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# PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1971

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## Staff of the Public Health Department

ANTONY HARGREAVES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.
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DONALD A. FOGG, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.	Chief Public Health Inspector.
CHARLES E. PEARSON, M.A.P.H.I.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.
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WILLIAM LITTLE,	Rodent Operator

TOWN HALL,

WORKINGTON.

August, 1973.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and  
Councillors of the Borough of Workington.*

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my third annual report as your Medical Officer of Health. It is written on the lines laid down by Circular No. 1/72 of the Department of Health and Social Security.

The general statistics are on the whole satisfactory and display the now familiar characteristics of an ageing population. The most important infectious disease was again measles, and again I would remind you that there is an effective vaccine freely and readily available. Of the other communicable diseases although tuberculosis is now very much on the decline it will continue for a long time to come to lurk in the background and to strike and I cannot overstate the importance of ensuring that all teenage children are protected by BCG vaccine.

I seem to spend a great deal of space writing in these reports about housing and housing needs. The reason is not only from the obvious viewpoint that we need literally more housing of every kind; it is also because two factors—housing and nutrition—have a greater impact, and thus play a greater part, on the health both of the individual and of the community than all the doctors and nurses put together. At least half the mental illness alone in our community can be laid at the door of bad housing or overcrowding. No council can spend too much of the public money in remedying this state of affairs, yet we are all strangely reluctant to put our collective hand deep into our collective pocket.

The mention of housing always brings to my mind the allied problem of sewage disposal and treatment. When, I wonder, will coastal towns like Workington cease to pour their excrement and filth untreated into the sea thus turning one of nature's greatest blessings into a pestilential and noisome nuisance?



The fashion in complaining about pollution—much less doing something about it—is already declining in the popular mind, yet I must give warning that one day we will all pay a bitter price for our present negligence. Fouled up rivers, fouled up coasts, fouled up everything.

I wish to record my appreciation and thanks to all the staff for their work during the year and for the help in problems from colleagues and other departments. I wish to express thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their kind consideration of all matters during the year. Finally, I wish to thank all my colleagues in general practice, the hospital service, and the public health laboratory service, for their collaboration and help.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ANTONY HARGREAVES.

## STATISTICS

### 1. General.

(a) This year's figures are the reverse of the previous year's in that there was an increase in the number of men employed, but a decrease in the number of women, boys and girls. The overall result was a slight percentage decrease for Workington compared with a slight increase in the national figure. At the end of the year a total of 485 men (460 in 1970), 248 women (251 in 1970) and 39 boys and girls (62 in 1970) were unemployed. The national unemployment percentage figure at that time was 3.3% and for the area, including Workington, was 5.0%.

### (b) Town Statistics

Area in Acres .....	5,644
Population (Registrar General's Estimate of Residents—mid Year 1968) .....	28,540
Rateable Value .....	£1,213,878
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .....	£11,652
Total number of domestic premises .....	9,745

## 2. Vital Statistics.

### Births.

#### *Live Births:*

Number: 451.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate Births	200	218	418
Illegitimate Births	18	15	33
	<hr/> 218	<hr/> 233	<hr/> 451
		(E. & W.)	
Rate per 1,000 population	15.8	16.0	
Adjusted rate (factor 1.0)	15.8	16.0	
Illegitimate live births (per cent of total live births)		7.3%	

#### *Still Births:*

Number: 8.

Rate per 1,000 live and still births	17.4	12.0
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#### *Infant Deaths:*

Number: 6 (including 1 illegitimate).

#### *Infant Mortality Rates:*

	(E. & W.)	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births	13.3	18.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	12.0	17.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	30.0	24.0
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 live births)	13.3	12.0
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 live births)	8.9	10.0
Peri-natal mortality rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total births)	26.1	22.0



**Deaths.**

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deaths (all ages)	203	140	343
Crude death rate per 1,000 population		12.0	11.6
Adjusted death rate		13.8	11.6
Deaths from certain causes:			
Tuberculosis		1	
Cancer of the lung		22	
Cancer of the uterus		2	
Cancer of the breast		6	
Leukaemia		Nil	
Influenza		1	
Pneumonia		16	
Bronchitis		16	
Ischaemic Heart Disease		113	
Cerebrovascular Disease		43	
Motor Vehicle Accidents		1	
Other Accidents		9	
Suicide		1	

**3. Notes and Comparisons on Vital Statistics**

Detailed figures relate to Workington Borough for the past 10 years, and giving comparisons with England and Wales during the same period, are shown overleaf.

*Commentary*

The number of births has now been falling steadily since 1965. Although there is a national trend downwards, the trend is considerably steeper in Workington. This, together with an increasing death rate (further increasing when adjusted to take account of demographic structure) and the decline in population, indicates an emigration of young people from the town. The increase between the crude and adjusted death rates in what is on the whole a rather elderly population compared with the national demographic structure in fact indicates a slight increase in the death rates in the older middle aged group compared with the national picture.

TABLE ONE

	Population Workington Borough	Live Births	Birth Rate	Birth Rate Adjusted	Deaths	Death Rate	Death Rate Adjusted	Birth Rate and Wales England	Death Rate and Wales England
1962	29,710	521	17.6	17.0	365	12.3	14.5	18.0	11.9
1963	29,810	500	16.8	16.8	353	11.8	13.9	18.2	12.2
1964	29,770	552	18.5	18.5	336	11.3	12.3	18.4	11.3
1965	29,910	575	19.2	19.2	339	11.6	13.2	18.0	11.5
1966	29,980	517	17.2	17.2	336	11.2	12.5	17.7	11.7
1967	29,910	482	16.1	16.1	325	10.9	13.0	17.2	11.2
1968	29,990	471	15.7	15.7	371	12.4	14.2	16.9	11.9
1969	29,710	458	15.4	15.4	358	12.0	14.0	16.3	11.9
1970	29,460	451	15.3	15.3	341	11.6	13.3	16.0	11.7
1971	28,540	451	15.8	15.8	343	12.0	12.8	16.0	11.6

TABLE TWO

	Live Births	Infant Deaths (Under 1 year)	Neonatal Deaths (Under 1 week)	Stillbirths	Infant Mortality Rate Workington England/Wales	Perinatal Mortality Rate Workington England/Wales	Mortality Rate England/Wales	Stillbirth Rate Workington England/Wales	Stillbirth Rate England/Wales
1962	521	6	2	11	11.5	25.4	30.8	21.2	18.1
1963	500	7	6	11	14.0	33.1	29.3	21.3	17.2
1964	552	13	10	10	23.6	35.6	28.3	17.8	16.3
1965	575	8	5	10	13.9	25.6	26.9	17.1	15.8
1966	517	12	7	12	23.2	35.8	26.3	22.7	15.4
1967	482	7	4	10	14.5	28.4	25.4	20.4	14.8
1968	471	8	5	6	17.0	23.3	24.7	12.6	14.3
1969	458	2	1	7	4.4	17.2	23.4	15.0	13.2
1970	451	6	2	4	13.3	13.2	23.4	8.8	13.0
1971	451	6	4	8	13.3	26.1	22.3	12.4	12.0
1962-71	4978	75	46	89	(15.0)	(24.6)	(26.1)	(17.6)	(15.0)



### TABLES THREE AND FOUR

Birth Rate Birth Rate Death Rate Death Rate  
(uncorrected) (adjusted) (uncorrected) (adjusted)

Workington M.B.	15.8	15.8	12.0	13.8
Urban District Councils of Cumberland	15.8	15.5	12.3	13.5
Rural Districts Councils of Cumberland	14.6	15.3	12.6	13.1
Administrative County of Cumberland	15.1	15.4	12.5	13.3
England and Wales	16.0	16.0	11.6	11.6

### TABLE FIVE

#### Age at Death of Workington Residents—1971

Age Groups	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65—75	75 & over	Total
Males	4	—	—	3	—	2	3	16	45	65	65	203
Females	2	—	—	1	—	1	5	9	17	32	73	140
Total 1971	6	—	—	4	—	3	8	25	62	97	138	343

**TABLE SIX**  
**CAUSES OF DEATH — 1971**

		<i>Deaths</i>	<i>All</i>	<i>Ages</i>
		<i>M</i>		<i>F</i>
ALL CAUSES		202		140
B4	Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases .....	—		—
B5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .....	—		—
B6 (1)	Late effects of Respiratory T.B.	1		—
B6 (2)	Other Tuberculosis .....	—		—
B11	Meningococcal Infection ...	—		—
B14	Measles .....	—		—
B18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases .....	—		—
B19 (1)	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. ....	—		—
B19 (2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus .....	2		1
B19 (3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .....	8		3
B19 (4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .....	5		4
B19 (5)	Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx .....	—		—
B19 (6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus .....	19		3
B19 (7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	n/a		6
B19 (8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	n/a		2
B19 (9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostrate .....	—		n/a
B19(10)	Leukaemia .....	—		—
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	12		7
B20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms .....	—		—
B21	Diabetes Mellitus .....	1		2
B22	Avitaminoses, etc. ....	—		2
B46 (1)	Other Endocrine etc., Diseases .....	—		1
B23	Anaemias .....	2		—
B46 (2)	Other Diseases of Blood etc	—		—
B46 (3)	Mental Disorders .....	1		—
B24	Meningitis .....	1		—
B46 (4)	Multiple Sclerosis .....	—		—



B46 (5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System .....	—	1
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease .....	2	3
B27	Hypertensive Disease .....	2	2
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease ...	68	45
B29	Other forms of Heart Disease .....	5	1
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease ...	19	24
B46 (6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System .....	8	7
B31	Influenza .....	1	—
B32	Pneumonia .....	10	6
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	13	3
B33 (2)	Asthma .....	1	—
B46 (7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System .....	2	—
B34	Peptic Ulcer .....	2	1
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia .....	—	1
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver .....	—	1
B46 (8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System .....	1	2
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	1	—
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	1	n/a
B46 (9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System ...	1	1
B46(10)	Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue .....	—	—
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System .....	1	2
B42	Congenital Anomalies .....	—	2
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. ....	3	—
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality .....	1	1
B45	Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions .....	—	3
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—
BE48	All Other Accidents .....	6	3
BE49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries .....	1	—
BE50	All Other External Causes	1	—

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### (a) Staff

The Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Antony Hargreaves, took up his appointment on the 1st November, 1969.

### (b) Laboratory Services

Microbiological examination of routine samples of milk and water are undertaken by the Carlisle Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service under the direction of Dr. D. G. Davies to whom the Department has been much indebted over the year not only for routine work but for much help in queries and elucidation of food infestation and contamination.

Thanks are also due to him for carrying out Vi-agglutinin tests on water personnel of the West Cumberland Water Board.

### (c) Local Health Authority Services

There are two clinic centres in Workington Borough—the main clinic at Park Lane adjacent to the Town Hall and a satellite clinic at Salterbeck. The services available at these clinics are as follows:—

#### *Child Developmental Assessment—*

Park Lane—By Appointment.

Salterbeck—By Appointment.

*School Clinic:* No fixed session but appointments for special cases are held according to need.

*Dental Clinic:* At both Clinics by appointment.

*Orthopaedic and After Care—*By appointment (now changing to hospital out-patient department).

*Speech Therapy and Teaching of the Deaf:* By appointment.

*Child Guidance:* By appointment on Wednesdays at Park Lane.

In addition Cervical Cytology clinics are held at Park Lane and Salterbeck by appointment. Orthoptic treatment is carried out by appointment in cases selected by the consultant ophthalmologist at the out-patient department in Workington Infirmary or in the clinic by appointment.



Other Medical services, provided under Part III of the National Health Service Act are the responsibility of the Cumberland County Council. Information about these services, including Immunisation Services, and assistance and advice in connection with Family Planning may be obtained from the Area Health Office, Fieldside, Elizabeth Street, Workington.

Home Nursing and Maternity Services are now an integral part of the Family Doctor Service, together with the Health Visiting Service, and enquiries should accordingly be addressed to the appropriate Family Practice Surgery.

Immunisation procedures are carried out at the surgeries of the family doctors by appointment, all births in the county (and details of incoming children) being stored in the memory banks of a computer and the appointment automatically sent out directly to the parents on each occasion at the appropriate time: also at schools by special arrangement.

#### **(d) National Assistance Acts**

No proceedings were necessary under these Acts during the year.

#### **(e) Port Health**

No case of infectious disease was notified during the year. Re-vaccination against smallpox of ships' crews was well maintained during the year.

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

The Chief Public Health Inspector presents his report immediately after this one and gives in detail the work carried out in environmental aspects of the health of the town.

### **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

#### **1. General**

The general incidence of infectious disease in the town was low but the prevalence of measles, in and out of its normal season, continued.



## 2. Vaccination and Immunisation

As a result of the computer programming of vaccination and immunisation it is now no longer possible to give you a statistical breakdown for the district area, the figures being arranged according to family Doctor practices. I am, therefore, obliged to the County Medical Officer for the following report on the situation in the County as a whole.

"The County Council's scheme for vaccination and immunisation against the major preventable infections has, over the years, undergone repeated adjustment and modification as new immunising agents became available and expert advice varied on techniques and schedules. Throughout, however, two things remained fairly constant, viz. reliance upon community health education, mainly through nurses and doctors, to ensure maximum uptake by parents; and the advantage regularly taken in schools of the 'captive' school child to reinforce certain protections, always, of course, with parental consent and co-operation. The former feature, the splendid painstaking work of field staff in stimulating parents, has now been greatly reinforced by the computer-activated individual call-up by appointment; while the latter feature will soon disappear as children have protection reinforced immediately before school entry, and carried out by the family doctor and his team.

"The calculation of the child population's immunity state at any point in time involved a rather complex procedure assessing the proportions completely up to date in their protection schedule. While this is still possible and of significance, it is now possible to produce a more accurate index of the protection state of specific year groups of children because the computer-stored records can provide this very quickly and precisely.

"Cumberland's scheme based on computer-stored records and call-up by appointment to family doctors began with children born on 1st January, 1969, and it is now possible to confirm that the proportion of children born in that year who are at present fully protected according to current vaccination schedules stands at 91%. This is the real vindication of all the administrative and technical work which has gone into this scheme. Previously the 'immunity index' calculated as mentioned above purely on numbers of protections given in year groups rather than on personal particulars of each individual child, remained obstinately around the 75% mark.



This represented also the national average for the main infections such as diphtheria and poliomyelitis. It was always possible, of course, that the older 'immunity index' was something of an underestimate of the true protection state which may well in reality have been nearer the 80% figure. This is because the arrangements for collecting records of protection given was always of limited efficiency to the extent to which some doctors did not regularly submit records. Such a deficiency can occur very rarely in the computer operated scheme due to the checks and monitoring which are in-built. None-the-less, the overall improvement demonstrated in the case of children born in 1969 is most gratifying, and although the final result for primary protection of all 1970 births is not yet available the indications are towards a similar result to that achieved for children born in 1969.

"The schedule of vaccinations and immunisations currently advised is set out below and is adjusted in detail to allow of completion of primary protection against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, poliomyelitis and measles, plus the 'school entrant' reinforcement of diphtheria and tetanus and poliomyelitis before a child starts school. The only subsequent reinforcement is of diphtheria and tetanus before school leaving and this too in due course will be by appointment with the family doctor. Thus after 1974 when children born in 1969 reach school entry age there will be few immunisations carried out in schools other than B.C.G. protection against tuberculosis. The final pattern of protection against rubella (German measles) is not clear but at some stage it will no doubt be woven into a consolidated schedule of protections. Meantime, it is advised and provided for girls in the thirteen year age group.

#### "Schedule of Vaccination and Immunisation Procedures

- 6 months Diph./Tet./Pert. and Oral Polio.
- 8 months Diph./Tet./Pert. and Oral Polio.
- 14 months Diph./Tet./Pert. and Oral Polio.
- 15 months Measles.
- 4 years 6 months Diph./Tet. and Oral Polio.

#### Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis and Poliomyelitis

"I show below the tables which have annually been shown of the actual numbers of protective procedures undertaken during 1971, the figures in brackets relating to 1970:—



### Diphtheria Immunisation

The numbers of children immunised during the year were as follows:—

Primary Courses—pre-school children	2,597	(2035)
Primary Courses—school children	192	(353)
Reinforcing injections—		
pre-school children	57	(890)
Reinforcing injections—school children	2,678	(2,763)

### Tetanus Immunisation

During 1971 the following numbers of children were immunised:—

Primary Courses—pre-school children	2,598	(2,033)
Primary Courses—school children	204	(372)
Reinforcing injections—		
pre-school children	67	(902)
Reinforcing injections—school children	3,304	(3,863)

### Whooping Cough Immunisation

The numbers of children immunised in 1971 were as follows:—

Primary Courses—pre-school children	2,590	(2,028)
Primary Courses—school children	33	(24)
Reinforcing injections—		
pre-school children	46	(845)
Reinforcing injections—school children	333	(259)

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Primary Courses—pre-school children	2,644	(2,268)
Primary Courses—school children	274	(401)
Reinforcing injections—		
pre-school children	26	(161)
Reinforcing injections—school children	3,121	(3,561)

“The reduction in the figures from 1970 for school reinforcing of diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus protection is accounted for by the fact that the current schedule of vaccinations and immunisations no longer provides for a reinforcement dose at 10 years of age. The increase in the number of completed primary courses in pre-school children emphasises the efficiency of the computer call-up programme.

“The figures are difficult to interpret in detail because of the complex changeover situation to the computer-activated appointment system, and comments on them are subject to the main facts mentioned above about the improved performance for whole year groups. This is reflected in these tables mainly in the improved figures for primary courses in pre-school children in respect of diphtheria,



tetanus, pertussis and polio-myelitis. This is bound in turn to result in a corresponding reduction in school entrant children requiring primary course of protection.

### **Measles**

"All children reaching fifteen months of age are now offered measles protection as part of the overall scheme, and this is now forming the main element in community protection against this infection. In 1971, 2,814 children were protected of whom 2,137 were in the group given appointments through the computer. This, like the other primary courses, will come to present almost a whole 'year group' of children. In addition measles vaccination will continue to be offered to children entering school who have neither previously had measles nor vaccination against it. Thus many missed in the early campaign can be brought in but it is still disturbing to record small outbreaks of measles in certain parts of the county among children who should have been protected since 1968. A recent inquiry into a group of these produced a variety of reasons for non-protection, some still harking back to a temporary suspension of vaccine in 1969, but mainly traceable to lack of parental diligence in spite of repeated reminders by health visitors and others.

### **Rubella**

"As indicated above rubella vaccination is now available to thirteen year old girls, and in 1971 2,234 vaccinations were carried out in the schools by school medical officers. It seems sensible to offer this important protection to girls when they enter secondary school and so in the current year area medical officers are offering protection to a double year group with a view to continuing the procedure in the first year in secondary school.

### **Tuberculosis**

"Once again B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis was offered during the year to 12-13 year old children, 3,186 children received a preliminary skin test and of these 162, i.e. 5.1% were found positive. The remainder who represent the majority susceptible to tuberculosis infection were offered B.C.G. vaccination, a total of 2,858 being in fact so protected. 310 children had already had B.C.G. vaccination for some reason and 12 were already under the care of the chest clinic."

Table 7 and 8 which follow give the incidence of notifiable diseases and the number of deaths and death-rate from tuberculosis in the year 1971.

**TABLE SEVEN**  
**WORKINGTON M.B.**

## Notification of Infectious Diseases 1971

[illegible]



**TABLE EIGHT**  
**Tuberculosis—Workington—1971**  
**Deaths and Death Rate**

Years	No. of Deaths—Workington			Death Rate per 1,000 Pop.	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Total	Workington	England and Wales
1911-1915	27.3	4.8	32.1	1.69	1.41
1916-1920	21.8	13.4	35.2	1.25	1.48
1921-1925	17.4	6.6	24.0	0.88	1.08
1926-1930	18.2	8.2	26.4	1.01	0.94
1931-1935	22.8	8.0	30.8	1.19	0.81
1936-1940	20.0	5.4	25.4	0.92	0.67
1941-1945	19.7	5.9	25.6	0.86	0.66
1946-1950	17.2	1.8	19.0	0.67	0.48
1951-1955	9.0	0.8	9.8	0.34	0.22
1956-1960	2.2	0.4	2.6	0.09	0.10
1961-1965	0.6	—	0.6	0.02	0.06
1966	—	—	—	0.00	0.05
1967	—	—	—	0.00	0.04
1968	2	—	2	0.07	0.05
1969	—	—	—	0.00	0.04
1970	1	—	1	0.03	0.04
1971	1	—	1	0.04	0.04

#### 4. Cancer and Bronchitis

Deaths from cancer totalled 69. The distribution by sex and site was as follows:—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Stomach	8	3	11
Lung, Bronchus	19	3	22
Breast	n/a	6	6
Uterus	n/a	2	2
Other Forms	17	11	28
	—	—	—
	44	25	69
	—	—	—

The number of deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus continue to creep upwards. Again let me remind you of the two main preventive measures—The voluntary giving up of the habit of smoking cigarettes by the individual and the corporate attack on air pollution from coal smoke.

*The Chief Public Health Inspector*



# **Annual Report of The Chief Public Health Inspector**



Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Workington.  
August, 1973.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and  
Councillors of the Borough of Workington.*

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting this report on the work carried out by the Department during my seventh year of office. This report has been prepared in conjunction with that for 1970, and similarly provides the basic information required by the Department of Health and Social Security in their Circular 1/72. I intend to reserve my detailed comments on the various aspects of environmental health for my report on 1972.

The year started with a full complement of staff, indeed, the only change to occur during the year was the resignation of the Clerk, Miss M. Beattie, and the subsequent appointment of Mrs. M. Ritson. The Student Public Health Inspector, Miss P. Ryan, started the first year of her course at Aston University and successfully completed the first year examinations.

With the staffing back to normal the department was not only able to make a start on a number of projects but was also able to ensure that routine visits to various premises could again be carried out. This was, however, to prove somewhat short lived, as with the increase of improvement grants in this area to 75% of the approved cost (maximum £1,500) there was an unprecedented boom in enquiries and subsequent applications for improvement grants. This increase in the amount of the grant combined with the wider range of both improvements and repairs for which grant can be paid, gave a much needed boost to the improvement of many privately owned dwellings in the district. It did, however, create a number of problems, not least of which was the increasing difficulty experienced by many applicants in obtaining the services of a builder, never mind a reasonably priced estimate.

The principle project implemented was the declaration of the Corporation Road General Improvement Area. The



declaration of this area constituted a major step forward in housing policy in the private sector, and a firm declaration of faith in the future of the area by the Council. Whilst the prime objective of even the environmental improvements must be to encourage the improvement of the properties themselves, these improvements go a long way towards improving the quality of life of the inhabitants of the area, envisaging as it did the reduction of congestion, traffic and the provision of play areas. It was, therefore, vital that the inhabitants themselves should have had a say in the development of the area and I was, therefore, more than pleased with the success of the public meetings which we held, and with the interest which the inhabitants showed both at these meetings and when asked for their views during the initial survey. One point which is still of concern to me, despite a meeting at which we put forward our proposals to them, has been the failure of many Building Societies to appreciate the concept of the scheme and to show faith in the proposals, consequently, many couples experience difficulty in obtaining mortgages for properties in the area.

It is very encouraging after campaigning in succeeding annual reports to record in this report the declaration of the first Smoke Control Area in the Borough, and indeed, the Council's agreement to a Smoke Control programme for the whole of the Borough. I feel that this will play a vital part in the campaign to improve both the health of the inhabitants and the visual appearance of our town.

One black spot during 1971, and one which I have mentioned on previous occasions was the continued dumping of rubbish on any open site in the Borough. The amount of rubbish dumped, including abandoned vehicles continued to increase, despite the increasing use of our free collection service; no doubt this is a reflection on the state of our increasingly consumer orientated and packaged society. An outstanding example was the removal of vast amounts of rubbish including 25 abandoned vehicles from a site on the Clay Flatts Estate. The site was then levelled and left tidy, but within a very short time the dumping had started again. The envisaged provision of a number of sites for the disposal of rubbish, in accordance with the Civic Amenities Act, will, I hope, bring about some improvement. But ultimately if we are going to beat this problem and help improve our town, the inhabitants should make full use of the services available to them. It is no use them nipping out after dark to dump rubbish on the nearest open site only to

complain next day on the shocking state of such a site or empty house; after all actions speak louder than words.

Finally, I would take this opportunity to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their understanding and support throughout this year, and the help given to me by my fellow officers. In addition I must give particular thanks to all the staff in the department whose loyalty and readiness to give service, gave me great encouragement and pleasure.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. A. FOGG,

*Chief Public Health Inspector.*



## HOUSING

The Council's decision in 1967 to declare an improvement area under the provisions of the Housing Act 1964, reflected the Council's and the Department's view that urgent action was necessary to deal with the so called areas of "twilight" housing in the Borough. That is to say areas of terraced property the condition of which was deteriorating and many of which were lacking the basic amenities, and which could be saved and provide adequate units of accommodation for a considerable period, if only action were taken early enough. However, the action envisaged by this legislation proved to be very cumbersome, and the amount of work considerable for a relatively small end product.

Where this action was lacking was that the legislation failed to recognise the close ties between the properties and their environment, and the need for the local authority itself to show faith in the future of the area by investing in its development. The Housing Act 1969, therefore, introduced the principle of General Improvement Areas, which provided for the improvement of the environment as well as the properties.

I was, therefore, anxious to investigate the implementation of these new provisions with regard to the improvement area and the properties surrounding it. Consequently, at the beginning of the year an immediate start was made on a survey of these properties including a sociological survey, and a detailed report was subsequently prepared and submitted to the Council. It is of interest to quote the objectives and scope of the report as they were given in the introduction to the report:—

"The objectives of this report are:—

1. To assess the suitability of the area for declaration as a General Improvement Area.
2. To formulate proposals for the improvement of the properties and their environment.

To meet these objectives it was necessary to make a detailed assessment of:—

1. The overall condition of the properties in the area, to indicate whether the properties warrant improvement or if they necessitate clearance.
2. The means of improvement of the properties, and any factors which detract from, or have a direct relationship upon the improvement of a particular property.



3. The Environmental factors which contribute to the existing blight of the area.
4. The existing sociological conditions including the need to enhance the overall confidence in the area".

The result of the report was a number of recommendations not least of which was that the area should be declared a General Improvement Area to which the Council agreed, and a scheme of detailed environmental improvements was subsequently prepared by the Borough Surveyor's Department. Apart from showing the need to improve certain properties, the report also showed the need for the clearance of the properties which were unfit or not improvable. The clearance of these properties would, it was envisaged, serve to reduce the overall congestion of the area and provide play areas, and car parking facilities. A total of six Compulsory Purchase Orders were made, and subsequently confirmed by the Department of the Environment.

The proposals for the area were exhibited at the Public Library and received good publicity, then following on from this some seven public meetings were held, plus one with local building contractors, architects etc., and finally one with Local Building Society representatives. As I mentioned in my opening remarks, this public participation is a vital part of this type of scheme, and it has, I feel, been very much reflected in the interest which has been shown and by the number of properties which are being improved. But it is only fair to say that we were fortunate when the grants increased to 75% as the area was declared.

Looking back I feel that this has been an extremely valuable exercise, and one which showed the need for the extension of this policy to further areas, and I hope that the department will soon be able to make a start on the survey of the next area. However, one thing has become apparent from this area, once the area has been declared then the development of the area must be pursued as quickly as possible. There have been delays with this area, mainly with respect to the purchase of the properties in the Compulsory Purchase Orders and the subsequent rehousing of the occupants and this has, in turn, delayed the development of the environmental improvements. This only serves to illustrate the necessity of an inter departmental approach to the development of General Improvement Areas, and in particular the effective co-ordination of the various departmental functions.



It is also vital to ensure the integration within the housing programme of the housing needs with respect to improvement areas and slum clearance, and consequently there is a need for a clearly defined improvement and slum clearance programme.

During the year two further small General Improvement Areas were also declared. These covered the Warwick Place and Siddick properties.

As I indicated previously the increase in the amount of improvement grants resulted in a boom in the number of enquiries and applications, combined with the increase in standards (the Council having agreed during the year to work to Parker Morris standards as far as they are applicable to the improvement of existing dwellings), was of considerable benefit to the overall condition of the housing stock in the Borough. However, this increasing emphasis towards the improvement of properties served to highlight the difficulties of the areas of borderline properties, which were not in urgent need of clearance but which were in such a condition that they were not worthy or capable of improvement to the full twelve point standard. With the increased grants it would have been all too easy to give a full grant for this type of property where this has been applied for, but generally speaking the number of applications from these properties was small, and there was a great danger that one would end up with a minority of properties improved whilst the remainder continue to deteriorate. The answer was to give standard grants for the provision of basic amenities; after all 10 or 15 years is the time in which a family is brought up, and to concentrate the resources on the improvement of the better properties. Even so, the prospect that the present 75% grants are for a short term only, combined with increased prices, could well have meant that once they reduce the impetus would have been lost, and in some areas if we were not careful we would have only created more problems that we ultimately solve. I hope that the Government will eventually decide to keep the grants at 75% even if it is only within declared General Improvement Areas.

The repair and improvement of the 117 houses at Siddick mentioned in my 1969 report, commenced in February and has progressed steadily, substantial work having been done to 43 houses and 4 handed over by the year end. Considerable extra work was carried out above contract and some delays were occasioned particularly by an unfortunate fire which burnt out the contractors main storage hut just after a large delivery of purpose made windows and other materials.



### Dwelling Houses inspected and action taken

- (1) Individual unfit houses capable of repair at reasonable cost
  - (a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ..... 7
  - (b) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after services of formal notices:—
    - (i) By owner ..... Nil
    - (ii) By local authority in default of owner ... Nil
- (2) Individual unfit houses not capable of repair at reasonable cost.
  - (a) Proceedings under Section 16, 17, and 23 Housing Act 1957
    - (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ..... Nil
    - (ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ..... Nil
  - (b) Proceedings under Section 18 Housing Act 1957
    - (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made ..... 6
    - (ii) Number of closing orders determined, the dwelling house having been rendered fit Nil
- (3) Clearance areas
  - (a) Proceedings under Section 42 Housing Act 1957
    - (i) Number of clearance areas represented 6
    - (ii) Number of clearance areas declared ..... 6
    - (iii) Number of dwelling houses unfit for habitation ..... 81
    - (iv) Number of dwelling houses included by reason of their bad arrangement ..... 14
  - (b) Number Clearance Orders ..... —
  - (c) Number of Compulsory Purchase Orders ..... 5

## (4) Persons displaced and re-housed

## (a) Families

(i) Rehoused from individual unfit dwelling  
houses ..... 2

(ii) Rehoused from clearance area ..... 3

## (b) Persons

(i) Rehoused from individual unfit dwelling  
houses ..... 4

(ii) Rehoused from clearance areas ..... 15

## (5) Improvement grants

(a) Number of houses inspected for improvement  
grant purposes

In improvement area ..... 285

Individual Applications ..... 428

(b) Total number of visits made in connection  
with the above

In improvement area ..... 400

Individual Applications ..... 504

## (6) General

(a) Number of dwelling houses inspected for  
housing defects ..... 147

(b) Total number of visits paid to the above  
houses ..... 220

## Public Health Acts

(a) Number of complaints received re insanitary  
conditions in dwelling houses ..... 178

(b) Number of dwelling houses inspected re  
complaints and routine inspections ..... 231

(c) Total number of visits of all kinds to dwelling  
houses ..... 803

## Action taken

Number of informal notices served re  
insanitary conditions in dwelling houses ..... 84

Number of informal notices for insanitary  
conditions in dwelling houses complied with ..... 71

Number of statutory notices served for  
insanitary conditions in dwelling houses ..... 29

Number of statutory notices for insanitary  
conditions in dwelling houses complied with ... 24



**TABLE ONE**

Summary of items included in the above notices :—

Defects	Served	Complied with
Roofs	32	27
Walls	38	35
Floors	8	10
Ceilings	18	12
Windows	21	15
Doors	2	2
Fireplaces and flues	3	3
Sinks	1	1
Water Supplies	5	9
Rainwater conductors	18	31
Paving	4	2
Water Closets	15	18
Drainage	11	15
Cleansing	1	3
Miscellaneous	20	16

In contrast with previous years increasing difficulty has been experienced over the year in ensuring that owners and agents have complied with the requirements of the appropriate notices within the requisite period. Whilst this is mainly a reflection of the difficulty of obtaining the services of a builder, willing to carry out this "jobbing" work, there is also a reluctance, due to the increasing costs, by the agents to have the work carried out and pay for it themselves, and then have to wait a considerable period to recover the money from the rent received. This resulted in a number of warning letters being sent, and in two cases applications were made to the Magistrates Court for Nuisance Orders against one agent. These were granted and the work subsequently carried out.

### **Rent Act, 1957**

One application for a certificate of Repair under the Act was received and four visits were made, though no certificate was issued.

## Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act

Nineteen visits were made to Caravan Sites and individual caravans during the year. There has been little difficulty during the year in keeping the Cloffocks, and other sites used by itinerant caravanners clear, but this often presents a problem in that occasionally the odd caravan is able to remain on a quiet site un-noticed for some time before it is reported to or seen by a member of the department.

I would again stress that the introduction of special sites as gypsy encampments in the area would be of considerable assistance and enable the itinerant caravanner to be directed to a site over which strict control can be supervised instead of hounding them from place to place and, though we may get rid of a problem ourselves, we are merely passing the buck, or the nuisance, to someone in another area. The responsibility for the provision of these sites lies with the County Council, but once provided the responsibility for maintaining the sites reverts to the district council.

## Common Lodging Houses

There are no known Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

## Food Hygiene

The following tables give the Statistical details required by Circular 1/72 of the Department of Health and Social Security.

1. Chicken	Decomposition
2. Bacon	Sold condition
3. Bacon	Contained foreign material
4. Spaghetti Bolognese	Contained metal
5. Curry/Sauce	Contained hair
6. Mineral Water	Contaminated
7. Blueberries	Contained foreign body
8. Bread	Mould growth
9. Strawberries	Contained foreign body



**TABLE TWO****Category of Trades**

Type of Premises	No. of Premises	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of Premises of which Reg. 19 applies	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Bakehouses	19	19	19	19
Butchers	25	25	25	25
Breweries and Mineral Water Manufacturers	5	5	5	5
Catering premises	72	72	72	72
Confectioners	24	24	24	24
Fishmongers and Poulterers	8	8	8	8
Fried Fish Shops	15	15	15	15
Greengrocers	20	20	20	20
Grocers & General Ice Cream Manufacturers	111	111	111	111
Licensed Premises	5	5	5	5
Tripe etc. Shops	89	89	89	89
	1	1	1	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>394</b>

N.B. Regulation 16—refers to the provision of personal washing facilities.

Regulation 19—refers to the provision of facilities for washing food and equipment.

**TABLE THREE****Inspections**

Type of premises	No. of inspections
Bakehouses	1
Butchers	4
Breweries & Mineral Water Mfrs.	—
Catering Premises	19
Confectioners	1
Fishmongers & Poulterers	1
Fried Fish Shops	2
Greengrocers	4
Grocers and General	13
Ice Cream Manufacturers	3
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Hotels	19
Staff Canteens	—
Tripe Boilers	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>

In addition, 141 inspections of stalls and food vehicles were made in the year and revisits, interviews and discussions in connection with food premises totalled 136.

**Food Control**

Nine complaints were dealt with regarding foodstuffs—each case was investigated and appropriate action taken.

Table 4 below gives details of the complaints followed by a summary of the findings and action taken:—

**TABLE FOUR**

Commodity	Nature of Complaint
1 Chicken	Decomposition
2 Bacon	Stale condition
3 Bacon	Contained foreign material
4 Spaghetti Bolognaise	Contained metal
5 Currant Square	Contained hair
6 Mineral Water	Contaminated
7 Bilberries	Contained foreign body
8 Bread	Mould growth
9 Strawberries	Contained foreign body



## SUMMARIES

1. The stock rotation and daily checks had not been properly carried out at this normally efficient store. A strong warning letter was sent to the store manager.

2. This portion of smoked bacon was affected by mould growth, but on investigation the rest of the piece was found to be sound and unaffected. A strong warning was given to the manager of the store regarding stock rotation and storage.

3. Despite much investigation it was not possible to determine the nature of the material found between slices of the bacon or of its origin. The store was warned of the consequences of a further complaint being made.

4. The piece of metal was contained in a portion of Spaghetti Bolognaise served as a part of a meal in a restaurant. The piece of metal was not identifiable precisely and the proprietor was warned to exercise the utmost precautions.

5. The currant pastry square had been manufactured in the Borough and at some stage one strand of hair had been accidentally introduced. In view of the exceptional cleanliness of the bakery and the already stringent supervision exercised a warning was considered appropriate.

6. The substance contained in a bottle of "Dandelion and Burdock" was not identifiable but could have resulted from a misuse of a returnable container. The firm concerned were warned of the consequences of not maintaining 100% vigilance against such contamination.

7. This complaint was only made some four months after a beetle was found in a tin of imported bilberries, and no action was possible. Representations were, however, made to the firm selling the product on behalf of the purchaser.

8. On investigation it was evident that there was not sufficient evidence on which to take any further action than a warning letter due to the time lapse between purchase and use.

9. Exhaustive enquiries were made as to the origin of the filter tip from a cigarette which was found in this tin and as to the precautions taken by the canners, to prevent such extraneous matter getting into their products. It was felt that a strong warning letter and action taken by the local Public Health Officers was the correct procedure in this case.

## Food Inspection

The following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption.

The goods were surrendered voluntarily by the vendors, certificates were issued and the goods then destroyed. Approximately 55 visits were made in connection with this service and the total weight of foodstuffs dealt with was over two tons.

**TABLE FIVE**

*Food Surrendered or Condemned*

	Tons	Cwts	Lbs
Meat (At Retail Shops)			96
Cooked Meat and Meat Products		1	76
Canned Meats		5	56
Other Canned Foods		17	8
Fruit and Vegetables			4
Frozen Foods	1	4	84
Other Foods			15
	—	—	—
	2	10	3
	—	—	—

## Food and Drugs Act, 1955—Section 16

Two premises were inspected under this section of the Food and Drugs Act and in each case the premises were brought up to the standard required, and finally registered.

There are now 106 premises registered for the sale of ice cream and 4 for its manufacture. One manufacturer uses the hot mix method, 2 reconstitute cold mixes and one makes a soft ice cream in a vending machine in his shop.

Sixty-three premises are registered for the preparation and manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food.

## Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

No action has been taken under these regulations as there are no liquid egg pasteurising plants in the Borough.

## Poultry

There are no poultry processing premises within the Borough.



## **Dairies and Milk Distributors**

At the end of the year there were 30 registered dairies, 19 purveyors, 5 producer retailers and 8 farm producers within the Borough

## **Water Supply**

The supply of water into the terminal Stainburn Reservoirs at Workington was considerably improved, both in quantity and quality, by the reconditioning of a total of 17389 yards of the Second Trunk Main from Crummock Water. The work, which cost £105,000 comprising the scraping by mechanical means of the 21in. diameter cast iron pipes followed by the application of a lining of cement mortar,  $\frac{3}{8}$ in. thick.

Mains have been laid for housing developments at High Street, the Moorclose Estate and the Scaw Road Estate, Harrington and at Moor Road and Brierydale Lane, Stainburn. Further mainlaying has taken place to supply industrial development at Lillyhall and to provide water for the Hotel development adjacent to the golf course.

Old cast iron mains have been renewed and replaced with modern P.V.C. pipes at Salisbury Street, Irving Street and the Town Centre Redevelopment and also at Church Road and The Square, Harrington.

I am greatly indebted to Mr. C. P Coates, Engineer to the West Cumberland Water Board who provided the information and for the willing co-operation and assistance received from himself and his staff throughout the year.

## **SWIMMING BATHS WATER**

Following on from a number of complaints regarding "sore eyes" a comprehensive check was made on the condition of the water at the Moorclose Baths. Over a period of several weeks checks were made on a twice daily basis, and it was found that there was a considerable variance in the chlorine levels, both from day to day and during the same day and that the water was too alkaline having a regular Ph value at over 8.0. Recommendations were, therefore made on the necessary remedial action, and on the keeping of adequate records.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES AND FACTORIES

### Offices, Shops and Railway Premises, 1963

One notice was served during the year, these covering three contraventions in all but it was not found necessary to institute proceedings to obtain compliance with our requirements.

There were four accidents reported for the year as against 6 last year. Whilst such a figure is encouraging I still doubt that all notifiable accidents are being reported to the local authority as required by the Act. Of the accidents which were notified, investigation revealed no negligence attributable to the employers concerned. As a matter of interest details are listed below:—

### ACCIDENTS

#### 1 *Shop:*

Assistant descending stairs lost balance and fell down half the stairway, sustained cut and bruising to left leg—no defect in stairs.

#### 2 *Shop:*

Assistant cutting meat on a mechanical slicing machine when meat slipped and finger came into contact with blade slicing a small piece from end of finger. Machine properly guarded with standard guards—more care and attention in use of machine required.

#### 3 *Shop*

Assistant was removing a box from 4ft. pile in stock-room when pile overbalanced and one fell on her foot causing severe bruising.

#### 4 *Shop*

Assistant cut leg on the metal edge of an open drawer after switching off the shop lights when closing shop.



**TABLE SIX**

Premises registered and inspected.

Class of Premises	No of premises registered during year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No of premises receiving a general inspection
Offices	1	96	3
Retail shops	2	215	16
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	—	19	—
Catering Establishments	—	23	10
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—
Totals	3	353	29

Total number of Inspections made for all purposes—38.

**TABLE SEVEN**

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

Class of Workplace	No. of Persons Employed
Offices ... ..	938
Retail Shops ... ..	965
Wholesale Dept. Warehouses	146
Catering Establishments ... ..	150
Canteens ... ..	6
Fuel Storage Depots ... ..	—
Total ... ..	2205
Total Males ... ..	1002
Total Females ... ..	1203

**SHOPS ACT****HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS**

Routine enquiries to the Public Health Office have been answered and two specific inspections were carried out other than those covered at the same time as inspections under other legislation.

**FACTORIES ACT**

The statistical information as required by the Secretary of State for Employment is appended hereunder:—

**TABLE EIGHT**

**1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)**

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of written notices (4)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	27	3	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	122	2	1	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .....	34	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>183</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Nil</b>



TABLE NINE

## 2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .....	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .....	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	1	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Total .....	4	4	1	—	—

### 3. Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

The department has not been notified of any outworkers residing within the Borough.

#### TABLE TEN

##### List of Trades

Aerated Waters	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Brewing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cement Industries and Roadstone Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Corn Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dyers and Cleaners	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Electrical and Radio Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Electrical Undertakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fur Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
General Dealers and Scrap Sorters	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Heavy Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Knacker Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Leather Workers and Shoe Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Light Engineering and Motor Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Monumental Masons	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Non Woven Fabrics	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paper Board Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paper Processing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Printing	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Quarrying	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rum Butter Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scale Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Slag Recovery	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Steel Making	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailoring	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Tripe Dressing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Waste Paper Baling	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Watch and Clock Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Weaving	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wood Cutting and Working	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Works of Engineering Construction	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Works of Building Operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	24



## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

This year saw the first Smoke Control Area submitted to the Council and approved. It was subsequently submitted to the Department of the Environment who finally approved it after some delay, with an operation date of the 1st July, 1973. This will be the first area to be in operation in Cumberland. The area covers approximately 380 properties within the Corporation Road General Improvement Area, and it is the first area in a ten year programme designed to make the whole of Workington smokeless. The programme envisages the declaration of two smoke control areas each year, one of which would be combined with the programme for General Improvement Area based around the centre of the town, whilst the other would be a straight forward smoke control area starting at Harrington and moving inwards.

It is also anticipated that well before the completion of this programme we shall see a considerable reduction in the present air pollution from industrial sources. But despite the usual affects of industrial pollution I would again stress that the main source of air pollution in this town is domestic premises, and with the completion of this programme I am sure we will see a vast improvement in Workington's Environment.

## Rodent Control

A total of 391 complaints of infestation by rodents (mainly mice) were received during the year, virtually doubling last year's numbers, and this necessitated nearly 1,000 visits and revisits, some 35 visits were made by Public Health Inspectors where difficulties arose.

Table 11 below shows the statistical information as it is returned to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.





**TABLE TWELVE**

Total number of properties inspected following notification	286
Number of properties infested by	
Ants	120
Cockroaches	50
Silverfish	9
Fleas	9
Insects (various)	31
Pigeons	19
Bed Bugs	1
	<hr/>
	239
	<hr/>

The inspection of vacant Council Houses and those where exchanges have been requested has continued through the year, 179 houses having been inspected and reports as to their condition rendered to the Housing Department.

### **GENERAL**

The following information relates to work carried out by the Department in connection with matters not covered in other sections of the report.

### **NOISE ABATEMENT ACT**

Action under this Act has been minimal and of a minor nature. Only three complaints were received and involved six visits being made to give advice and secure the abatement of the nuisances by informal means, no notices being served.

### **Nuisances under the Public Health Acts**

Number of complaints received in respect of insanitary conditions other than in dwelling houses .....	22
Number of informal notices served as a result of the investigations of the above complaints ...	12
Number of informal notices complied with .....	10
Number of statutory notices served as a result of the above complaints .....	1
Number of statutory notices complied with .....	1

## Summary of visits to premises under various Acts

(Not covered in the previous sections)

Animal Boarding Establishment .....	2
Infectious Disease .....	12
Interviews .....	402
Knackers Yard .....	6
Markets .....	34
Miscellaneous .....	376
Accumulations .....	66
Pet Shops .....	3
Piggeries .....	2
Public Conveniences .....	2
Refuse Collection .....	62
Refuse Disposal .....	41
Re-visits .....	504
Salvage .....	19
Scrap Metal Dealers .....	1
Theatre and Places of Entertainment .....	3
Health Education .....	40

The attention of the Borough Surveyor and/or Water Engineer was called to:—

Choked sewers, drains and gullies .....	20
Defective Public Convenience .....	1
Miscellaneous .....	3
Repairs to Corporation Property .....	35

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SERVICE

The demand for the special collection service continues to increase with 829 requests in 1971 compared with 741 in 1970, but as I have mentioned previously, so does the dumping of rubbish on any open site. In addition, cars in varying condition continued to be abandoned, although after they have been abandoned for a couple of days, no matter what their original condition, they are reduced to a virtual shell, often increasing the time it takes to remove it. A total of 49 vehicles were removed during the year.

With the advancement of the reclamation scheme the tipping at Oldside had to be abandoned at the end of the year, necessitating a move to the new site at the rear of Siddick. The site is in a very exposed position and despite the erection of high screens, problems continue to be experienced with paper blowing about. The condition of the road to the tip also gives rise to concern despite maintenance, and could ulti-



mately result in deterioration of the vehicles. The tip at Sid-dick is of necessity a short term project and we must now give consideration to further means or sites for disposal, one idea put forward is the use of the open cast sites outside the Borough, but a great deal must depend on the approaching local government reorganisation.

A start was made at the end of the year on the Work Study of the existing rounds and it was hoped that these would have been completed during 1972.

### **Vehicles in service at end of 1971—**

#### **Refuse Collection**

Type of Vehicle	Registration No. and Date Registered	
Shelvoke & Drewry. 35 cu yd. Pakamatic.	GRM 201D	(March) 1966
Shelvoke & Drewry. 35 cu yd. Pakamatic.	JRM 618D	(October) 1966
Shelvoke & Drewry 35 cu yd. Pakamatic.	PAO 633F	(April) 1968
Shelvoke & Drewry 35 cu. yd.	SRM 704 G	(April, 1969)
Morris Van.	TAO 664 G	(May), 1969
Commer Canopied Pick Up	CRM 625K	(October) 1971

#### **Salvage**

Fordson Tractor/Shovel.	CRM 650	(November) 1960
6 Salvage Trailers.	Purchased 1967	

#### **Refuse Disposal**

5 Ton Bedford Tipper	WRM 995H	(June) 1970
Track Marshall 1100	(February) 1970	

#### **Staff at end of 1971**

Foreman.	R. Robinson.
Deputy Foreman.	L. Bland.

#### **Refuse Collection**

Drivers	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Drivers/Labourers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Labourers	...	...	...	...	...	...	15

#### **Salvage Depot**

Labourers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
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**Refuse Disposal**

Driver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Labourer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26

In addition to the permanent staff a maximum of 5 temporary men were taken on for varying periods of time to replace staff off duty during times of exceptional sickness and during holidays.

**All these figures relate to Financial Year:**

	1969/70	1970/71	1971/72
Number of loads of refuse removed to tip	4818	3526	4225
Estimated weight of refuse removed	7408T*	5202T	6249T
Weight of salvage baled and sold	351T	384T	207T
Total receipts for salvage sold	£3745	£4096	£3447
Total bonus shared between men	£ 757	£ 818	£ 548
Average bonus per men for year	£ 27	£ 27	£ 21
Cost of refuse collection	£41747	£50845	£54908
Cost of refuse disposal	£4020	£5299	£5296
Cost of Salvage		£ 522	£1816
Total	£45767	£56666	£58020

\*Basis of weights carried changed in July 1969 estimated weights reduced by  $\frac{1}{3}$ .

**Salvage**

Receipts	£3447·00
Salvage Service	£4716·00
Bonus	£ 548·00
	£5263·00
Cost	£1816·00









