly known as strokes, accounted for 180 deaths (76 male and 104 female), this being 13.1% of the total deaths.

Death From Cancer

There were 261 deaths, (141 male and 120 female) from all forms of cancer during 1972 compared with 262 in 1971. This accounted for 19.1% of the

total deaths in the town, giving a cancer death rate of 2.7 per 1,000 population. As in previous years, cancer of the lung accounted for the highest number of deaths, followed by cancer of the stomach and cancer of the breast.

There were 87 deaths (68 male and 19 female) from lung cancer and of these, 26 occurred in men below the age of 65.

Respiratory Diseases

Deaths from diseases of the respiratory tract, excluding tuberculosis and lung cancer, totalled 209 (130 male and 79 female). Of these, 90 were due to bronchitis and it can safely be assumed that a large proportion of these persons were sufferers from chronic bronchitis.

Accidents, Suicides and Violence

The total deaths in this group was 42, of these 3 deaths were due to suicide. Of the remaining 39 deaths, 12 were due to motor vehicle accidents and 27 were due to a variety of other accidents, the percentage of deaths due to road accidents of all accidental deaths being 28.5 compared with 31.1% in 1971. A register of all children admitted to hospital between 0 – 15 years as a result of an accident is kept. The figures for 1972 are given below:—

Head Injuries ...	103
Poisoning ...	51
Burns and Scalds	4
Eye Injuries ...	1
Fractured Limbs	3
Others	20
	<hr/>
	182

Infant Mortality

The number of children under one year of age was 31 (25 male and 6 female) representing an infant mortality rate of 24.0 per 1,000 live births, compared with 17.0 for England and Wales. The infant mortality rate in South Shields in 1971 was 19.0. Six of the infant deaths in 1972 were illegitimate births. The principal cause of death was immaturity.

Neo-Natal Mortality

The number of deaths among live born infants under four weeks of age was 21, giving a neo-natal mortality rate of 16.0 compared with 13.0 in 1971. Of these 18 deaths were in the first weeks of life, this period therefore accounting for 58.1% of all deaths under the age of one year.

Peri-Natal Mortality

This term refers to stillbirths, plus deaths of infants under one week of age and since it is often a matter of pure chance whether an infant dies before birth or immediately afterwards, this figure gives an accurate indication of infant loss before and during the birth process. The peri-natal mortality rate for South Shields in 1972 was 28.0 per 1,000 total-births, compared with a national rate of 22.0. In 1971 the South Shields peri-natal mortality rate was 20.0. Details of stillbirths and infant deaths for the past ten years are given in the following table:

Year	Number of Still-births	Deaths of Infants during first week of life	Peri-natal Mortality Rates	Deaths of Infants between one week and twelve months
1963	42	20	30.3	13
1964	45	29	36.5	15
1965	32	25	29.1	16
1966	29	19	27.1	22
1967	23	23	26.7	8
1968	32	16	28.3	15
1969	22	24	30.0	7
1970	24	26	34.0	13
1971	16	12	20.0	14
1972	16	18	28.0	13

Maternal Mortality

In 1972 there were no deaths from causes associated with childbirth.

Coroner's Inquests

I am indebted to the Coroner, Mr. A. Henderson, for the following information. Some 315 deaths were notified to the Coroner's Office during 1972. Inquests were held on 48 of these and 204 post mortem examinations were carried out.

Accidental deaths consisting of accidents at home, work or on the roads	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Manslaughter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Murder	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Industrial Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
										<u>54</u>
									TOTAL	...

Cremations

During 1972, 1236 cremations were carried out at the Corporation Crematorium as follows:-

South Shields residents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	854
Jarrow residents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	146
Hebburn residents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Boldon residents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
								<u>1236</u>
								TOTAL

In addition, 10 South Shields residents were cremated at Sunderland Crematorium and 3 at Newcastle Crematorium. The total of South Shields residents cremated after death in 1972 was 867 which is equivalent to 63.3% of the total deaths. The corresponding proportion for 1971 was 61.6%.

Deaths in Hospitals and Other Institutions

There were 802 deaths (58.5%) deaths of South Shields residents in hospitals or other institutions. Further details are given in Table 4 on page 13.

TABLE I
COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS - SOUTH SHIELDS AND NEIGHBOURING AUTHORITIES

Authority	Population	Birth Rate		Death Rate		Still-Birth Rate	Infant Mortality	Neo-Natal Mortality	Peri-Natal Mortality	Illegitimate Live Birth Rate (% of Live Births)
		Crude	Adjusted	Crude	Adjusted					
England & Wales ...	49,028,900	14.8		12.1		12.0	17.0	12.0	22.0	9.0
South Shields C.B...	98,610	13.00	14.40	13.90	14.70	15.00	24.00	16.00	28.00	11.00
Gateshead CB ...	93,490	14.70	15.40	13.30	14.40	14.00	25.00	15.00	27.00	10.00
Newcastle CB ...	217,220	12.54	13.04	14.55	13.68	14.83	20.57	14.69	27.13	13.92
Tynemouth CB ...	67,880	13.73	15.24	14.16	14.02	7.45	19.31	13.95	21.30	12.55
Sunderland CB ...	215,280	15.70	16.20	12.10	13.70	13.00	24.00	17.00	27.00	9.00
Durham County ...	822,580	14.80	15.10	12.30	13.70	12.00	19.00	14.00	23.00	7.00
Northumberland County	507,820	13.50	14.04	12.99	12.47	10.25	15.46	11.96	19.63	6.23

TABLE II
CAUSES OF DEATH by Age and Sex 1972 (as supplied by the Registrar-General)

Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in Years												
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over				
B4 Enteritis and Other Diarrhoeal Diseases	M	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
B6(2) Other Tuberculosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B18 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(5) Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(8) Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(10) Leukaemia	M	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE II continued

Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in Years								
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over
B39 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4
B46(9) Other diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
B46(11) Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
B42 Congenital Abnormalities	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	4
B43 Birth Injury, Difficulty Labour, Etc.	F	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
B44 Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	F	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
B45 Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	M	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BE47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BE48 All Other Accidents ...	M	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BE49 Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	F	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
BE50 All Other external causes	M	6	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL ALL CAUSES ...	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
	M	7	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	1	2	1	1
	F	5	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	4	5	3
	M	16	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	732	17	8	-	7	2	12	52	144	236	248	
	F	637	4	2	-	2	4	9	47	76	175	313	

TABLE 3
DEATHS DURING 1972 OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

Causes of Death	Sex	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	TOTAL
Respiratory Infections ...	Males	2	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	5
	Females	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gastroenteritis	Males	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
	Females	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sudden death in infancy syndrome	Males	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Heart Disease ...	Males	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Females	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital Malformations	Males	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
	Females	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prematurity	Males	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
	Females	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
Accidental Asphyxia ...	Males	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Females	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	TOTAL	21	-	-	1	7	2	-	-	31

TABLE 4
DEATHS DURING 1972 IN INSTITUTIONS AND TRANSFERABLE DEATHS

	Deaths in Institutions in the Borough		Deaths of South Shields Residents in Institutions outside the Borough	Transferable deaths	
	Residents	Non Residents		Residents	Non Residents
General Hospital	472	205	—	—	205
Ingham Infirmary	203	101	—	—	101
Deans Hospital	12	3	—	—	3
Cleadon Park Hospital	25	7	—	—	7
R.V.I. Newcastle	—	—	7	7	—
General Hospital, Newcastle	—	—	18	18	—
Dryburn Hospital, Durham	—	—	1	1	—
Cherry Knowle Hospital, Ryhope	—	—	1	1	—
Ryhope General Hospital	—	—	1	1	—
Palmer Memorial Hospital, Jarrow	—	—	15	15	—
Primrose Hill Hospital	—	—	2	2	—
Shotley Bridge Hospital	—	—	2	2	—
Seaham Hall Hospital	—	—	6	6	—
Royal Infirmary, Sunderland	—	—	2	2	—
General Hospital, Sunderland	—	—	2	2	—
Other Hospitals	—	—	16	16	—
Conrad House Elswick	—	—	5	5	—
Private Addresses	—	—	11	11	—
Other Places	—	—	1	1	—
	712	316	90	90	316

TABLE 5
POPULATION, BIRTHS AND DEATHS
For South Shields during 1972 and previous years

Year	Population Registrar-General's Estimate Middle of each year	Live Births		Deaths			
		Number	Rate	Under 1 year of age		At all Ages	
				Number	Rate per 1,000 net births	Number	Rate
1963	109080	2007	18.4	33	16.4	1377	12.6
1964	108770	1938	18.2	44	22.2	1200	11.0
1965	108540	1925	17.7	41	21.3	1214	12.1
1966	108110	1744	16.1	41	23.5	1253	15.7
1967	107760	1694	15.7	31	18.0	1092	10.1
1968	107210	1662	15.5	31	19.0	1359	12.7
1969	106150	1513	14.3	31	20.0	1331	12.5
1970	104600	1429	13.7	39	27.0	1354	12.9
1971	100220	1398	13.9	26	19.0	1260	12.6
1972	98610	1283	13.0	31	24.0	1369	13.9

TABLE 6
 VITAL STATISTICS 1881 - 1972
 Death rates from over last 10 cols.

Year	Estimated Population	Birth Rate	General Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Perinatal Mortality Rate	Death rates from over last 10 cols.									
						Measles	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea	Respiratory Tuberculosis	Tuberculosis of Other Organs	Other Respiratory Diseases	Cancer	Diseases of Heart and Circulation
Mean 1891-1900	87022	36.1	20.1	166	*	.44	.22	.11	.46	.93	1.60	1.00	3.76	.63	1.72
Mean 1901-1910	104186	33.9	18.0	140	18.1	.45	.17	.16	.47	.66	1.50	.71	2.94	.72	1.81
Mean 1911-1920	109843	28.9	18.1	126	72.9	.38	.09	.09	.26	.61	1.53	.59	4.23	.90	1.75
Mean 1921-1930	122170	23.2	14.0	99	59.4	.19	.03	.08	.19	.29	1.33	.44	2.84	1.09	1.87
Mean 1931-1940	110635	17.7	13.7	81	65.7	.12	.03	.17	.08	.14	1.12	.34	1.95	1.44	3.17
Mean 1941-1950	97994	20.1	14.3	70	44.3	.03	.00	.09	.03	.12	0.92	.17	1.78	1.92	3.81
Mean 1951-1960	107897	18.8	11.7	28	39.4	.01	-	-	-	.02	0.24	.12	1.43	2.24	3.27
Mean 1961-1970	107887	16.6	11.9	22	31.7	-	-	-	-	.01	0.07	.01	1.40	2.41	5.06
1971	100220	13.9	12.6	19	20.0	-	-	-	-	-	0.02	.04	1.84	2.61	6.36
1972	98610	13.0	13.9	24	28.0	-	-	-	-	-	0.04	.02	2.11	2.64	7.06

* Not available.

PART II

Services under the National Health Services Act 1946

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Midwifery

Health Visiting

Home Nursing

Vaccination and Immunisation

Ambulance Service

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Service	1952-53		1951-52	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Midwifery	1,248	100.0	1,248	100.0
Health Visiting	1,012	81.1	1,012	81.1
Home Nursing	1,012	81.1	1,012	81.1
Vaccination and Immunisation	1,012	81.1	1,012	81.1
Ambulance Service	1,012	81.1	1,012	81.1
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care	1,012	81.1	1,012	81.1

The following table shows the number of children under the age of 15 years who were examined by health visitors during the year 1952-53. The number of children examined by health visitors during the year 1951-52 is also shown for comparison. The number of children examined by health visitors during the year 1952-53 is 1,012, which is 81.1 per cent of the total number of children under the age of 15 years who were examined by health visitors during the year 1951-52. The number of children examined by health visitors during the year 1952-53 is 1,012, which is 81.1 per cent of the total number of children under the age of 15 years who were examined by health visitors during the year 1951-52.

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Year	Number of Children Examined		Total Number of Children
	Number	Percentage	
1952-53	1,012	81.1	1,248
1951-52	1,248	100.0	1,248

Care of Mothers and Young Children

VITAL STATISTICS

A summary of statistics for mothers and infants is set out on pages 23 and 24 of this report.

Ante-Natal Clinics

During 1972, ante-natal sessions continued to be held at the Stanhope Parade Clinics, Steward Crescent Community Hall and Boldon Lane Clinic. One evening session was held each week for the benefit of mothers who were working or had large families or who, for other reasons, found it easier to attend in the evening.

ATTENDANCES AT ANTE-NATAL & POST-NATAL CLINICS

Year	No. of sessions During year		No. of women who attended in Year		No. of new cases attended in Year		Total Attendances in Year	
	Ante-Natal	Post Natal	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal	Ante-Natal	Post Natal
1967	203	—	869	—	1,398	—	8,430	—
1968	580	—	3,054	250	1,415	—	10,668	—
1969	600	—	2,010	299	1,148	—	8,928	—
1970	610	—	1,504	236	1,079	—	8,470	—
1971	659	—	1,489	240	1,067	240	8,342	240
1972	703	—	1,487	204	1,085	240	7,908	240

Post-Natal Examinations

No specific sessions are allocated to post-natal clinics but patients who require post-natal examinations by the local authority staff are offered appointments at other clinic sessions.

Child Health Clinics

Child Health Clinic sessions were held each week in various parts of the town as follows:—

Stanhope Parade Clinic	...	...	...	...	3
Steward Crescent Community Hall	...	...	...	...	2
Park Avenue Community Hall	...	...	...	...	2
Galsworthy Road Church Hall	...	...	...	...	1
Wenlock Road Community Hall	...	...	...	...	1
Boldon Lane Clinic	...	...	...	...	2
Salvation Army Citadel, Flagg Court	...	...	...	...	1

Periodic medical examination of well children, as well as those at risk of developing handicaps, continued.

ATTENDANCES OF CHILDREN AT CHILD HEALTH CENTRES DURING 1972

No. of Sessions Held	No. of Children Attended in Year	No. of Children Attending			Total Attendances
		Born in 1972	Born in 1971	Born in 1967-70	
601	3,938	1,063	1,134	1,741	14,097

Distribution of Welfare Foods

Welfare food, i.e. National Dried Milk and Vitamin preparations for expectant and nursing mothers and children under five continued to be distributed daily at the Stanhope Parade Clinic and at all child health clinic sessions in other parts of the town.

By 31 December 1971 both cod liver oil and orange juice had ceased to be a part of the Welfare Food Service. These preparations were issued at the various clinics in 1972 until stocks were exhausted.

To replace them the Vitamin A and D tablets with the addition of Vitamin C were issued to expectant and nursing mothers and a new preparation Vitamin A D & C drops was available for children under 5 years of age. Two brands of proprietary dried milk were also made available for sale at these sessions.

Details of the sales of these various items are set out in the following table:—

Year	Dried Milk (Pkts)	Cod Liver Oil (Btls)	Vitamin A D & C Tablets (Pkts)	Orange Juice (Btls)	Vitamin AD&C Drops (Btls)	Viol (Ctns)	Adexolin (Btls.)	Proprietary Brand Dried Milk (Pkts)	Rose Hip Syrup (Btls)
1968	17835	1549	910	17176	—	1489	—	30227	12834
1969	16249	1386	1088	18743	—	1312	—	27940	11238
1970	12389	1190	1211	19389	—	1178	—	26249	9528
1971	10311	1199	1063	19201	1782	888	1640	23325	7617
1972	12016	220	828	5360	2927	494	816	12164	6293

1st Year Medical Examinations

Arrangements whereby parents are invited to bring their children for a routine medical examination at child health clinics at or around their first birthday continued. In 1972 1143 children were offered the examination and 834 were examined (72.96%). Of the children examined, 75 were referred to their family doctor or to the hospital for further investigation.

Priority Dental Service for Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under School Age.

As in previous years, the majority of patients under 5 arrived at the surgeries seeking treatment for toothache after one or two sleepless nights. Whenever possible, these are given immediate treatment, usually a general anaesthetic is essential for multiple extractions.

As has been said in previous reports, a major change in eating habits is needed; chocolate biscuits are no use for a child's first meal of the day. This only leads to more biscuits or sweets later in the morning and by now, we all know the result of this.

A. Numbers Provided with Dental Care

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	19	19	20	8
Children under 5	206	139	125	121

B. Forms of Dental Treatment Provided

	Scaling and Gums	Fillings	Extractions	Dentures	
				Full	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	—	16	33	2	2
Children under 5	1	58	256	—	—

Phenylketonuria

Midwives continued to test all infants for phenylketonuria by the Guthrie Blood Test Method. This test is carried out usually on the sixth day of life, the blood being collected from a small pin-prick in the baby's heel. No confirmed positive result has yet been recorded in the town.

Congenital Abnormalities

The scheme for notification of all congenital abnormalities apparent at birth continued throughout 1972. The information is collected in the Health Department and transmitted to the General Register Office. During 1972 there were 16 live and 5 stillborn infants notified as having congenital abnormalities, giving an incidence of 16.2 per thousand total births. Abnormalities notified in these 21 infants totalled 26 an incidence of 19.96 abnormalities per thousand total births. Further details are given in the accompanying table.

Abnormalities	Number	Rate per 1000 total births
Central Nervous System ...	13	9.98
Eye, Ear	—	—
Alimentary System	2	1.54
Heart and great vessels ...	—	—
Respiratory System	—	—
Urinogenital System	4	3.08
Limbs	5	3.84
Other Skeletal	—	—
Other Systems	1	0.76
Other Malformations ...	1	0.76
Total	26	19.96

Children at Risk

The register of children notified to the department as being "at risk" and likely to develop some form of handicap later in life was continued. During the year, a total of 215 cases were notified and added to the register.

Hearing Tests

All children, especially those on the above register who had attained the age of six months were offered a hearing test by the health visiting staff.

A summary of the tests carried out in 1972 is given below:

Total number of tests	...	...	1072
Number of re-tests	...	...	32
Number referred to Medical Officer			2

Family Planning

The Council continued its family planning service by arrangement with the Family Planning Association. A session continued to be held on Wednesday morning each week at the Stanhope Parade Clinic and the Council accepted financial responsibility for both examination and supplies for women referred on medical grounds.

During 1972 a total of 94 patients were referred and together with supplies issued by the domiciliary visitor the cost to the Authority was £562.

Under the Urban Programme for Areas of Special Need, this Authority received a grant towards the expansion of the Domiciliary Family Planning service. A full time domiciliary family planning nurse was appointed in January 1972 and the scheme worked well until this nurse left the service at the end of September 1972.

The Family Planning Association with the help of a grant from the Department of Health and Social Security arranged a Two Day Appreciation Course in Family Planning primarily for health visitors in September 1972. The course was held in the John Wright Centre and health visitors, midwives and social workers attended.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE

Notification of Births

The number of births notified in the County Borough during 1972 was as follows —

	Live Births	Still Births
Domiciliary Births	199	—
Births in South Shields Maternity Hospital	<u>1522</u>	<u>30</u>
	1721	30

Less

Born in South Shields Maternity Hospital to mothers not resident in the town	681	12
--	-----	----

Add

Born outside South Shields to mothers resident in the town	<u>260</u>	<u>1</u>
	1300	19

The institutions outside the County Borough where the births occurred were as follows —

	Live Births	Still Births
Danesfield Maternity Hospital Jarrow ...	233	—
Princess Mary Maternity Hospital Newcastle	15	1
Sunderland Maternity Hospital	3	—
Queen Elizabeth Hospital Gateshead ...	2	—
Newcastle General Hospital	4	—
Dryburn Maternity Hospital	1	—
Leeds Maternity Hospital	1	—
City of London Maternity Hospital ...	1	—
	260	1

Places of Confinement

Table 8 on page 23 gives the place of confinement of South Shields births over the last ten years. The proportion of births taking place in institutions is increasing and is now 84.7%. Of these births 17.7 took place in Danesfield Maternity Home, which is a general practitioner unit and does not have all the facilities of a Maternity Hospital. It is therefore not suitable for cases considered to be in high risk groups.

Care of Premature Infants

During 1972 there were 57 live births of infants weighing 5½lbs. or less at birth. Further details of these are given in Table 9 on page 24. Of the 19 still births 10 were premature and were born in hospital.

Intention to Practise

Notification of Intention to Practise were received from 43 midwives during 1972 and of these 29 were in the maternity hospital and 14 in practise as domiciliary midwives.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service

The staff of the domiciliary midwifery service at the end of 1972 comprised the Non-Medical Supervisor and 13 full time midwives, of whom one was assigned to special baby care, and one part time midwife.

Midwives attended a total of 199 domiciliary births in 1972, this being 47 fewer than in 1971. In addition 1100 patients were nursed on discharge from hospital before the tenth day. Of these 42 were discharged before the third day and 988 between the fourth and seventh day.

TABLE 8
PLACE OF CONFINEMENT (SOUTH SHIELDS COUNTY BOROUGH)

Year	NET LIVE BIRTHS				STILL BIRTHS				Still-Birth Rate	Percentage of Births in Hospitals
	Home	South Shields Maternity Hospital *	Institutions	Total	Home	South Shields Maternity Hospital*	Other Hospitals	Total		
1963	895	710 (334)	387	1922	7	30 (19)	5	42	20.5	55.7
1964	818	709 (351)	445	1972	5	35 (28)	5	45	22.8	58.5
1965	739	757 (392)	431	1927	5	22 (13)	5	32	16.3	62.0
1966	623	720 (384)	401	1744	1	22 (23)	6	29	16.4	64.1
1967	571	717 (397)	413	1701	2	19 (15)	2	23	13.4	66.7
1968	493	767 (437)	401	1661	3	27 (11)	2	32	18.9	70.7
1969	424	752 (481)	348	1524	5	12 (9)	6	23	12.0	71.1
1970	347	785 (594)	308	1440	2	17 (11)	5	24	17.0	75.9
1971	246	859 (600)	302	1407	—	15 (12)	1	16	11.3	82.5
1972	199	841 (681)	260	1300	—	18 (12)	1	19	14.6	84.7

* The figures in parenthesis refer to births occurring in the Maternity Hospital to mothers who are not resident in South Shields.

TABLE 9
PREMATURE BIRTHS

Weight at Birth	Born in Hospital			Born at home or in a Nursing Home						Premature Stillbirths				
	Total Births (1)	Died			Nursed entirely at home or in a nursing home			Transferred to hospital on or before 28 days			In Hospital (13)	At Home or in Nursing home (14)		
		Within 24 hrs of birth (2)	In 1 and under 7 days (3)	In 7 and under 28 days (4)	Total Births (5)	Within 24 hrs. of birth (6)	In 1 and under 7 days (7)	In 7 and under 28 days (8)	Total Births (9)	Within 24 hrs of birth (10)			In 1 and under 7 days (11)	In 7 and under 28 days (12)
1 2lb 3oz (100g) or less ...	6	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
2 Over 2lb 3oz up to and including 3lb 4oz (1001-1500g) ...	8	2	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	
3 Over 3lb 4oz up to and including 4lb 6 oz (1501-2000g) ...	16	1	2	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	
4 Over 4lb 6oz up to and including 4lb 15oz (2001-2250g) ...	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	
5 Over 4lb 15 oz up to and including 5lb 8oz (2251-2500g) ...	11	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
6 Total ...	57	6	5	1	11	—	—	6	—	—	—	9	—	

The Total Number of Visits paid were as follows:

Maternity, nursing and post-natal visits	...	...	...	...	...	13,750
Ante-natal visits	...	...	...	...	...	2,830
Visits re admission to Danesfield Maternity Unit	...	...	...	...	...	<u>188</u>
				TOTAL	...	<u>16,768</u>

Maternity Outfits

Maternity outfits were distributed to 182 expectant mothers during 1972.

REPORT OF THE NON-MEDICAL SUPERVISOR OF MIDWIVES 1972

The maternity services are continuously striving towards the ideal, whereby the mother maintains good health, physically and mentally throughout the natal period, and the newborn child after expert delivery is offered the skilled after-care so necessary in early life. Technology has played a major part in modern techniques alongside expert clinical assessment.

The quality of care in the ante natal period cannot be over emphasised. Fourteen clinics are held weekly in health premises, general practitioner centres or surgeries whereby doctors and midwives offer combined services in an educational, advisory and clinical capacity. Women are offered the facilities for discussion on personal worries or problems and home visits are made when necessary. Colleagues in health and social services are contacted in cases of special need. As we move towards a re-organisation of the Health Services with the objectives of increased comprehensive care and improved service the face to face relationship of professional workers and clients is one to be nurtured and preserved.

In 1972 the total number of births to women resident in South Shields showed a decrease of 18% over the previous year. This reduction brought the figures in line with those of 1969 and 1970, as 1971 had been a year of slight increase in the birth rate on a local and national level. More parents are now making use of the services available to plan the size of their families according to their individual choice and circumstances.

The number of women who default clinic attendance is now minimal and a reflection on the knowledge derived from health education in the schools and clinics.

Regular attendances have been made to the Mothercraft and Relaxation classes particularly by women expecting their first child.

Liaison with Hospital Service

A close liaison has continued with the hospital service in the care of mothers discharged home early in the post-natal period. In 1972 a total of 1,135 women were so discharged. The midwife assigned to the after care of babies discharged from the Special Baby Care Unit has visited the Unit and paediatric clinic weekly. Home assessments are made for those babies to be discharged so that the appropriate help can be given.

Defaulters of hospital appointments for ante-natal, post-natal or infant care have been visited at home with a view towards further appointments.

Management Courses

1st line management courses were attended at the Polytechnic, Newcastle upon Tyne by 4 members of staff – two attending the June–July course and two attending the November–December course.

Statutory Post Graduate Courses

Under the provision of the Rules G.1. of the Central Midwives Board 2 midwives attended a course at Leeds in July 1972, 2 midwives attended a course at Liverpool in April 1972. Under Rule G3 of the Central Midwives Board, the non-medical Supervisor of Midwives attended a course at Canterbury in April 1972.

Two Day Appreciation Course in Family Planning

This course was held at the John Wright Centre, September 14th and 15th – 7 midwives and 6 pupil midwives attended.

In Service Training

January – October 1972 monthly meetings were held at Princess Mary Maternity Hospital Newcastle upon Tyne. Talks were given by Specialists in their own particular field, followed by open discussion. Subjects discussed were:-

- Aspects of Epidural Anaesthesia during labour
- Radiology during pregnancy
- Aspects of Bladder Catheterisation
- The use of Radioactive Isotopes in Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- Prevention of Rhesus Disease
- Social and medical problems associated with abortion in teenagers
- Problems of drug addiction with reference to pregnancy

The Midwifery Training School

South Shields has offered facilities for the complete Part II midwifery training since November 1947. Over this period 379 pupils have completed the course. Many have remained in the maternity services locally and in other parts of the country, giving a valuable return for their training. Twenty-five years cannot and should not pass without progress and the need for change. Training needs had to be geared to modern trends in the maternity services and the changing pattern and habits of society itself.

In 1972 the Central Midwives Board terminated nationally Part II midwifery training whereby the whole six months period was taken on the district. The number of schools concerned had been decreasing yearly. The alternative type of Part II training could be taken at the hospitals already approved for such courses and which for many years had offered 3 months institutional midwifery and 3 months in the domiciliary service.

The final date for the conclusion of the 6 months domiciliary training was 31 December 1972. This was a decision which had been expected over the past two years and we had prepared for the future of the training school.

In 1967 subject to a Working Party Report on the future development of midwifery training – an integrated programme was introduced as a pilot scheme in the Newcastle and Wessex regions.

Following satisfactory negotiation and planning South Shields was approved to provide the community care training in an integrated programme with the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. We received our first school of students on this course – June 1st 1969. Since that time 113 candidates have completed the community care phase of training.

Over the past twenty-five years the Part II midwifery training school gave a valuable and useful service but we must now look ahead for further progress with the established and viable school of integrated training.

PART II Midwifery Training

In training – 1 January 1972 – 2

New students for Part II training – NIL

The two students were successful in their examinations.

Integrated Midwifery Training in conjunction with Princess Mary Maternity Hospital

In training – 1 January 1972	5
New students during 1972	28
Still in training December 1972	3
No. of students who completed 12 weeks domiciliary training	30

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT HEALTH VISITOR

Health Visiting Staff, December 1972 ... 15 Full Time
 ... 1 Part Time

One Student Health Visitor failed the Oral Examination in September and was referred for a further four months training to re-sit the examination in January 1973.

One Student Health Visitor was seconded for training at Newcastle Polytechnic in September 1972.

In Service Training was continued in 1972.

Refresher Courses

Three Health Visitors attended a refresher course at Lancaster University in September 1972.

Post Registration Training Courses

One Health Visitor attended a 10 day follow-up on Field Work Instructors course at Bolton in February 1972. During 1972, 4 Health Visitors attended 1st Line Management courses at Newcastle Polytechnic.

Eleven Health Visitors attended a 2-day appreciation course on family planning in the John Wright Centre, South Shields on 14th and 15th September, 1972.

Field Work Instruction

Two health visitors supervised the Practical Field Work of 3 student Health Visitors in 1972.

Health Education

Health Education continued in 8 senior schools during 1972. Health Visitors gave instruction in Child Care and General Health Education to senior girls and boys, the instruction being given in the form of talks, discussions, practical demonstration, and the use of films and flannel graphs.

One Health Visitor gave instruction in Child Care to senior girls taking "The Duke of Edinburgh Award" course.

Health Education Displays in the Health Department were organised and presented by the Health Visitors who made most of the posters and display material themselves. The display subjects were:—

Cytology, Obesity, Food Hygiene, Breast Cancer, Smoking, Fireworks, Christmas Decorations.

Screening Tests of Hearing

All babies are offered a Screen Test of hearing after the age of 6 months. If any of the babies have attended the Special Care Clinic at the General Hospital, a copy of the result of the test is sent to the paediatrician — Dr. M. Taylor, to be attached to the child's records at the hospital.

Total number of hearing tests in 1972	—	1072
Re-tests	—	32
Number referred to Medical Officer	—	2

Accident Register

This register is kept to record all accidents to children 0-15 years of age who required hospital care during 1972. These were:—

Head Injuries	...	...	...	...	...	103
Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	51
Fractures	...	...	...	...	...	3
Burns	...	...	...	...	...	3
Scalds	...	...	...	...	...	1
Eye Injury (with a home-made bomb)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Abrasions, Lacerations, Cuts-Bruises	...	...	...	...	...	<u>20</u>
						<u>182</u>

The total number is very much less than in 1971 but still remains very high, especially with head injuries, most of them due to falls whilst playing or climbing.

Despite all the propaganda and advice by Health Visitors during routine home visits, the number of children admitted to hospital due to poisoning remains high. These include ingestion of tablets, prescribed for adults, Junior Aspirin, drinking domestic cleansing materials and other toxic substances, frequently stored in mineral water bottles. The Health Visitors follow up each child discharged from hospital and advise parents on these dangers.

Flower Show

The Health Visitors arranged a display on "Obesity" for the Annual Flower Show held in August.

General Practitioner Attachment

Until 31st March 1972, Health Visitors case loads were in geographical areas of the town. On 1st April general practitioner attachment was commenced; each Health Visitor is now responsible for the registered patients of 2, 3 or 4 general practitioners. Some of the Health Visitors visit the general practitioners surgeries once a week, or more if necessary and have consultations with the general practitioners to whom they are attached. Some Health Visitors also hold Child Health Clinics and attend ante-natal clinics in the general practitioners premises. Health Visitors who are not at the present time attending general practitioners premises for consultations, either contact, or are contacted, by the general practitioner, by telephone. On the 1st September 1972, 8 general practitioners moved into a newly built Health Centre at Laygate. On 1st October the 3 Health Visitors attached to the 8 general practitioners also moved into the Health Centre. We would anticipate that all staffs working in the same building will foster a good working relationship and good co-operation can only mean a better service for the community.

Co-ordination with Hospitals

The Health Visitors work on a monthly rota visiting the General Hospital as follows:—

- A social round on the childrens ward with the Paediatrician, Dr. M. Taylor, once a week.
- The Special Baby Care Clinic once a week.
- Visiting the Chest Clinic once a week to act as Social Liaison Officer to the Chest Consultant.

Child Guidance Clinic

Health Visitors work on a 6 monthly rota working all day on Friday at the above clinic, to act as Social Liaison Officer to the visiting psychiatrist when available and to the School Psychologist.

Domiciliary Family Planning Visitor

In January 1972, a state registered nurse with the Family Planning Certificate was appointed as Domiciliary Family Planning Visitor. She works in close co-operation with the Health Visitors who refer mothers who will not, or for some reason, cannot co-operate in attending the Family Planning Clinics, but are willing to have the Visitor call on them in their own home re family planning advice. General Practitioners and Social Workers have also been invited to use the services of the Domiciliary Family Planning Visitor.

Medico Social Workers in Hospital

During the past year there have been many requests from the above workers in South Shields and the surrounding areas asking for the help of the Health Visitors with regard to Discharged patients and their social needs, or for reports on home circumstances etc.

Cytology Sessions continued to be held regularly on alternate Thursday evenings with Health Visitors or School Nurses assisting the Medical Officer,

Immigrant Notifications from London Airport and Shipping ports were followed up by the Health Visitor who advised on the necessity for chest x-ray and registration with a general practitioner.

Playgroups and Child Minders

The numbers on the Register in December 1972:—

Play Groups	— 18
Child Minders	— 19

This aspect of community care is now the responsibility of the Social Services Department, by mutual agreement between the Medical Officer of Health and the Director of Social Services the Superintendent Health Visitor continued to carry out preliminary assessment. The Health Visiting staff still continued the supervision in this field.

Great care is taken in the assessment of applicants and accommodation. After registration, regular visits are paid by Health Visitors to ensure the wellbeing and care of the children.

At Risk and Handicapped Register

All children on these registers are given extra supervision by the Health Visitors.

During 1972 third year Student Nurses from the General Hospital spent one day on the district with Health Visitors. Newly enrolled Student Nurses from the General Hospital Training School and Cadet Nurses from the Marine and Technical College visited and toured the Health Department on observation visits.

Student Midwives and girls from senior schools taking the Child Care Course, frequently visited the Child Health Clinics as observers. Mrs. Stewart occasionally gave talks to Student Midwives on the work of the Health Visitor, also having several interviews with student teachers doing a thesis on some aspect of the Health Visitors of school nurses work.

CASES SEEN BY HEALTH VISITORS	No. of cases
(1) Children born in 1972	1164
(2) Other children aged under 5	6232
(3) Persons aged between 5 and 16 seen as part of health visiting (ie excluding those seen as part of School Health Service)	141
(4) Persons aged between 17 and 64	216
(5) Persons aged 65 and over	421
(6) Number in line 5 who were visited at special request of general practitioner	17
(7) Households visited on account of tuberculosis ...	41
(8) Households visited on account of other infectious diseases	991
(9) Households visited for any other reason	368
(10) Number in line 9 who were visited at the special request of general practitioner	21

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE HOME NURSING SERVICE

This has been a challenging year in many respects. Some changes have been introduced and next year will probably bring yet further change.

Staff Situation - 1 January 1972

- 1 Superintendent
- 2 Practical Work Instructors (Full-time)
- 8 Full-time Nurses
- 6 Part-time Nurses

Summary of Work

	1971	1972
Patients on books 1 January	552	613
New Patients	1,223	1,431
Medical	618	745
Surgical	293	342
Ear, Nose & Throat	8	11
Cerebral	116	87
Carcinoma	123	160
Pneumonia	25	37
Diabetes	32	43
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	3
Other Tubercular Lesions	2	1
Maternal Complications	6	2
	<u>1,223</u>	<u>1,431</u>
Total No. Injections	14,096	15,196
Total No. Visits	61,996	60,452

Ancillary Staff

- 1 Full-time Bath Attendant
- 3 Part-time Bath Attendants

Visits paid by ancillary staff for bathing, hair care etc., 7,316.

The demand for this service is steadily increasing and permission has been given for the appointment of an additional full-time Bath Attendant, which is pending.

Resignation

Miss J. J. McDonald, Superintendent of Home Nurses resigned on 29 February 1972 to take a new appointment as Director of Nursing Services in Birkenhead.

Miss L. B. Monkhouse was appointed Acting Superintendent on a temporary basis from 1 March 1972.

General Practitioner Attachments

Following the conclusion of discussion and agreement with Medical Practitioners all Home Nursing staff have been attached to specific groups of General Practitioners.

Staff thus attached, are responsible for the nursing care of patients from her group of Doctors wherever they live. Geographical areas are no longer applicable.

The ultimate objective is daily contact with the doctors; this is not always practical due to lack of accommodation, but must be borne in mind. The benefits from closer liaison affect not only the General Practitioners and Nursing staff, but also the patients who must surely be our prime concern. Gradual progress is being made by most attachments and we look forward to further improvements and greater effort by all concerned.

Marie Curie Day and Night Nursing Service

At present there is only one State Enrolled Nurse employed on a casual basis on behalf of the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation. Nevertheless 21 patients received a total of 690 hours extra nursing care.

The availability of this service is obviously limited according to our resources, but any patient in the terminal stage of malignant disease qualifies for assistance and the maximum possible is given.

Relatives as well as patients greatly appreciate the support and comfort given.

Training

1 State Registered Nurse commenced training for the N.D.N. Certificate at Newcastle Polytechnic in September 1972, due for completion and examination in January 1973.

4 State Registered Nurses have attended 'first-line' management courses organised by the 'Department of Management Studies' at Newcastle Polytechnic, (2 weeks duration).

Hospital Nurses

A total of 48 Student Nurses and Pupil Nurses spent one morning during their training visiting with Home Nurses on routine visits.

Increased Establishment

Six new members of staff took up appointments in October 1972 bringing the establishment up to the recommended quota according to Ministry Circular 13/72.

Staff Situation – 31 December 1972

- 1 Acting Superintendent
- 1 Practical Work Instructor (Full-time)
- 11 Full-time Nurses
- 8 Part-time Nurses

The future heralds further changes with the re-organisation of the National Health Service, the objective – improved patient care, which in turn will benefit the whole community.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

A copy of the schedule followed is on page 36.

Vaccination Against Measles

The number of children vaccinated against measles during 1972 was 353 children under the age of 5, 6 children aged 5 and over.

Vaccination Against Smallpox

The number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations performed during the year are given below.

	Under 1 yr.	1–4 yrs.	5–15 yrs.	TOTAL
Primary Vaccination	4	50	31	85
Re vaccination...	—	2	32	34
Total	4	52	63	119

The following table shows the number of successful vaccinations and re-vaccinations

			1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Under 1 year	(a) ...	...	73	12	14	1	4
	(b) ...	...	—	—	—	—	—
1—4 years	(a) ...	...	557	380	480	377	50
	(b) ...	...	6	9	12	3	2
5—15 years	(a) ...	...	35	29	68	38	31
	(b) ...	...	32	11	27	21	32
Totals	(a) ...	...	665	421	562	416	85
	(b) ...	...	38	20	39	24	34

(a) Primary Vaccination

(b) Re-vaccination

Percentage of children under 5 years protected 27.2%.

In July 1971 on the advice of the Department of Health and Social Security smallpox vaccination and re-vaccination was discontinued as a routine procedure in childhood.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children immunised against diphtheria during 1972 was 1137 and a further 1202 received reinforcing doses. The following table gives further details.

	Children born in the year(s)					Others under 16	Total
	1972	1971	1970	1969	1965-68		
Primary Doses	28	861	144	36	63	5	1137
Reinforcing doses	—	—	—	1	1191	10	1202
Totals	28	861	144	37	1254	15	2339

Of the children aged 1—4 years approximately 74.1% have completed courses of primary vaccination.

Pertussis Immunisation

Some 1063 children under 5 years of age were protected against whooping cough, either singly or in combination with other antigens.

Tetanus Immunisation

Immunisation against tetanus, either singly or in combination with other antigens, was continued for both children under 5 years and children attending school. As in previous years the policy of ensuring that older school children were given primary courses of protection against tetanus was continued.

The number of children who received a primary course of immunisation was 1083 under five years and 90 school children. Reinforcing doses were also given to 414 children under five years and 987 school children.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION PROGRAMME

Age	Prophylactic	Interval	Notes
4 months	Diph/Tet/Pert and Oral Polip (first dose)	6 - 8 weeks	If this spacing is followed, the boosting dose of triple vaccine and poliomyelitis vaccine previously recommended to be given in the second year of life is unnecessary
6 months	Dipt/Tet/Pert and Oral Polio (second dose)	6 months	
12 months	Diph/Tet/Pert and Oral Polio (third dose)	4 weeks	To be offered routinely after completion of basic course of Diph/Tet/Pert/Polio. Four weeks should normally be allowed to lapse between the administration of measles vaccine and any other vaccine or a tuberculin test.
13-14 mths.	Measles Vaccine		
5 years (or near school entry)	Diph/Tet and Oral Polio		Reinforcement should be offered at or near school entry.
11 years	BCG Vaccination	At least 4 weeks after other vaccines and no other vaccine for three months	
12 years	Rubella vaccination		Offered to girls on entry into senior schools
15-19 years (at school leaving)	Polio Tetanus Toxoid		Reinforcement should be offered at or near school leaving.

Vaccination Against Poliomyelitis

The following table gives details of the number of persons protected against poliomyelitis during 1972.

	Under 5 Years	5-15 Years	Total
Primary Vaccinations completed 1972 ...	1094	75	1169
Reinforcing dose	418	992	1410

It is estimated that by the end of the year 72.5% of children under five years and 84.3% of children aged 5 - 15 years, had received a primary course of poliomyelitis vaccine.

Vaccination Against German Measles

655 girls born in 1960 were vaccinated against German Measles.

Ambulance Service

The following is a statement of the work of the Ambulance Service during 1972

Patients

Removals to or from address in South Shields	41404
Removals to or from addresses outside South Shields	<u>20387</u>
Total Patients	<u>61791</u>

This is an increase in the total patients carried when compared with 1971 (60165).

Journeys

Journeys with patients in South Shields	20483
Journeys with patients outside South Shields	5672
Accidents and emergencies	2254
Midwives with analgesia apparatus	1
Other journeys	<u>166</u>
Total	<u>28576</u>
Mileage in South Shields	107985
Mileage outside South Shields	<u>111992</u>
Total	<u>219977</u>

The comparable figure for 1971 was 230384.

Costs

The costs of the service for the year ended 31 March 1973 was £91264 which gives a unit cost of 41.5p per vehicle per mile. Corresponding figures for the previous year were £83433 at 36p per vehicle per mile.

In 1972 each journey averaged 7.7 miles and 2.2 patients carried.

Staff

At the end of the year the staff comprised a Superintendent, four controllers and twenty seven driver/attendants, one motor mechanic, one labourer and one night telephone operator.

Emergency Calls

During 1972 there was a total of 2254 emergency calls compared with 2074 calls in 1971.

The arrangements whereby the South Shields Ambulance Service provides emergency cover to the Whitburn and Cleadon areas on behalf of the Durham County Ambulance Service continued during the year.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Sick Room Equipment

During 1972 a total of 328 items of nursing equipment were issued to patients being cared for in their own homes. Most of the equipment is issued from the Stanhope Parade Clinic but some items are also available at the Boldon Lane Clinic.

The articles provided were as follows –

Bedpans	55	Feeding Cups	5
Backrests	22	Rubber Bed pans	1
Rubber Sheets	42	Commodes	10
Air Cushions	27	Hospital Beds	1
Bottles	45	Tripod Sticks	15
Invalid Chairs	56	Elbow Sticks	2
Leg Cages	13	Walking Aids	7
Dunlop Mattresses ...	3	Other Articles	24

TOTAL 328

The arrangements for issue of incontinence pads for those patients requiring them were continued. These pads are issued by the home nurses and the vast majority are used by patients who are already receiving home nursing care.

In addition to the incontinence pads protective clothing for incontinent ambulant patients were also made available.

Approximately 40,000 incontinence pads and protective garments were issued during the year.

Chiropody

The number of people taking advantage of the service increases and although there are two full time and one sessional Chiropodists employed there has been little reduction in the time between appointments.

Handicapped and blind persons continued to attend for treatment at the John Wright Centre together with the elderly from the district.

The Old Peoples Welfare Committee continued to offer treatment to old people including domiciliary visits. In the year ended 31 March 1973 a grant of £2,080 was given by the Council for this purpose.

A chiropody service is also provided for the elderly in the residential homes and school children.

A summary of the work carried out over the past five years is given in the following table.

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Total attendances... ..	6541	8187	7906	6935	7437
Patients treated by chirop- dist at patient's home ...	278	397	406	458	379
Total number of patients treated	2012	2513	2758	2544	2589

Cervical Cytology

During the year 746 patients were examined at the Stanhope Parade Clinic. No highly suspicious or positive smears were found but 36 persons were found to have minor gynaecological conditions. Thirty-three cytology sessions were held during the year.

Flouridation of Water Supplies

This topic has been considered several times by the Town Council who resolved that they did not wish to take part in any scheme involving the addition of flouride to water supplies. There has been no amendment to that resolution during 1972.

Health Education

Health Education is an essential part of any prevention service. Local Health Authorities have power under section 28 of the NHS Act 1946 to undertake health education as one aspect of their powers to make arrangements to prevent illness. In addition, local authorities have powers under section 179 of the Public Health Act 1936 to arrange for the dissemination of information relating to matters of health or disease by the various means at their disposal, for example films and lectures.

The subjects on which more health education is needed are risks of smoking, sex education, dental health, overweight and the need for physical exercise, and the early diagnosis of certain types of cancer. Health education should be developed in schools, thus requiring close co-operation between health and education departments in local authorities and the central government.

In 1972 the comprehensive programme of health education followed the pattern of previous years in seven senior schools in the town. In addition eight senior schools participated in the Child Care Course as prescribed by the National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare.

The number of schools and individual school children requesting special information or talks on various subjects appears to be increasing. All staff are encouraged to participate and we are fortunate in having some members who take a special interest in health education.

The practise of providing all school entrants with toothbrush kits continued throughout the year and the opportunity taken of inviting the parents to the school for a short talk on dental health and oral hygiene.

In addition there was a co-ordinated programme of Health Education Displays in the clinics throughout the town covering the following subjects—
Cytology, Obesity, Food Hygiene, Breast Cancer, Smoking and Health, Fireworks and Christmas Decorations.

CO-ORDINATION AND CO-OPERATION WITH THE HOSPITAL AND FAMILY DOCTOR SERVICES

The Department maintained its policy of trying to foster better relationships among the three branches of the National Health Service and a summary of the ways in which this is being done is given hereunder.

Co-operation with the Hospitals

During the year under review the close co-operation in the field of Mental Health between Social Services, Health Department and the Hospital Service continued and was firmly established by the reconvening of the Mental Health Liaison Group. This group has a membership which includes hospital consultants, the Director of Social Services, a general practitioner and the Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. G. Rhys Evans, Consultant Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon holds a monthly clinic at Stanhope Parade and the local authority audiometrician is in attendance. Children coming to this clinic are mostly school children but pre-school children also attend.

The part time geriatric day centre at Boldon Lane Clinic and at Wenlock Lodge Community Centre mentioned in previous reports continued to provide social care and medical supervision for elderly persons discharged from hospital. Local authority and hospital staff work harmoniously in these centres.

The Medical Officer of Health and Superintendent Health Visitor lecture to student nurses at the hospital, whilst student nurses spend some time observing the local authority nursing services and paying observation visits to the day nurseries, child health centres and former junior training centre.

The Principal School Dental Officer continued to attend clinical sessions at the Dental Hospital, Newcastle, and found this of great benefit in keeping abreast of the latest developments and techniques.

There is an interchange between local authority and hospital medical staff; a local authority medical officer attends the special care and premature baby unit at the General Hospital once a week and a hospital medical officer takes a weekly child health clinic at Boldon Lane Clinic.

The health visitor is a valuable link between hospital and home she is able to supply useful information on social and environmental conditions to the hospital staff, she can also pay follow up visits to the patients after discharged from hospital.

Health visitors on rota attend ward rounds on the children's wards and the premature baby clinic at South Shields General Hospital.

One health visitor, who is jointly employed by Durham County Council, Sunderland and South Shields County Borough Council acts as social worker and contact tracer for the special treatment clinics at Sunderland Royal Infirmary and the Diagnostic Centre, South Shields, under the direction of the Consultant Venereologist Colonel B. Levy.

All close contacts of notified cases of tuberculosis are followed up by health visitors. The health visitors also make visits to the patient's home and give advice and guidance on any medical or social problems which may occur. To ensure close co-operation between health visitor and chest clinic, the health visitors on a three monthly rota, visit the chest clinic at the Diagnostic Centre weekly.

One of the local authority domiciliary midwives is allocated to the special care and premature baby unit and follows up the babies discharged from this unit.

The Ingham Infirmary, South Shields, has been kept informed of all tetanus immunisations.

Co-operation with General Practitioners

The Medical Officer of Health is a member of the Local Medical Committee, the South Shields Executive Council and the Executive Committee of the local division of the British Medical Association and representatives of the Local Medical Committee and of the local division of the British Medical Association are co-opted members of the Health Services Committee.

For some years there was a policy of co-ordination between health visitors and general practitioners, the health visitors visiting the surgeries and acting as liaison officers between these practitioners and their nursing colleagues. Eight health visitors and general practitioners participated and there was a partial attachment scheme for some of the midwifery staff.

In April 1972 a full attachment scheme was introduced, under this scheme all three nursing services were attached to general practitioners, they ceased to work in geographical areas and now provide their services for all the patients on specified practitioners lists.

The Maternity Liaison Committee forms a link between all three branches of the service in the midwifery field and the Medical Officer of Health is also a member of the Regional Liaison Committee composed of officers of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board and Medical Officers of Health of the Local Health Authorities in the Region.

In 1972 the Borough's first health centre was opened in Laygate and three more were being planned.

On the 12th of January 1954, the following was received from the Director of the Public Health Service, New York:

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PART III

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notification and Deaths

Epidemiology

Notes on Certain Infectious Diseases

Hospital Admissions

Laboratory Examinations

Tuberculosis

Venereal Disease

TABLE A — Confirmed Cases and Registered Deaths of Notifiable Infectious Diseases, 1972

	Age Groups																				
	All Ages		Under 1		1-2		3-4		5-9		10-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65 & Over		
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
Scarlet Fever ...	43	-	1	-	4	-	8	-	27	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles ...	1393	-	80	-	319	-	432	-	555	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ...	8	-	1	-	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection ...	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning ...	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis Respiratory ...	29	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Non-Respiratory ...	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Infective Jaundice ...	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL ...	1504	6	83	-	326	-	445	-	592	-	16	-	7	-	16	-	12	3	7	3	3

TABLE B — Seasonal Incidence of Notification 1972

Diseases	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	3	6	4	3	1	6	5	3	—	5	5	2	43
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	5	4	72	228	516	391	115	42	14	4	—	2	1393
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	2	3	—	7	16
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis —Respiratory ...	—	2	4	3	3	1	7	1	3	1	2	2	29
—Non-respiratory	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	7
Infective Jaundice ...	—	3	2	4	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	13
Total ...	10	16	82	242	524	402	131	48	19	15	10	17	1516

TABLE C — Comparative Notifications for the Past Ten Years

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Scarlet Fever	69	234	67	39	15	12	12	19	35	43
Whooping Cough	84	54	9	126	8	11	23	51	15	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	1050	836	1170	1363	236	2487	29	829	138	1393
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Pneumonia — Influenzal	26	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Primary	119	85	86	37	47	34	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	31	107	13	85	15	130	128	43	77	16
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis (infective and post infectious)	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Typhoid Fever	24	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
* Erysipelas	3	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	2
Meningococcal Infection	1	4	1	3	—	1	1	2	5	2
Food Poisoning	5	20	12	11	4	20	15	12	15	11
* Puerperal Pyrexia	3	1	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Tuberculosis — Respiratory	103	80	55	59	43	38	31	29	32	29
Non Respiratory	9	5	8	9	9	9	3	5	3	7
† Infective Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	211	108	21	17	13
Total Combined Incidence	2529	1427	1426	1738	381	2956	350	1014	337	1516

* Figures to 30 September 1968 only

† Figures from 1 October 1968 only

Notes on Certain Infectious Diseases

Scarlet Fever

Confirmed cases number 43, compared with 35 in 1971. The incidence was evenly spread over the year.

Whooping Cough

The number of cases notified was 1, compared with 15 in 1971.

Measles

The total number notified was 1393, compared with 138 in 1971. Most of the cases were in the age group 3 - 9 and the majority of the cases occurred in the second quarter of the year.

Smallpox

No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

Enteric Fever

One case of typhoid fever was notified during the year. This was a seaman and he is thought to have contracted the disease abroad. No further cases were reported and recovery was uneventful.

Poliomyelitis

There were no cases of poliomyelitis notified for the eleventh year in succession.

Diphtheria

There were no cases of diphtheria notified for the twenty first successive year.

Encephalitis

There were no cases of encephalitis notified during the year.

Meningococcal Infection

There were two cases of meningococcal infection notified during the year.

Food Poisoning

A total of 11 cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, of these 7 were confirmed. No connection between the cases was traced.

Dysentery

A total of 16 cases were reported during the year and 8 cases were confirmed bacteriologically. This is the lowest number reported since 1967.

Infective Hepatitis

A total of 13 cases were reported during the year and most of the cases occurred in the first half of the year.

Hospital Treatment

During 1972 seven cases of notifiable infectious disease from South Shields were treated in hospitals as follows -

	General Hospital South Shields	Sheriff Hill Hospital Gateshead
Meningococcal Infection	2	—
Dysentery	1	—
Typhoid	—	1
Infectious hepatitis	2	—
Food poisoning ...	1	—

Laboratory Examinations

During the year 606 faeces specimens were pathologically examined for the Health Department in the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Tuberculosis

The number of notifications for tuberculosis was 36 compared with 35 in 1971.

Notifications

During 1972 there were 36 cases notified as follows —

	Male	Female	Total
Respiratory	24	15	29
Non-respiratory ...	2	5	7

Age Group	Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
1 year	—	—	—	—
2—4 years	1	—	—	—
5—9 years	3	1	1	1
10—14 years	—	1	—	—
15—19 years	3	—	—	—
20—24 years	—	2	—	—
25—34 years	—	1	—	1
35—44 years	2	2	—	—
45—54 years	—	4	1	1
55—64 years	3	1	—	—
65—75 years	2	2	—	2
75 years	—	1	—	—

The notification rate was 0.36 per 1,000 of the population — 0.29 respiratory and 0.07 non-respiratory.

The number of cases of tuberculosis notified or ascertained during each of the past ten years is as follows —

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Notified:										
Respiratory ...	103	80	55	59	43	38	31	29	32	29
Non-respiratory	9	5	8	9	9	9	3	5	3	7
Not Notified:										
Respiratory ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	115	85	63	68	52	47	34	34	35	36
Notification rate	1.02	0.78	0.58	0.63	0.47	0.43	0.29	0.32	0.35	0.36

A comparison of the notification rates for the neighbouring authorities is as follows —

	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
South Shields CB	0.29	0.07
Gateshead CB	0.36	0.04
Sunderland CB	0.25	0.05
Newcastle upon Tyne CB	0.28	0.08
Tynemouth CB	0.24	0.01
Durham County	0.16	0.03
Northumberland County	0.15	0.03

Mortality

Respiratory tuberculosis caused 4 deaths during 1972. There were 2 non-respiratory deaths recorded.

This represents a death rate of 0.06 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 0.08 for 1971.

The death rate for South Shields from tuberculosis during the past ten years was as follows:—

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Respiratory	0.02	0.07	0.11	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.02	0.00	0.06	0.04
Non-respiratory	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02

The following table shows the death rates of neighbouring authorities from all forms of tuberculosis.

	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
South Shields CB	0.04	0.02
Gateshead CB	—	—
Sunderland CB	0.02	—
Newcastle upon Tyne CB	0.05	0.01
Tynemouth CB	0.09	—
Durham County	0.02	0.01
Northumberland County	0.02	—

Tuberculin Testing of School Entrants

The routine programme of tuberculin testing of school entrants by means of the Heaf Test was carried out during the year. A total of 1,788 children were tested 1,520 were negative and 173 had a positive reaction.

Of the positive reactors, 135 had previously been given BCG and the number of natural conversions was therefore 38. This gives a new incidence of new positive reaction as 2.1%. All positive reactors were referred to the Chest Clinic at the Diagnostic Centre for further investigation. No cases of tuberculosis were notified from this group.

BCG Vaccination (11 year olds)

In accordance with the policy of previous years, BCG vaccination was offered to children during their first year in senior schools.

No. of children offered tuberculin testing and BCG vaccination	...	1,572
No. of consents received	... ..	1,431
Percentage of consents	... ..	91.0
Number who had previously had BCG	... ..	132
Number tuberculin tested	... ..	1,303
Number found to be positive (excluding those already vaccinated with BCG)	... ..	33
Percentage of children found to be positive (excluding those already vaccinated with BCG)	... ..	2.6
Number vaccinated with BCG	... ..	1,005
Number referred for mass x-ray (over 12 yrs. of age)	... ..	14
Number referred to chest clinic (under 12 years of age)	... ..	19
Number requiring further investigation after mass x-ray	... ..	NIL
Number requiring further investigation at chest clinic	... ..	1
Number found to be tuberculous	... ..	NIL

All positive reactors were followed up by a health visitor or school nurse and full details of all positive reactors were notified to the family doctor.

Venereal Diseases

The Venereal Diseases Clinic is held at the Diagnostic Centre, General Hospital, and I am indebted to Colonel B. Levy, Physician in Charge, for the following report:

"I have the honour to submit the following Annual Report for the Special Clinic of South Shields.

There was an increase in the number of new cases of gonorrhoea, 143 patients were found to be infected with gonorrhoea compared with 119 in 1971. There were 2,802 attendances at the clinic during the year compared with 2,760 in 1971. The fact that more females are attending the clinic is a good sign and reflects the energy spent on contact tracing.

Syphilis

14 patients were treated for this infection, compared with 15 in 1971.

Merchant Navy

173 seamen attended for treatment. Five were found to be infected with syphilis and 27 with gonorrhoea.

The report includes a summary of the work undertaken by the part time health visitor to the clinic.

In conclusion I wish to acknowledge the valuable help provided by the Laboratory Services of South Shields General Hospital, Sunderland Royal Infirmary and the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle General Hospital."

The following table shows in detail the new cases dealt with at the South Shields Clinic for the first time during each of the past ten years —

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Syphilis ...	17	9	15	13	12	15	15	5	15	14
Gonorrhoea	108	71	43	84	110	98	67	107	119	143
Others ...	347	329	300	327	396	414	409	438	590	554
Total ...	472	409	358	424	518	527	491	550	724	711

Total attendances

Year	Total	Male	Female
1963	2948	2024	924
1964	2615	1849	766
1965	1736	1288	488
1966	1830	1306	524
1967	1989	1347	642
1968	2086	1476	610
1969	1631	1266	365
1970	2032	1692	340
1971	2760	2000	760
1972	2802	1858	944

South Shields Cases under treatment at other centres.

	New Cases	Total Attendances
Newcastle ...	43	130
Sunderland ...	21	63

	Under 16	16 & 17	18 & 19	20-24	25 & Over	Total
Male	—	2	10	33	43	88
Female	2	10	7	18	18	55
Total	2	12	17	51	61	143

Merchant Navy – New Cases

	Syphillis	Gonorrhoea	LG	Urethritis	NVT	NVD	Total
UK	—	7	—	13	21	48	89
Europe ...	1	4	—	—	2	8	15
Asia	1	5	1	4	1	7	19
Mediterranean	2	3	—	7	3	12	27
Africa ...	1	7	—	6	—	5	19
New Zealand	—	1	—	2	—	—	3
Eire	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTAL	5	27	1	33	27	80	173

Report on Contact Tracing

Visits – 81 visits were made to patients who had defaulted from surveillance.

27 visits were made to contacts.

Contact Slips – 73 contact slips were issued to patients to give the names of their contacts.

40 females attended and gonorrhoea was diagnosed.

7 females attended and were found to be non VD.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF SUBSTITUTION
 AND OTHER MATTERS

The following information is being furnished for your information and for the information of the Bureau of the Census.

1952	1951
112	112
72	72
11	11
28	28
7	7

PART IV

MISCELLANEOUS

Medical Examinations

National Assistance Act 1948, Section 47

National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951

In-Service Training

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise you of the results of the survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census in 1952 regarding the medical examinations of the Federal Government employees. The survey was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the National Assistance Act of 1948, Section 47, and the National Assistance (Amendment) Act of 1951.

The survey was conducted in 1952 and the results are being reported to you for your information. The survey was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the National Assistance Act of 1948, Section 47, and the National Assistance (Amendment) Act of 1951.

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MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPERANNUATION AND SICK PAY SCHEMES

The following table shows the number of medical questionnaires received and medical examinations carried out during 1971 by the medical staff of the Health Department –

Categories	1972	
	Male	Female
For other departments within the local Authority	Q 62 M 17	118 72
Health Department	Q 7 M 6	17 6
Teacher & Teacher Candidates	M 59	88
Special Examinations	M 62	7
Examinations for other authorities	M 3	2

Q – Medical questionnaire

M – Medical Examinations

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 – Section 47 and NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

It was again unnecessary to use these powers during the year.

In-service Training

This authority continued the policy of giving favourable consideration to applications to attend courses and seminars. The clerical staff were given the opportunity to attend day release classes leading to the ordinary national certificate in public administration and the certificate of office studies.

The training of ambulance driver/attendants continued whereby new personnel are given a six weeks course of initial training at the Ambulance Training School at Newcastle upon Tyne. The Superintendent attended a course arranged by the Department of Health and Social Services on Emergency Reserve Channel in Ambulance Service Communications.

Members of the nursing staff were permitted to attend various refresher and retraining courses and the seconding of district nurses to obtain the National Certificate in District Nursing continued.

Four pupil Public Health Inspectors were given day release to take the Public Health Inspectors Course.

Twelve of the staff from the three nursing services attended courses in first line management.

Two members of staff attended National courses in preparation for the National Health Reorganisation.

The encouragement given to members of staff to up-date their knowledge and obtain higher qualifications is appreciated – a policy which will not only benefit the officer but the community of South Shields.

PART V
ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

Water Supply etc.

Housing

Food and Drugs Control

Atmospheric Pollution

Provision of Factories Acts

Rodent and Pest Control

**THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

Mr. R. V. Robinson, D.M.A., F.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

Water Supply

An adequate and constant supply of chlorinated water is provided by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company and chemical and bacteriological reports show the water to be wholesome.

All the houses in the town have a piped water supply though a few still remain in scheduled clearance areas which are served only by a standpipe in the yard.

The water supply to the area is a blended one taking in the much softer supply from the Derwent reservoir as well as the harder well water and a typical analysis of the mixed supply as drawn from the mains is as follows:—

pH Value	...	...	...	...	7.85
Total Solids dried at 180°C	...	...	...	...	100 ppm
Chlorine as Chlorides	...	...	...	...	15 ppm
Free Ammonia (as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	trace ppm
Albuminoid Ammonia (as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	0.04 ppm
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	...	0.45 ppm
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 27°C)	...	...	...	...	0.6 ppm
Total hardness	...	...	...	...	60 ppm
Non-carbonate hardness	...	...	...	...	40 ppm
Carbonate hardness	...	...	...	...	20 ppm
Lead	...	...	...	...	0.04 ppm
Copper	...	...	...	...	less than 0.02 ppm
Iron	...	...	...	...	0.05 ppm
Appearance and colour	...	...	...	...	5°Hazen
Smell and taste	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory
Residual free chlorine	...	...	...	...	None

Flouride Content

The naturally occurring fluoride content of the mixed supply as in the mains has continued at 0.4 to 0.5 as in recent years; no fluoride is added.

Bacterial Quality

In order to ensure a satisfactory bacterial quality, the water is chlorinated before it enters the distribution system.

As a routine precaution both the Water Undertakers and the Public Health Inspectorate have taken regular samples from many different points in the area during the year.

The department was responsible for taking 107 samples in this period and of these, two only were reported as being doubtful. Subsequent repeat samples however from the same sources taken after the mains has been flushed to remove any traces of contaminants, were found to be quite satisfactory.

Chemical Analysis

Four samples were examined specifically for lead and subsequently reported as containing 0.02 ppm. This is below the acceptable limit of 0.1 ppm laid down by the W.H.O.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal

The circumstances of drainage and sewage disposal continue as before; discharge is to the river and the sea without treatment.

The proposals of the Tyneside Joint Sewerage Board for centralised sewage purification and disposal for its twenty constituent authorities are under consideration by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

Swimming Baths

The public swimming bath in the Borough continues to give good service and, in addition, the trainer pools at seven schools are in regular use. All are visited at frequent intervals to ensure the maintenance of the quality of the water and for the purpose of collecting samples for bacteriological examination. One hundred and seventy seven such samples were examined during the year out of which two only were reported as unsatisfactory. Investigations into the circumstances brought to light the fact that there had been a minor breakdown on the water filtering plant. Once detected, this had been promptly repaired and no further trouble had been experienced.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Five applications for renewal of licences for the sale of pet animals were granted during the year. Three licences were in respect of shops and two for stalls in the market. All were inspected on several occasions during the year and, except for a few minor infringements, which were corrected as soon as they were pointed out to the proprietors, conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926

Fertilisers and feeding stuffs are sold by a limited number of shops in the Borough and mainly bought in small amounts by private individuals for local allotment use. Stockists themselves are usually found to carry only small amounts of a narrow range of products but nevertheless nine samples were obtained and submitted for analysis.

Three samples were reported as not complying with the permitted variation of the ingredients allowed by the regulations. In these cases the remaining stocks in the retailers hands were insufficient to enable a fair formal sample to be taken and letters of advice and caution were sent to the retailers and the manufacturers.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933

Thirteen traders applied during the year to have their names retained on the Local Authority's list entitling them to sell Part II poisons. All the premises were inspected before approval was granted and arrangements generally were found to be satisfactory.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

A total of 1101 premises were registered with the local authority at the end of the year, the 88 new registrations and 84 deletions resulting in a fractional

increase of 4 over the previous year. In the main these figures represent changes of occupier and hence employer rather than different premises coming within the scope of the Act. This is of course an inevitable circumstance. The number of employed persons rose by 239 to 7529, a rather large increase and resulting from the transfer of one large administration office to the local authority's register. Visits for all purposes numbered 663 and of these 531 were general inspections made of 322 premises. As a proportion of the premises inspected under this Act are also covered by food legislation there is a consequent need for more frequent inspections of these food premises than may otherwise be necessary. The 531 inspections resulted in 181 intimation notices, containing 616 contraventions being sent to the employers concerned, or to the owners of the premises; and in 850 contraventions contained in 199 notices being rectified. The types of contraventions increasingly found relate to inadequate standards of cleanliness and failure to provide thermometers, copies of abstracts and adequate first aid materials. These are of course transient matters and will undoubtedly continue to be found. Lack of maintenance of floor coverings and inadequate provisions for ventilation are two types of contravention frequently encountered, and it is notable that this latter provision is often omitted from the submitted plans of new or altered buildings, and occasionally in the completed premises even after previous reference has been made to the need for it.

Although all the Council's public Health inspectors are authorised under the Act these duties have for the most part been carried out by two or three inspectors, as circumstances have permitted, each devoting about 50% of his working time to this function.

Accidents

Forty accidents were notified, of which 3 were forwarded to other authorities, and 5 which although accepted was not actionable. Of the 32 recorded accidents it was found necessary to carry out full investigations in 2 instances, and 16 others required further clarification in order to arrive at an accurate assessment of the circumstances.

A significant proportion of the accidents notified were of a relatively minor nature and, it might be thought, need not have occurred; the shop assistant who dropped a catalogue on her foot; the window dresser who knelt on the stapling machine she was using; even the present extremes of fashion can be hazardous as for example the barmaid who, whilst descending the cellar stairs caught her shoe heel in the exaggerated flare of her slacks.

Two accidents are worthy of note, being the subject of investigations and report to the Council with a view to the consideration of legal proceedings. In fact in each case a formal warning was sent to the employer.

In the case of accident No. 23 a 16 year old youth received a cut hand whilst engaged in cleaning a hand operated horizontal food slicing machine. His age alone debarred this person from such an activity and he admitted that he had not been instructed to clean the machine. It would seem that in an endeavour to be of assistance he had, in carrying out his general activities, involved himself in cleaning this machine.

The second case Ref. No. 25, concerned a youth who fell some 7 feet from the roof of an internal office in a warehouse. This flat roof was unfenced and was intended, so it was said, only for the reception of palletted goods via a fork lift truck. (A nearby similar high level working area was adequately fenced.)

Eye witness statements confirmed that the youth was told, when his intentions became apparent, not to go onto this roof, and later, to get down off the roof, but apparently this advice was ignored until the accident happened.

The Department of Employment has asked for comment on two specific subjects, as follows:—

1. Instances of exceptionally good or bad standards in the observance by employers of their responsibilities under the Act, illustrated where appropriate and possibly by photographs. It is inevitable that in the course of dealing with matters of this kind a wide variety of situations is encountered and an equally wide variety of responses and reactions to an approach from an official ranging from the very favourable to the less satisfactory. The great majority fall however into the middle, more general, category in that whilst some genuine attempt has been made to meet the requirements of the Act there remain some minor aspects which have not received attention. In the extreme case occasionally one meets a situation where no registration has been made by the employer, and a complete ignorance of the existence of the Act is exhibited. No instance has yet been encountered where legal proceedings have been found necessary to secure compliance with the Act, although there have been numerous instances where the final ultimatum has had to be given. Up to the present time, however, this has had the desired effect either in achieving completion of the works necessary, or, less frequently, in cessation of the business concerned.

On the brighter side it can be said that a good proportion of instances indicate an obvious attempt (sometimes entirely successful) to meet the requirements of the legislation without any prior recourse to enforcement action by the local authority. This is no less true of some smaller business employers than of the larger establishments. It is not the practice of the department to photograph such instances of good or bad standards; indeed certain objections could be anticipated in the event of attempting to use a camera within an employer's premises for the purpose of recording some exceptionally bad standards.

2. The use of the 'dangerous conditions and practices' provisions of the Act, (Section 22); during the year 16 instances were found, and 17 rectified, under this heading. The types of contravention found varied from the use of unearthed electrical metal-clad equipment in offices and shops, (e.g. with the earth wire of a three core flexible cable neatly bent out of the way to allow connection to a 2 pin plug fitting), to the risk from doors without any visual warning opening outward over descending stairs. Whilst it is not felt that the types of contraventions dealt with are necessarily those for which Section 22 was envisaged certainly in the absence of a more specific appropriate provision they do more readily fit into this category of 'dangerous conditions and practices', from the point of classification. No case has been found which warranted an application to Magistrates court for the prohibition of the use of equipment or premises, or the discontinuing of any operation or process. Indeed the 16 items raised appeared to be the result of lack of appreciation of the hazards involved more than wilful omission and it is a favourable reflection on human nature that they were, on being pointed out, promptly rectified.

Analysis of reported accidents by type of injury

	Boys	Men	Girls	Women	Totals
Burns and Scalds	—	—	1	—	1
Broken Bones	1	2	—	5	8
Sprains and Strains ...	—	3	—	3	6
Bruising	—	3	1	6	10
Cuts	1	—	1	4	6
Amputation	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	1	—	—	1
TOTAL	2	9	3	18	32

Analysis of reported accidents by causation.

	Boys	Men	Girls	Women	Totals
Struck by falling object ...	—	1	1	—	2
Vehicle in motion ...	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery (powered) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery (non-powered)	1	—	—	—	1
Falls one level to another	1	—	—	2	3
Falls on fixed stairs ...	—	2	—	1	3
Falls on same level ...	—	1	—	3	4
Stepping on/striking against object	—	—	1	1	2
Handling goods	—	1	1	7	9
Hand tools	—	1	—	1	2
Others	—	2	—	3	5
Electric shock	—	1	—	—	1
TOTAL	2	9	3	18	32

Analysis of reported accidents by type of premises

	Boys	Men	Girls	Women	Totals
Office	—	2	—	3	5
Retail Shop	1	3	3	12	19
W. D. & W.	1	1	—	—	2
Catering Establishment ...	—	3	—	3	6
Fuel Storage Depot ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	9	3	18	32

FACTORIES

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	No.on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	18	6	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) where section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	292	106	16	—
3. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	14	4	—	—
TOTALS	324	116	16	—

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	To HMF Inspector	By HMF Inspector	No. of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness (S1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temp. (S3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage (S6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective...	25	24	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-workers)	—	—	—	—	—

Outworkers

One outworker has been notified during the year and was found to be engaged in the final stage of manufacture of engine gaskets by knocking out perforated knock-out sections. On inspection of the homes concerned conditions were found to be satisfactory and the carrying out of the works there involved no risk to the health of the occupants.

Food Control

Although consumer protection has become a popular topic only in recent years it can be considered that food control is a specialised form which has been exercised by public health authorities for a considerable time.

To ensure the consumer receives pure and wholesome food, control is exercised over the whole range of production or manufacture and distribution. Strict standards of hygiene are required of premises and personnel, and food-stuffs must conform to the many and varied requirements relating to fitness for consumption, composition, preservatives, colouring and other additives, and labelling.

This requires the inspection of manufacturing or processing, storage and retail premises and of transport vehicles and stalls; the registration or licensing of premises where certain specified activities are carried on; the inspection of foods and the sampling of foods for chemical and bacteriological investigation.

Samples taken for chemical analysis

Samples taken this year for general chemical analysis numbered 131 of which 13 were reported on adversely.

The type of commodities sampled were as follows:—

Commodity	No. of Samples Taken	No. Unsatisfactory
Meat Products ...	28	9
Fish Products ...	18	3
Milk and Cream	15	—
Icecream	8	—
Cheese ...	5	—
Beverages	11	—
Vinegar ...	5	—
Miscellaneous ...	41	1

Details of the unsatisfactory samples and action taken are as follows:—

F2	Creamed Semolina	I	Contained extraneous material—Rodent dropping	Subject of food complaint—Letter of caution to manufacturer
F24	Mince Pie	I	Contained only 18.4% meat. Regulations require minimum 25% meat.	Further informal sample No. F 125 taken.
F64	Meat Pasty	I	Contained extraneous material Animal hide	Subject of Food complaint — One or two similar complaints — Successful prosecution taken in respect of other one.

F65 Fish Cakes	I	Contained only 25.9% fish. Regulations require minimum of 35%.	Formal sample F110 taken – satisfactory.
F66 Fish Cakes	I	Contained only 31.4% fish. Regulations require minimum of 35%.	Formal Sample F111 taken.
F91 Pork Sausage	I	Preservative found 300 ppm No declaration of presence of preservative as required by regulations.	Warning letters sent to manufacturer/retailer.
F92 Beef Sausage	I	Preservative found 420 ppm. No declaration of presence of preservative as required by regulations.	Warning letter sent to manufacturer/retailer
F94 Pork Sausage	I	Preservative found 65 ppm. No declaration of presence of preservative as required by Regulations.	Warning letter sent to manufacturer/retailer.
F98 Beef Sausage	I	Preservative found 220 ppm. No declaration of presence of preservative as required by Regulations.	Warning letter sent to manufacturer/retailer
F101 Pork Sausage	I	Preservative found 430 ppm. No declaration of presence of preservative as required by Regulations.	Warning letter sent to manufacturer/retailer
F108 Pork Sausage	I	Contained only 48.2% meat. Regulations required minimum of 65% meat.	Formal sample taken after years end and found deficient in meat. Legal proceedings instituted. Fine of £25 imposed plus £10.00 costs.
F111 Fish Cakes	F	Contained only 33.8% fish. Regulations require minimum of 35% fish.	Marginally deficient – from same manufacturing source as satisfactory sample F110. Letter of caution to manufacturer.
F125 Mince Pie	I	Contained only 24% meat. Regulations require minimum of 25% meat.	Manufacturer/Retailer ceased trading.

Pesticide Residues in Food

Twenty-four samples were taken specifically for examination for residual pesticides and all proved satisfactory.

Bacteriological Sampling

Three-hundred and ninety-one samples were taken for bacteriological investigation, these included 166 of milk and 106 of icecream, the others being mainly of meat products and sliced meats.

The report on 30 of the samples of other foods, mainly sliced meats, gave rise to sufficient doubt as to justify careful investigation of the hygienic practices at the establishments concerned. Advice was given as necessary.

The examination results of icecream classify the samples according to a provisional grade. Because of the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of icecream too much attention is not paid to the result for any single sample. Judgement is based rather on the series of samples and it is expected that, over a period, at least 50% of the samples for any one source should fall into Grade I, at least 80% into grade 1 or 2 and none in grade 4. Detailed investigations are carried out whenever a sample falls into grade 4 or if any undue number fall into grade 3.

The following table shows the results for the 106 ice cream samples taken this year:—

Provisional Grade	Number of Samples	% of Total	Remarks
1	79	74.5%	Good
2	11	10.4%	Satisfactory
3	4	3.8%	Unsatisfactory
4	12	11.3%	Very unsatisfactory

The following table shows the results for the 166 samples of milk taken:—

Designation	No. of Samples	Results of Tests							
		Phosphatase		Meth Blue		Turbidity		Colony Count	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Untreated	13	—	—	11	2	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised	98	98	—	87	11	—	—	—	—
Sterilised	36	—	—	—	—	36	—	—	—
Ultra Heat Treated	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	—

Antibiotics in Milk

Thirteen samples of untreated milk were tested for the presence of antibiotics which may be found in milk from cows which have been recently subject to veterinary treatment. All the samples were found to be satisfactory.

Brucella Abortus

Thirteen samples of untreated milk mentioned above were also examined for the presence of Brucella Abortus and all were reported negative.

Milk Distribution

Milk is sold from 238 premises in the town; licence holders sell heat treated milk from 5 different sources.

The following table shows the number of licences in force for the various special designations.

Special Designation	No. of Licences
Untreated	22
Pasteurised	166
Sterilised	223
Ultra-heat Treated	9

Food Hygiene

The enforcement of food hygiene legislation has long been a responsibility of public health authorities and the bulk of the work in this field comprises the inspection of premises, the observation of practices and the remedying of faults by advice guidance and, if necessary, legal action.

This aspect of the work has continued with 915 inspections during the year; it was found necessary to institute legal proceeding in one instance only.

This year, unfortunately, it was not found possible to carry on with the food hygiene lectures to the general tradespeople to any large degree. This was due to the fact that extra staff had to be taken on (for Housing Work) which meant that no suitable room was available as a lecture theatre.

It was however, possible to lecture outside of the office and three talks were given to other food-handlers in a large department store which were favourably received.

Classification of Premises

The Minister requires annual reports to show the number and types of food premises in the town and the extent to which they comply with requirements for personal and equipment washing. This information is given in the following table in which the premises are classified according to the principal trade carried on.

Class	No. of Premises	Fitted To comply Reg16	Reg. 21 Applicable	Fitted To comply Reg. 21
Butchers	79	79	79	79
Bakers/confectioners ...	36	36	36	36
Fish Fryers	39	39	39	39
Fish Mongers	13	13	13	13
Grocers/General Dealers...	212	212	211	211
Greengrocers	46	46	45	45
Bakehouse	27	27	27	27
Catering	90	90	90	90
Public houses/Clubs ...	118	118	118	118
Foodstores/Warehouses ...	12	12	11	11
Ice-cream Manufacturers	6	6	6	6
Miscellaneous	139	139	135	135

Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

(a)	For the manufacture, storage or sale of ice cream	380
(b)	For the manufacture or preparation of sausage, potted pickled or preserved food	188

Meat Inspection

All slaughtering of animals for meat for human consumption is done at the Public Abattoir and animals, carcasses and offal are inspected in accordance with the detailed provisions of the Meat Inspection Regulations.

The total number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year was 28,704.

Animals Slaughtered and Inspected

	Cows	Calves	Other Bovines	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	879	—	4,916	18,618	4,291
Number inspected	879	—	4,916	18,618	4,291
All diseases except TB and C. Bovis :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	—	—	8	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	645	—	1,810	1,118	1,405
Percentage affected with disease other than T.B. or C. Bovis	73.5	—	36.8	6.0	32.8
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned — ...	—	—	—	—	—
Parts or organs condemned ...	—	—	—	—	1
Cysticercosis: only:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Parts or organs	—	—	—	—	—
Submitted to treatment by refrigeration —	—	—	—	—	—

Poultry Processing

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

Disposal of Unfit Food

Condemned meat is collected under contract for processing by heat treatment but before leaving the abattoir it is thoroughly stained with a green dye. All other condemned food is destroyed by arrangement with the Cleansing Superintendent, by incineration.

The total weight of meat rejected at the abattoir was 11 tons 25 lbs.

Other foods condemned amounted to 9 tons 18 cwt 28 lbs made up as follows:—

	tons	cwt	lbs
Fresh meat	—	—	56
Canned meats	2	19	110
Other canned foods	3	15	86
Frozen food	1	3	88
Miscellaneous	1	18	24

Housing

House improvement continued to be the most outstanding aspect of housing dealt with in the year. The rate of receipt of applications for improvement grant continued to increase under the stimulus of the provision of 1971 Housing Act which provided for 75% grants to be paid in this area for a temporary period. The period for which the higher grants are applicable has been extended by one year to terminate on 23rd June, 1974. In order to qualify improvement works must be completed by that date.

The interest in improvement proved so great that on occasions general enquirers had to be seen in groups rather than individually and the number of applications received far exceeded the ability of the department to deal with them as speedily and effectively as desired. To an even greater extent however, they exceeded the ability of the local building industry to carry out the works. Based on the completion rate of the past two years the applications in hand at the end of the year will keep the industry occupied for some 7 or 8 years. Applications in respect of 536 dwellings were in abeyance pending receipt of builders estimates and a few applicants withdrew their applications after trying, in vain, to obtain estimates over a period of up to six months.

Although much attention is devoted to this aspect other housing work has also continued. This includes slum clearance, the ensuring of satisfactory standards in houses in multiple occupation, ensuring satisfactory standards of repair and inspections in connection with applications for certificates of dis-repair and for qualification certificates.

Improvement Grants

The number of applications dealt with during the year is as follows:—

Improvement (Discretionary) Grants

No. of dwellings in respect of which applications received	—	1,256
No. of dwellings in respect of which applications approved	—	481
Total amount of grant approved	—	£473,208.00
Average grant per dwelling improved	—	£983.80

Standard Grants

No. of dwellings in respect of which application received	—	26
No. of dwellings in respect of which applications approved	—	17
Total amount of grant approved (half cost up to maximum of)	—	£3861.00
Average maximum grant per dwelling improved	—	£227.11

Qualification Certificates

The 1969 Act provided the opportunity for landlords to have controlled tenancies converted to regulated tenancies if the dwelling satisfied the standards of fitness and was already equipped with all the standard amenities. The procedure involves obtaining from the Council a qualification certificate which certifies the satisfactory condition of the dwelling. Having obtained a certificate however, the tenancy did not become a regulated one until dates in 1971 or 1972, according to rateable value.

Applications for Qualification Certificates:—

	1972	1971
Applications received	41	(229)
Pending at 31.12.72.	56	(98)
Qualification Certificates issued	50	(101)
Qualification Certificates refused	21	(31)

The improvement of a controlled tenancy to a satisfactory standard also enables the owner to obtain a qualification certificate and provisional certificates are issued when proposals for improvement are approved. The final certificate is issued after the improvements have been satisfactorily completed.

Applications for Provisional Qualification Certificates:—

	1972	1971
Applications received	106	(69)
Pending	54	(33)
Provisional Certificates issued	68	(44)
Qualification Certificates issued	33	(33)

Rent Acts – Certificates of Disrepair

No. of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair	3
No. of applications granted	2
No. of applications refused	1
No. of Certificates issued	2
No. of undertakings received	0
No. of certificates withdrawn	0
No. of applications for certification that undertakings have been complied with	3
granted	3
refused	0

Slum Clearance

Areas represented during year:—

Area	Date	Dwellings	Families	Persons
Mile End Road No. 3 ...	5.4.72.	21	21	41
High Shields No. 9 ...	5.4.72	200	199	433
Eastbourne Grove No. 2	11.10.72	160	145	382

Orders confirmed:—

Area	Date Confirmed	Date of Public Enquiry	Date Represented
Harper's Buildings ...	17.4.72	Inspection only 9.2.72.	9.6.71
Alice Street/John Williamson Street No. 3 ...	1.8.72	23.5.72.	9.6.71

Individual Unfit Houses

In addition to the above, five dwellings were represented as being unfit for habitation and not capable of being made fit at reasonable expense; appropriate orders were made and the affected families rehoused.

Overcrowding

During the course of the year eleven complaints of overcrowding were investigated. In six instances overcrowding was confirmed and appropriate action was taken.

Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in town but a number of premises are licensed as Seamen's Lodging Houses. The number of these has now reduced to five providing lodgings for a maximum of 51 seamen.

Inspections were made during the year and conditions have been reasonably satisfactory. The provisions of the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1894 dealing with Seamen's Lodging Houses are to be repealed from 1st January, 1973 and these will in future be considered simply as houses in multiple occupation.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

There are now 71 houses in the town considered, for practical purposes, to be houses in multiple occupation and these comprise 362 lettings in all. Twenty-eight are solely or mainly let to single men, the majority being students. Nineteen did not fully meet the standard required at some part of the year though none was seriously deficient. In the appropriate cases the owners were requested to remedy deficiencies and at the end of the year all but ten were satisfactory.

Atmospheric Pollution Control

Domestic

The Council's Nos. 7 and 8 Smoke Control Orders came into operation on 1st November and orders were made for areas number 9 to 18 inclusive.

The number of premises now covered by smoke control orders is 15,314, which is 36.53% of the premises in the borough.

Industrial

Formal approval was given to the heights of three chimneys which were either to be newly constructed or used in connection with a change of furnace. In a number of other instances, where the size of the furnaces concerned did not necessitate formal approval of chimney height, informal advice and approval was offered.

Control of Rodents and Other Pests

The number of premises found to be infested with rats or mice following complaint or survey was 766. Of these, only 136 were rat infestations. The overall level of rodent infestation is the same as last years and the relative incidence of rats and mice is about the same. Of the premises infested by either type of rodent 588 were dwellings.

The sewerage systems in the Borough were twice treated against rat infestation.

Insect and other pest problems dealt with numbered 342. This is a reduction from the previous years 403 and the types of pest dealt with were not particularly notable. One-hundred and thirty of the infestations dealt with were in Council houses.

Summary of Public Health Inspectors' Work 1972

Complaints received	760
(a) Inspections and Investigations:	
Houses Inspected:	
Under Public Health Acts	596
Under Housing Acts	507
Improvement Grants	997
Certificate of Disrepair	4
Houses Re-inspected:	
Under Public Health or Housing Acts	888
Improvement Grants	750
Certificate of Disrepair	8
Houses in multiple occupation:	29
Seamen's Lodging Houses	6
Verminous or dirty premises	5
Other nuisances	41
Drainage:	
Visits	135
Works supervised	16
Tests applied	192



