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Warrington
Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR 1973



WARRINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL


ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF

PUBLIC HEALTH

DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR 1973



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Councillor Mr. J.W.H. Punshon (Until May)

Councillor Mr. T. Lloyd Morgan (Since May)

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Winnick (East)

Counselor T.H. Hargrove
Counselor J.W.H. Pugh

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
***** ** ***** ***** *****

Medical Officer of Health	J.M. PACKER, M.A. Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	*N.G. MAYNE, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. San. Science, Certified Smoke Inspector (R.S.H.)
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	*W.F. SNOW, P.H.I.'s Cert. Smoke Inspector's Diploma (R.S.H.) Testamur of Inst. Public Cleansing
Senior Assistant Public Health Inspectors	*W.T. DITCHFIELD, Cert. S.I.B., Certified Smoke Inspector (R.S.H.) *R. RIMMER, Cert. S.I.B., Certified Smoke Inspector (R.S.H.) *K.R. DEAKIN, P.H.I.'s Cert. *A.H. THORNTON, Dip. P.H.I. E.B. Certified Smoke Inspector (R.S.H.) *B.W. DALE, Dip. P.H.I. E.B. *A. HENRY, Cert. S.I.B.
Cleansing Inspector	MR. H. HOATHER, Testamur of Inst. P.C. A.I.R.T.E.
Authorised Meat Inspectors	MR. P. McKEOWN MR. H. HATTERSLEY
Technical Assistants	MR. J. WATHEN MR. J.W. McDONALD MR. J. LESTER
Clerical and General Staff	MRS. J.A. BATES MRS. C. BARTOLO MISS. L.M. SIMCOCK MISS. H.Y. SINCLAIR MRS. P. NESS (Since June)
Pupil Public Health Inspector	MR. M.G. JOHNSTON

* Qualified Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods (R.S.H.)

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WARRINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1973

TO: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,
WARRINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration, the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions in the Warrington Rural District during 1973.

This is the last report to be submitted to the Council before its dissolution. It is immediately evident that it is less full than its distinguished predecessor. The vital statistics usually reported cannot be included as they will not be available from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys before April, 1974.

The pressures resulting from the imminent handover continue to increase. The staff have continued to run the customary services, accepting additional work preparatory to handover, and coping with the uncertainties which still abound with great cheerfulness.

Dr. J.M. Packer resigned as Medical Officer of Health in order to take up his new appointment as Area Medical Officer for St. Helens and Knowsley on January, 14th, 1974.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank the Members of the Council for their interest in all matters of Public Health during the year, and to Mr. N.G. Mayne, Chief Public Health Inspector, and the staff of the Health Department for their helpful co-operation and the manner in which they have carried out their duties.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

M.J. BOND
Medical Officer of Health.

WASHINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 1973

TO: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,
WASHINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present for your consideration, the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions in the Washington Rural District during 1973.

This is the last report to be submitted to the Council before its dissolution. It is immediately evident that it is less full than the distinguished predecessor. The vital statistics usually reported are included as they will not be available from the Office of Population and Surveys before April, 1974.

The progress resulting from the last year's work continues to increase. The staff have continued to run the sanitary services, completing additional work necessary to improve, and coping with the uncertainties which still abound with great shrewdness.

Dr. J.M. Parker resigned as Medical Officer of Health in order to take up his new appointment as Area Medical Officer for St. Helens and Knowsley in January, 1974.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Council for their interest in all matters of Public Health during the year, and to Mr. M.G. Myers, Chief Public Health Inspector, and the staff of the Health Department for their helpful co-operation and the manner in which they have carried out their duties.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

M.J. BOND
Medical Officer of Health

PHYSICAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Warrington Rural District is situated in the south-west of the County of Lancaster. It is bordered on the north by the districts of the County Borough of St. Helens and the Urban Districts of Newton-le-Willows and Golborne; to the east is the Urban District of Irlam, and on the west is the Rural District of Whiston and the Borough of Widnes. The southern boundary, which is also the County Boundary, is the Manchester Ship Canal and the northern perimeter of the Warrington County Borough.

The area of the district is approximately 35 square miles being 14 miles from east to west, with a narrow waist of about two miles in the centre between Warrington and Newton, broadening to an average width of about six miles.

Agriculture is the principal occupation in the area, but there are, in the more urban parishes, a variety of industries including light engineering, brewing, brick making and paint manufacture.

The area is, as a whole, comparatively low-lying with only a gentle undulation to relieve the otherwise flat landscape. The fall of the land is to the south, with streams and brooks discharging into the River Mersey which winds its way across the southern portion of the district only slightly to the north of the Manchester Ship Canal.

DISTRICT STATISTICS

Area (acres)	22,732
Estimates population (mid 1973)	55,043
Number of inhabited houses and flats	16,365
Rateable Value	£6,087,479
Sum represented by lp rate	£57,793

PROVISION OF GENERAL HEALTH AND ANCILLARY

SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

LABORATORY ARRANGEMENTS

Public Health Laboratory Service and County Analyst's Department.

Pathological specimens, samples of milk, food, "Swabs", etc., for bacteriological investigation are dealt with by the Public Health Laboratory Service, either at the Public Health Laboratory, Fazakerly Hospital, Liverpool or the Laboratory at Withington Hospital, Manchester; the chemical analysis of water, milk and other samples of food and drugs is undertaken at the County Analyst's Department, County Offices, Preston, or the Public Laboratory at Ruddock & Sherratt, Chester.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

Liverpool Regional Hospital Board and Warrington H.M.C.

Although the Rural District contains no general hospitals within its boundaries it is well served by the two major hospitals situated in Warrington County Borough, the Warrington Infirmary and Warrington General Hospital, which provide the full range of services normally to be found in a district general hospital. The Victoria Park Maternity Home at Latchford accommodates some of the more straightforward maternity cases, thus supplementing the main obstetric unit at the General Hospital. A proportion of medical, surgical or obstetric cases are referred, for various reasons, to hospitals in nearby districts such as St. Helens and Whiston, and some to Manchester and Liverpool. Patients requiring in-patient treatment for tuberculosis are admitted mainly to Eccleston Hall; out-patient sessions are held by the Chest Physician at Warrington General Hospital.

Facilities for the treatment of psychiatric illnesses are centred on Winwick Hospital, and for mental subnormality at Newchurch Hospital, Culcheth.

The Smallpox Hospital for the Liverpool Region is situated at Great Sankey, and has accommodated suspected smallpox cases from time to time.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SERVICES

The family doctor service and the general dental, pharmaceutical and ophthalmic services are the responsibility of the Lancashire Executive Council, 42 West Cliff, Preston.

COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES

The Lancashire County Council is the Local Health Authority, and the day to day administration of the wide range of services which it provides in this area is in the hands of Divisional Health Committee No.10.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

All vehicles in the Lancashire County Council ambulance service are under radio control, and all services in the Division are controlled by staff at the area ambulance headquarters at Whiston. Vehicles from other stations can be brought in easily because of the radio contact when necessary.

This service deals with all types of cases where such transport is required by reason of illness (including mental illness or mental sub-normality), whether accident, other emergency, general illness or infectious disease. In cases of emergency any person having reason to do so may summon an ambulance, and the emergency service number '999' should be used. In other cases the calls for this service are made either by a doctor, dentist, midwife, nurse or other duly qualified person, who can call Whiston headquarters, telephone number 051-426-5222.

Five stretcher-carrying ambulance vehicles and three "Sitting case" cars are stationed at the Ambulance Station, Silverdale Road, Newton-le-Willows and manned by an appropriate staff, all qualified in First Aid. Certain localities at the eastern and western extremities of the District are served by ambulances from adjacent areas.

CLINICS

PENKETH HEALTH CENTRE, HONITON WAY

Child Health Clinics - weekly, each Tuesday and Thursday

2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Chiropody and Dental services by appointment.

WOOLSTON CLINIC, HOLES LANE

Child Health Clinic - weekly each Thursday 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Ante-natal Clinic - weekly each Tuesday 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Ante-natal Relaxation Class - weekly each Monday 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon

Chiropody and Dental services by appointment.

Child Health Clinics ("Infant Welfare Clinics") are also held periodically in rented premises as set out below:

BURTONWOOD Youth Centre, Clay Lane.

Weekly each Tuesday, 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

CROFT Memorial Hall, Mustard Lane.

Fortnightly, alternate Mondays, 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

PADGATE Methodist Sunday School, Padgate Lane.

Weekly each Wednesday, 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

RIXTON Parish Hall, weekly each Monday, 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

SANKEY Laporte Social Club, Hood Lane.
Weekly each Monday, 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

WINWICK Leisure Centre, Myddleton Lane.
Fortnightly alternate Wednesday, 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

MIDWIFERY

Whole-time domiciliary midwives are engaged on this work within the Rural District in the employ of the County Council, which is both the Local Health Authority and Supervising Authority under the Midwives Act. These nurses normally accept responsibility for cases residing within reasonable proximity of their homes, but the principle of the expectant mother's free choice of midwife (as of doctor), is well established. Each has a car at her disposal to enable her to respond quickly to urgent calls and to carry apparatus for analgesia.

The names and addresses of the midwives are:

Mrs. N. Massey, 16 Hawthorne Avenue, Glazebury.	Tel.No.Culcheth 3712
Mrs. M. Robinson, 114 Stocks Lane, Penketh.	Tel.No.Penketh 5854
Mrs. E. Foster, 99 Marina Avenue, Great Sankey.	Tel.No.Warr. 55341
Mrs. A. Grace, 9 Dingle Avenue, Newton-le-Willows.	Tel.No.Newton 7579
Mrs. C. Price, 10 Arkenshaw Road, Croft.	Tel.No.Culcheth 3373
Mrs. M.A. Taylor, 16 Hawthorne Grove, Paddington.	Tel.No.Warr. 33664
Mrs. G. Tinsley, 19 Hawthorne Avenue, Great Sankey.	Tel.No.Penketh 6647

HEALTH VISITING

A Health Visitor is a State Registered Nurse who has received at least a course of training in midwifery and undertaken a year of special training in preventive medicine (especially early detection of handicaps), health education, and social work. Although in much of her work she is concerned with mothers and children, her duties are by no means confined to these members of the family. In recent years the Health Visitor has worked increasingly with adults, particularly the elderly.

A substantial part of the Health Visitor's time is spent in connection with the School Health Service undertaking the duties of a School Nurse. If a Health Visitor has the aptitude she may undertake teaching of classes in health education and mothercraft subjects which are included in the school curriculum.

Hitherto each Health Visitor has worked in a defined geographical area, but the current trend is to make the Health Visitor's caseload the patients registered with one or more family doctors and to arrange for the Health Visitor to have frequent contact with the doctors.

The Health Visitors employed in this District are based mainly at Penketh Health Centre and Woolston Clinic. Burtonwood is served from The Gables Clinic, Crow Lane West, Newton-le-Willows, and Croft and Winwick from the Clinic, Jackson Avenue, Culcheth.

DISTRICT NURSING

An "Attachment" scheme is now in operation by which district nursing sisters take their patients according to the medical practice to which they are attached and not according to a geographical district as before. District nurses of the S.E.N. grade and nursing auxiliaries are also employed to work under the supervision of the nursing sisters and general medical practitioners work closely together with full consultation so that the skill of the specially trained nurse can be properly employed.

The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Nursing Sisters are:

Mrs. L. Morrison, 29 Churchfields, Croft.	Tel.No.Culcheth 2044
Mrs. M. Dutton, 37 Culcheth Hall Drive, Culcheth.	Tel.No.Culcheth 2235
Mrs. M.E.G. Ledson, 10 Clovelly Avenue, Gt. Sankey.	Tel.No.Penketh 3238
Mrs. P. Knight, 67 Park Road, Great Sankey.	Tel.No.Penketh 2560
Mrs. M.C. Evans, 27 Edward Avenue, Gt. Sankey.	Tel.No.Penketh 2784
Mrs. B. Booth, 13 Belgrave Avenue, Bruche.	Tel.No.Warr. 37084
Mrs. A. Pollock, 17 Clifton Avenue, Culcheth.	Tel.No.Culcheth 4440
Mrs. S.W. Donnellan, 9 Sheri Drive, Newton-le-Willows.	Tel.No.Newton 7597

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Facilities are provided both by the County Council and by family doctors for giving protection against smallpox, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, and german measles. Certain other immunisation, e.g. against typhoid fever, may be given by family doctors when required. The B.C.G. injection against tuberculosis is given by the School Health Service and by the staff of Chest Clinics.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

The scope of these arrangements is very wide and includes health education, health visiting in the homes including those of persons suffering from tuberculosis, the provision of ancillary nursing equipment, the after-care of patients who have suffered from illness either at home or in hospital, and the provision of convalescent accommodation. It also includes the provision of a chiropody service available to the elderly (aged 65 or over), registered handicapped persons, and expectant mothers.

SOCIAL SERVICES

The Lancashire County Council is the responsible authority, and the day to day administration of the services is in the hands of Divisional Social Services Committee No.4. The services provided include Social Workers, Home Helps, residential accommodation, and day centres, and they cater mainly for the elderly, the physically handicapped, the mentally disordered, children and the homeless. The County Council's scheme utilises very fully the various voluntary agencies in the provision of facilities such as social clubs, luncheon clubs, and 'meals on wheels' for the aged and the handicapped. The Social Services Committee also pays a grant to the District Council in respect of approved tenants of warden-supervised housing.

Enquiries regarding the Social Services Department should be made to the Area Officer, Social Services Department (Division No.4), The Old Rectory, Winwick. (Telephone Warrington 37444).

WARRINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR 1973

TO: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
WARRINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This will be my last Annual Report to the Council, and because it has to be submitted before the Warrington Rural District Council is absorbed into the Warrington District Council, certain information normally received from the Lancashire County Council after 1st April has had to be omitted.

It was thought advisable to submit this Report inspite of the forthcoming amalgamation, as both in Public Health and Public Cleansing Sectors it has been a year of achievement, which should be recorded.

The Council has given every encouragement to owners to improve their houses, and during the year there has been a spectacular increase in the number of houses improved and the amount of grants paid. In 1973 year grants to the value of £612,936.00 were approved and £266,924.00 was paid out on completed schemes. The figures for 1972 were £266,936.00 approved and £58,874.00 grants paid, whilst in 1971 the amount approved was £24,889.00 and £4,834.00 was paid in grants.

As predicted at the end of 1972 there was throughout 1973 a shortage of builders and many applicants who had schemes approved were unable to get a builder to carry out the works. There was a welcome increase in the number of applications submitted to improve tenanted houses, 53 as against 4 in the previous year.

Now that so many houses have been improved in the area, their presence is beginning to be very evident and adjacent houses requiring improvement are very prominent by reason of their contrasting neglected appearance.

The Smoke Control Programme for the Warrington Rural District area will be completed by July, 1974. The last Smoke Control Order covering Croft and Rixton areas was confirmed on 16th August, 1973.

I must pay tribute to Mr. W.T. Ditchfield who has been responsible for carrying out the Smoke Control Programme, a task he has carried out expeditiously and efficiently. It has been no mean achievement to have the

whole area covered by Smoke Control Orders in so short a time as eight years. The problems that arise in this work are many and varied and the whole operation has been executed very smoothly.

As in previous years attention is again drawn to the time spent by some of the staff of the department on meat inspection. An enormous amount of patient and exacting work is carried out inspecting the tremendous throughput of animals. Each animal and organs have to be carefully inspected for evidence of disease or other conditions that would render the meat unfit for human consumption. The amount of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption was 47 tons. One Public Health Inspector and two Meat Inspectors are employed full-time on meat inspection; the district Public Health Inspectors assist during peak slaughtering hours.

There was a large increase in the number of animals slaughtered 257,174 as compared with 131,052 in 1972 and a decrease in the amount of meat arriving in containers.

The routine inspection of food premises, which was carried out throughout the year by Public Health Inspectors is a function which received little publicity. Some of the canteens in the area serve hundreds of meals daily. It speaks well of the management and staff of these canteens, that during the year there was no case of food poisoning contributable to food from a canteen.

A bonus scheme introduced for Manual workers for the Cleansing Department in 1972 has proved highly successful. Both employees and management are very satisfied with the scheme.

Polythene sacks continued to be used for the collection of household refuse. The increase in the amount of refuse collected was reflected in the number of sacks used. As, has so often been stated the increase is primarily due to the amount of packaging material used. Although this problem of excessive packaging has been the subject of discussion by many bodies at a national level, the desired effect of reducing the volume has not yet been achieved. The other factor is the large increase in the number of houses in Smoke Control Areas.

Bulk Containers - $1\frac{1}{4}$ cu. yd. capacity - have been of immense value in dealing with the refuse from schools, supermarkets and similar premises. There are now 113 such containers in use. Some are emptied weekly, others more frequently. The specialised vehicle for dealing with these containers is employed full-time on this work. The Council's scale of charges for collection of this refuse remains the same, namely each business premises is allowed one sack free of charge and additional sacks are charged at the rate of 5p per sack per week. Where bulk containers are emptied from business premises the charge is £12 per annum, for a weekly collection.

The Council have provided two disposal sites for refuse which is not normally collected by the weekly collection service; one is sited at Mill Lane, Winwick, and one adjacent to the Cleansing Depot at New Cut Lane, Woolston. A reciprocal arrangement has been made with the Warrington County Borough whereby residents in the Longford district may use the disposal point at Mill Lane, Winwick, and Penketh and Great Sankey residents the point at Gatewarth Farm. In addition the Council will collect by special collection from any dwellinghouse, free of charge, any bulky refuse (other than garden refuse) not normally collected by the weekly refuse collection service. To aid this service a 10 cu. yd. container can be left for the householder to fill and this is later picked up by specially equipped vehicles. This service saves immobilising the vehicle whilst it is being filled and saves the Council labour.

A number of 10 cu. yd. containers are sited at the New Cut Lane Disposal Point adjoining the Cleansing Depot. Providing the public use them properly, refuse can be expeditiously removed from the site. The container is mechanically drawn on to the vehicle and can be on its way to the tip for disposal in a matter of minutes.

Since the Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act, 1972, came into operation the amount of waste deposited in the area has increased tremendously. In 1973 the amount of notifiable waste deposited was 5,450 tons of solid waste and 120740 gallons of liquid sludge.

The Act was designed to eliminate the unauthorised dumping of hazardous and poisonous waste material and this object appears to have been achieved. There are two large industrial tips in the area where hazardous wastes are deposited, one at Rixton, the other in Woolston. These have been inspected regularly to ensure they are properly maintained. There is close liason with the Mersey and Weaver River Authority when dealing with applications to deposit.

The Cleansing Department are responsible for the repair and maintenance of all the 37 vehicles operated by the Council. All vehicles are given a complete monthly service and brake test. A spare vehicle is always available to allow vehicles to be taken out of service as and when required. The Goods Vehicles (Plating and Testing Amendment) Regulations requires that all goods vehicles over 3 tons shall have a M.O.T. Test annually. It is essential to programme preparation of the vehicles for this test as there is a considerable preparatory work before a vehicle is submitted for testing.

I must pay high tribute to the mechanics responsible for preparing vehicles for M.O.T. Testing. The vehicles have been prepared to such a high standard that only on one occasion was there a slight delay in a vehicle immediately passing the test.

There is no doubt whatsoever the monthly servicing of vehicles together with the M.O.T. Testing has reduced to insignificance, delays due to the breakdown of vehicles whilst out on the road.

The Office, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, covers a wide range of matters affecting the working conditions of employees in offices and shops. Inspections of these premises took much of the Inspectors time as there are 88 premises registered in this area. During the year no accidents were reported. Whilst one might readily jump to the conclusion that humans were becoming infallible, their fallibility may be in their failure to report accidents.

Extermination treatment was carried out at all premises where infestations of rats and mice were reported. Two operators are employed full-time on this, and other pest work. Preventive measures are regularly carried out on tips and sewers.

At the beginning of the year Mr. Snow and myself attended numerous Officer Working Party Meetings in connection with Local Government Reorganisation. The meetings which are essential for the purpose of dealing with the many problems which will arise in forming the future No.1 District Council have nevertheless been very time consuming.

The only change in staff during the year was Mrs. P. Ness, who commenced as a Clerical Assistant in June, 1973.

Every endeavour is made to allow staff to attain high qualifications by attending day release or evening courses. Mr. Martyn G. Johnston is taking a four year Degree Course at the University of Aston. He has now completed the third year of this Course. Mr. J. Wathen attended day release to study for the Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing. Mr. W.J. McDonald is taking a course in meat inspection in order to qualify as an Authorised Meat Inspector. Miss. H.Y. Sinolair is attending a day release course in Shorthand and Typing.

As I shall be retiring on 31st March, 1974, I feel privileged here to have the opportunity of thanking Members of the Council who have taken such an interest in the work of the Public Health and Cleansing Department, also Dr. J.M. Packer and the staff of the Public Health and Cleansing Department. I also wish to sincerely thank the manual staff of the Cleansing Department that is the mechanics, drivers, collectors and others who during the years have done their essential job so well and thereby made my job so much easier.

Finally I wish to congratulate Mr. Snow my deputy on his appointment as Environmental Health Officer to the new Warrington District Council, which comes into operation on 1st April, 1974, and to thank him for his help and co-operation in the past.

Yours sincerely,

N.G. MAYNE
Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Preparing Premises

It is essential that food premises whether they be used for the preparation, storage, or sale of food, should be regularly inspected to ensure they are maintained in such a condition as to prevent any danger of contamination of food supplies.

During the year 957 visits were made to slaughterhouses and other food premises and 9 notices were served specifying works required to bring the premises up to the standard required by the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

Particular attention was given to Regulation 16 which requires that proper facilities be provided for food handlers to wash their hands.

Another important requirement in the Food Hygiene Regulations is contained in Regulation 19 which requires suitable and sufficient washing facilities for food equipment.

A table showing the food premises in the area, inspections made and action taken in relation to Regulations 16 and 19 is given below:

	Number	Number of Inspections made	Number of premises complying with Reg. 16	Number of premises which are required to comply with Reg. 19	Number of premises complying with Reg. 19
Works Canteens	12	53	12	12	12
Cafes	3	6	3	3	3
Butchers	11	23	11	11	11
Fried Fish Shops	9	17	9	9	9
Grocers & Mixed	49	148	49	49	49
Greengrocers	14	9	14	14	14
Licensed Premises	36	38	36	36	36
School Kitchens	21	39	21	21	21
Bread and Confectionary	24	67	24	24	24
Supermarkets	12	249	12	12	12
Ice-Cream Vendors	32	8	32	32	32

Milk Samples

Routine milk sampling has continued throughout the year for the purpose of bacteriological examination which aims at ensuring a general standard of purity as regards the total number of organisms which effect the keeping quality of the milk (Methylene Blue Test), the efficiency of pasteurisation (Phosphatase Test), and the efficiency of heat treatment U.H.T. milk (Colony Count Test). The organisms of tuberculosis and brucellosis are destroyed by pasteurisation. In no instance did any sample fail the Phosphatase Test, showing that pasteurisation in each instance has been effectively carried out.

Raw Milk

There were 6 samples submitted and the results were as follows:

	Positive	Negative	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Methylene Blue Test	-	-	6	-

Heat Treated Milk

There were 27 samples submitted and the results were as follows:

	Number of Samples	Satisfactory	Un-satisfactory	Void
Methylene Blue Test	21	20	-	1
Phosphatase Test	21	21	-	-
Turbidity Test	3	3	-	-
Colony Count Test	-	-	-	-
Ultra High Temperature Test	3	3	-	-

Meat Inspection

During the year 257,174 animals were slaughtered and inspected, this was a large increase on 1972 when 131,052 animals were slaughtered.

Slaughtering is carried out at two private slaughterhouses and a bacon factory. Line dressing is carried out in the bacon factory, and in one of the slaughterhouses. At peak slaughtering times in the bacon factory, it is necessary to have three meat inspectors on the line to keep pace with the rapid speed of throughput, which can reach a rate of over 100 pigs per hour. This work is physically and mentally exhausting as a thorough detailed inspection of the animals has to be carried out in a very short space of time in an atmosphere which is not conducive to prolonged mental concentration.

At each of the slaughterhouses there is an inspector in attendance during the hours of slaughtering.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 to 1958

There are 33 Slaughtermen holding licences granted by this Authority.

Imported Meat

During the year a total of 40 containers of imported meat were received by a local firm.

These containers were all examined by meat inspectors and comprised the following:

667	Beef carcasses
183	Lambs
225	Forequarters
75	Hindquarters
9	boxes Ox Tails
6	boxes Ox Hearts
5,390	lbs. Offal

Other Food - Stuffs Condemned

70 cases Mixed Vegetables	150 cases Sweetheart	8 Roast Dinners
90 pkts Mixed Vegetables	29 tins Spaghetti	11 Potato Frys
364 tins Mixed Vegetables	158 cases Soup	196 tins Soup
38 tins Main Course Meals	260 lbs. Frozen Turkey	91 lbs. Frozen Chicken
12,655 tins Assorted Foods	16 tins Toast Toppers	70 tins Baby Food
	14 pkts Sausage Rolls	1 case Cream
177 cases Assorted Soups	2 tins Pilchards	131 cases Milk
& Beans	5 boxes Ice-Cream	88 tins Marvel
10 pkts Mixed Fruit	572 tins Mixed Fruit	35 lbs. Mixed Fruit
14 bars Chocolate	25 lbs. Fish	102 pkts Fish

52 cases Dried Onions
 2 cases Custard Powder
 2½ cases Lactogen
 40 pkts Mousse
 6 pkts Porkburgers
 84 Beef-burgers
 10 tins Hot Dogs
 163 cases Sauce
 8 tins Rice Pudding
 50 lbs. Confectionery
 13 pkts Custard Power
 154 lbs. Flour
 6 jars Peanut Butter
 14 pkts Risssoles
 7 cases Cheese
 2 bottles Cooking Fat
 6 pkts Pastry

42 lbs. Butter
 82 cases Coffee
 33 lbs. Bacon
 33 tins Beans
 17 cases Flo Mix
 2 pkts Alpen
 80 Steaklets
 10 Apple Fritters
 29 Casseroles
 14 pkts Cheese
 12 lbs. Honey
 10 tins Syrup
 12 cases Tea
 4 pkts Broccoli
 2 pkts Porridge
 41 Meat Pies
 70 Fish

2 boxes Cakes
 24 jars Coffee
 15 Trifles
 42 cases Beans
 7 cases Beef
 14 Kidneys
 11 Beef Curry
 56 pkts Chips
 3 lb. Bournvita
 23½ lb. Cheese
 8 pkts Cereal
 20 jars Jam
 46 tins Salmon
 143 tins Meat
 13 Faggots
 9 cases Pickles

	Cattle, Calves			Pigs			Sheep		
	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972	1973
Number Killed	8,264	6,728	5,485	105,711	110,888	239,636	16,838	13,491	12,053
Number Inspected	8,264	6,728	5,485	105,711	110,888	239,636	16,838	13,491	12,053
All diseases except T.B.:									
Whole carcasses condemned	19	8	1	334	235	332	Nil	12	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,582	794	628	18,213	22,105	29,376	536	244	212
Percentage of the number Inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	19.2%	11.9%	11.4%	17.2%	20.1%	12.3%	3.2%	1.2%	1.8%
Tuberculosis only:									
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	373	395	455	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	Nil	Nil	Nil

WEIGHTS OF CONDEMNED MEAT

	Cattle	Weight lbs.	Pigs	Weight lbs	Sheep	Weight lbs
Carcasses	4	930	268	26,974	9	110
Heads	2	59	595	6,986	-	-
Hearts	1	4	4,554	2,969	-	-
Livers	567	5,952	4,553	16,259	226	538
Lungs	26	176	10,249	10,249	-	-
Plucks	-	-	5,678	25,737	-	-
Legs	1	70	131	2,228	-	-
Trimnings	61	1,440	581	5,862	8	89
Forequarters	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hindquarters	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kidneys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tongues	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total:	8,631	Total:	97,264	Total:	737

Grand Total of Meat Condemned : 106,632 lbs.

HOUSING

The total number of new houses built during the year by private enterprise was 635, an increase of 206 over the previous year. The total number of houses built during the past five years was 2,471 private houses, 198 Council houses. The total number of inhabited houses and flats throughout the area is 16,365.

Improvement Grants - Discretionary

The small staff dealing with Improvement Grants have done a remarkable job in processing 395 grant applications the total cost of the grants being £612,926.00. A great deal of effort has been applied to prevent any backlog of applications building up and this has been achieved. Provided correct information is submitted with applications and plans where necessary, have been approved the average time required to process an application is about three weeks. There is still a high number of applications where work has not been commenced because of the building shortage. It is also noted that towards the latter part of the year there has been a sharp increase in building costs.

Standard Grants

Only eight applications were submitted and approved. The reduction in number was due to the owners taking advantage of Discretionary Grants which allows grants towards repairs.

Qualification Certificates and Certificates of Disrepair

During the year a total of 13 applications have been received for a Qualification Certificate and of these one has been recommended for approval. The main reason for not issuing a Certificate is that the houses upon inspection have been found to be in need of repairs. In all cases the owners have agreed to carry out the repairs in order to satisfy the qualifying conditions and a Certificate will be issued when these repairs are completed.

No applications for Certificate of Disrepair under the Rent Control Act, 1957 were received.

New Houses Erected (Traditional Permanent)

	1971		1972	1973
	Houses	Flats	Houses	Houses
Other bodies and persons	337	-	439	635
Local Authority	-	-	-	-
Other Local Authorities	240	124	144	96

Inspection of Existing Properties

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:

- | | |
|---|------|
| (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) | 1816 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 3271 |
| (c) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | Nil |
| (d) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to above) found not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 62 |

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 1

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 | |
| (i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil |
| (ii) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice: | |
| By Owners | Nil |
| By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |
| (b) Proceedings under Section 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957: | |
| (i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil |
| (ii) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice: | |
| By Owners | Nil |
| By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

(c) Proceedings Under Public Health Acts

(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied

298

(ii) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

By Owners

3

By Local Authority in default of owners

Nil

(d) Proceedings under Housing Act, 1957 (Section 17):

(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made

5

(ii) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders

5

(iii) Number of dwellinghouses closed

3

No.	Public Supply		Private Supplies	
	Supply	Unsupply	Supply	Unsupply
141	141	-	-	-

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

A piped supply of water extends throughout the area. The principal supplier is Warrington, Runcorn & District Water Board, but a small area of Cuerdley Parish is supplied by Liverpool Corporation.

From Public Mains		From Private supplies, e.g. wells, springs etc.	
PARISH	Direct to houses	Number of dwelling houses	Number of Population
	Number of dwelling houses		
Burtonwood	1549	-	-
Croft	802	-	-
Cuerdley	48	-	-
Penketh	3193	-	-
Poulton	3067	-	-
Rixton	639	-	-
Sankey	3732	-	-
Winwick plus Mental Hospital	865	-	-
Woolston	2470	-	-
Total Whole District 16365		-	-

The total number of samples of water taken for bacteriological examination during the year was as follows:

Public Supply			Private Supplies Industrial use only		
No.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	No.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
141	141	-	-	-	-

Drainage and Sewerage

The position with regard to sewerage schemes throughout the area is shown in the following table. There are now only 31 houses which still have a pail closet. These houses are situated where there is now sewer available and where it is unlikely there will be any development to warrant the high cost of providing a sewer. It may be possible in such cases to induce owners to take advantage of the increased grants available where septic tanks have to be installed.

Parish	Sewers	Conversions
Burtonwood and Collins Green	Completed	Completed
Croft	Completed	Completed
Cuerdley	Completed	Completed
Penketh	Completed	Completed
Poulton-with Fearnhead	Completed	Completed
Rixton	Completed	Completed
Glazebrook	Completed	Completed
Sankoy	Completed	Completed
Winwick, Houghton Green	Completed	Completed
Winwick, St. Oswalds	Completed	Completed
Winwick, Hermitage Green	Completed	Completed
Woolston	Completed	Completed

Public Cleansing

The collection and disposal of refuse, together with ancillary functions is under the control of the Chief Public Health Inspector. The collection service, which is weekly, is carried out by the use of special-type rear loader compression, and forward and rearward tipping vehicles.

The whole of the area is serviced with polythene sacks. Plastic bins specially designed to receive plastic bin liners are gradually being introduced to replace galvanised bins and wall bracket sack holders.

The amount of refuse from households is ever on the increase due to the continuing extensive use of wrapping materials and on a smaller scale the introduction of Smoke Control Areas. Garden refuse is another problem. The bonus scheme allows, at the maximum, the removal of one sack of garden refuse per week. All workmen are provided with protective clothing and although this is by no means cheap it is a feature that is now a necessity for workmen engaged on this class of work. A clean set of overalls is provided weekly.

The Amenity Block in which there are showers, baths, lockers for clean and dry clothing; a room in which clothes can be dried, and a dining room and kitchen, continues to be extensively used by the workmen.

The collection of pail closets is carried out weekly. Throughout the years there has been a systematic reduction in the number of pail closets serviced. The number is now down to 51.

The disposal of refuse has been by controlled tipping at Mill Lane, Winwick, and Rixton tips. The Rixton tip is in Moat Lane, Rixton, and came into use at the beginning of the 1972. This is a former clay pit. Much site preparation was necessary in the way of excavation, road making and fencing. The tip is well removed from built up areas and no nuisance from this tip is anticipated.

There are two refuse disposal points, one at Mill Lane, Winwick and the other at New Cut Lane, Woolston, adjoining the depot. These continue to be used extensively, the estimated quantity of material deposited annually amounts to 20,000 tons. The sites are open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Because of the need to keep these sites open continuously and the limited time they are manned, much trade waste finds its way on to the sites and there is an appreciable amount of vandalism. On the credit side there are fewer instances of dumping waste on open land and road verges.

The litter problem is ever with us and tends to make one despondent. In this area and in the country in general the amount of litter seems to be more prolific than ever. It is a problem however which will not cure itself, and whilst the greatest task is to educate the public, the provision of adequate litter disposal receptacles throughout the area is of paramount importance. The provision of a special vehicle for the collection of litter from litter bins has been more than justified.

Abandoned cars have given little trouble, only 8 were dealt with during the year.

STATISTICS

Machines employed:

Karrier Musketeer	3
Karrier Dual Tip, Diesel	5
Karrier Bantam with "Derby" body	1
Karrier Ramillies	2
Dodge Gamcock Multi-lift (16 tons)	1
Commer Van 1 ton	2
Imp Van	1
Morris 1,000 van	1
Track Marshall Tractor	1
J.C.B.	1
Colectomatic	1
International 125A	1
Litter Patrol Van	1

Workmen employed:

Transport Foreman	1
Transport Fitter	1
Loader Drivers	12
Labourers, all classes	34
Rodent Control Operators	2

Dustbins and Pails:

Number of Dustbins provided	862
Number of Pails provided	4

Rodent Control

The recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are pursued in this sphere of work. Two operators are engaged wholetime and the methods used are those recommended by the Ministry. Both the operators have undertaken special instruction courses organised by the Ministry.

All local authority properties, refuse tips, sewerage works, etc., were regularly inspected and treated. The sewers and sewer ditches were test-baited and treated where necessary.

On private properties treatment is carried out by agreement, some firms having an annual contract whereby the Council service the premises regularly. This is a much more satisfactory arrangement than waiting until the premises become infested. Again many firms employ private contractors to carry out this work.

Private houses are dealt with as a rate charge.

The number of farmers who have annual contracts with the local authority for the destruction of rats is 20.

The number of infestation treatments were as follows:

	<u>Minor</u>
Business Premises	497
Private Dwellings	1629
Local Authority	493

In addition 257 manholes were test-baited.

Atmospheric Pollution

Since the coming into operation of the Clean Air Act, 1956, industrial concerns have installed new boiler plant or modernised existing plant so that during the year little trouble was experienced from such chimneys.

During the year good progress was made with the smoke control programme. The following is a summary of the present position.

<u>Designation</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>	<u>Date Order Operative</u>
No.1 Winwick	513	1st October, 1969
No.2 Fearnhead	816	1st November, 1969
No.3 Padgate	2,042	1st September, 1971
No.4 Great Sankey	1,300	1st April, 1972
No.5 Woolston	1,340	1st August, 1972
No.6 Penketh North	1,912	1st June, 1973
No.7 Penketh South	1,414	1st July, 1973
No.8 Great Sankey North	1,568	1st August, 1973
No.9 Burtonwood	1,630	1st September, 1974
No.10 Croft and Rixton	1,269	1st September, 1974

This now completes the Smoke Control Programme for the Authority.

Sanitary Accommodation of Houses

Conversions from pail to w.c.'s are now usually carried out by the aid of Standard Grants or Improvement Grants, and not under Section 47, Public Health Act, 1936, as was previously the case. The number of houses converted from pails to w.c.'s during the year was 6.

The number of pails in use is:

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Caravans</u>	<u>Other Premises</u>
Burtonwood	5	4	-
Croft and Risley	7	5	..
Poulton	-	-	-
Penketh	-	-	-
Rixton	8	-	-
Sankoy	-	3	1
Winwick	5	3	-
Woolston	6	3	-
Cuerdley	-	1	-
	<u>31</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>1</u>

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Factories Act, 1961

There are 74 factories registered in the area, the principal ones being engaged in light engineering, wire rope making, plastics and brewing.

Particular attention has been paid to the standard of hygiene practised in the canteens. Some of these are maintained and run to the highest standards but in others constant supervision is necessary. A special approach is made to each manageress and staff to ensure that scrupulous attention is paid to personal hygiene. Circulars and posters have been provided for use within the canteens and kitchens.

Number of Canteens - 12

Good co-operation has existed with all factory managements and in no case has there been any necessity for statutory action on any of the matters for which the Local Authority is responsible.

Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(a) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	74	126	-	-
(c) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total:	74	126	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
San. conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	-	-	-	-	-

(b) Part VIII of the Act - Outwork:

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel	12	-	-	-	-	-

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

This Act provides for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in shops, offices and railway premises. The legal provisions are very similar to those required in the Factories Act and deal with cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, drinking water, seats, safety of machinery, first aid and fire precautions. The enforcement of the Act is divided among several authorities.

It has not been found necessary to take statutory action to secure any of the requirements under the purview of the Council, all recommendations having been dealt with informally.

The following table shows the number of premises registered and inspections carried out:

Number of premises registered during the year	1
Total number of registered premises at end of year	88
Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year	88
Number of informal notices served	1
Number of notices complied with	1
Number of accidents reported and investigated	Nil
Number of prosecutions	Nil

SHOPS

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Number</u>
Grocers and Mixed General	49
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	14
Butchers	11
Fried Fish Shops	9
Cafes and Mobile Snack Bars	3
Newsagents	11
Hardware	8
Drapers	6
Hairdressers	15
Chemists	5
Post Offices	8
Confectioners	11
	<hr/>
	150
	<hr/>

Petroleum and Carbide Storage

The number of Licences issued for the storage of Petroleum and Carbide of Calcium are as follows:

Number of Licences to store petroleum	47
Number of gallons of storage capacity	145,120
Number of Licences to store Carbide	1
Total amount of Carbide permitted	1,120 lbs
Number of Licences to store other spirits	7
Total amount of fees paid:	
Petroleum	£201.00
Carbide of Calcium	£ 0.50
Cellulose	£ 7.00
	<hr/>
	£208.50
	<hr/>

Licences for the storage of petroleum and carbide are renewed at the beginning of each year. Inspections have been made with particular attention to new premises and the testing of underground storage tanks at the older petrol station.

In order to conform with the Home Office Model Code and the Code of Practice issued by the Association for Petroleum Acts Administration, occupiers of all licensed premises are required to obtain a certificate from a suitably qualified electrical engineer, certifying that all electrical apparatus complies with the Regulations.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS

Water Supply	....	....	....	....	....	....	29
Drainage	....	....	....	....	....	....	240
Stables and Piggeries	....	....	....	....	....	....	26
Animal Boarding Establishments			....	....	....	....	7
Offensive Trades	....	....	....	....	....	....	49
Petrol Installations	....	....	....	....	....	....	163
Hairdressers and Barbers		....	....	....	....	....	2
Caravan Sites	....	....	....	....	....	....	59
Factories	....	....	....	....	....	....	126
Atmospheric Pollution	....	....	..	....	....	....	152
Noise Abatement	....	....	....	....	....	....	73
Licensed Premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	18
Refuse Disposal	....	....	....	....	....	....	122
Pest Control	....	....	....	....	....	....	206
Clean Air	....	....	....	....	....	....	5815
Schools	....	....	....	....	....	....	25
Shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	249
Civic Amenities Act	....	....	....	....	....	....	25
Office, Shops & Railway Premises			....	....	....	....	36
Outworkers	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
Pet Shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Miscellaneous Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	49

Under Public Health Acts

Number of houses inspected	....	....	....	....	....	....	836
Visits paid to above houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	963

Under Housing Acts

Number of houses inspected	....	....	....	....	....	....	980
Visits paid to above houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	2308

Infectious Disease

Inquiries in Cases of I.D.	....	....	....	....	....	....	44
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits			....	....	....	....	6

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

Visits to:

Slaughterhouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	385
Bakers and Confectioners	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	67
Butchers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Canteens	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	53
Dairies and Milk Distributors	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Food Preparing Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	151
Fried Fish Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
Grocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	148
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Wholesalers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Schools	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Licensed Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
Clubs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Fishmongers and Poulterers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15

Visits in connection with Sampling of:

Milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33
Miscellaneous Food Visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	53
Delivery Vans	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
Food and Drugs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6

