



**HEALTH  
NEWS**

*Briefing*

ASSOCIATION · OF

**COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCILS**

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**USE OF COMPUTERS  
IN CHCS**

**REPORT OF A QUESTIONNAIRE SENT TO MEMBER CHCS**

### SUMMARY

Following the questionnaire on computers sent to member CHCs in 1987, it was found that there was considerable interest amongst CHCs for networking and sharing advice on the use of computers. A second questionnaire was therefore sent out in July this year to gauge the extent to which other CHCs had acquired computers and to compile a resource of those CHCs willing to advise others and network information on computers.

Of the 190 questionnaires sent to member CHCs in July 1989, 127 were returned (67%). 105 of those returned had computers (83%). This shows an increase of about 120% from 1987 when only 47 CHCs owned a computer.

The regional breakdown of CHCs which responded and which also owned a computer is illustrated below:-

<u>Region</u>	<u>No. returned</u>	<u>No. with computer</u>
Northern	11	10
Yorkshire	11	11
Trent	6	6
East Anglia	6	6
North West Thames	12	9
North East Thames	7	6
South East Thames	8	6
South West Thames	5	4
Wessex	7	6
Oxford	5	5
South West	8	5
West Midlands	14	12
Mersey	8	7
North West	9	8
Wales	9	3

The most common makes of computers used are Amstrad (50), Apricot (11) and Olivetti (8) - see Appendix I. The most common software used are Wordstar (31), Locoscript (18) and Wordperfect (10) - see Appendix IIa & b. Almost all CHCs with computers used them for wordprocessing (102 out of 104) and the variety of other uses are listed below:-

<u>Use of Computer</u>	<u>No. of CHCs</u>
Wordprocessing	102
Mailing lists	58
Index of local groups/agencies	48
Statistical analysis	23
Accounts	19
Graphs/charts	15
Desk top publishing	6
Reference for library	5
Performance indicators	3

### Networking and advice

63 CHCs (61% of those with computers) expressed an interest in forming a network with other CHCs who have a similar system to theirs, whilst 14 were unwilling and 28 unsure. 92 CHCs (88%) are willing to give help and advice to CHCs with or thinking of buying a similar system to their own, whilst 11 were unwilling and 2 were unsure. Appendix IIa illustrates the extent of interest in networking and advice sharing.

### CHCs without a computer

Of the 22 CHCs who responded to the questionnaire but who do not have a computer, 9 planned to buy or were considering buying a computer. Of the 13 who were not planning to buy one, 5 felt they did not have enough money and the remainder felt that a computer was not essential.

The attached appendices can be used as a resource for CHCs to identify other CHCs with similar hardware and software and to ascertain which CHCs are willing to provide advice on their computers.

APPENDIX I  
CHCs and make of computer

<u>CHC</u>	<u>MAKE AND MODEL</u>
ABERCONWY	AMSTRAD PC 8256
AIREDALE	AMSTRAD 1640, SCREENTYPER III ECD
AYLESBURY VALE	AMSTRAD PC 2086, SCREENTYPER
BARNET	AMSTRAD PC 1640, WORDPLEX 80-2
BARNSLEY	APRICOT FI XI
BASSETLAW	CANON VP 2000
BATH	AMSTRAD PCW 9512
BOLTON	WANG PROFESSIONAL
BRADFORD	APRICOT F10
BRIGHTON	AMSTRAD PCW 9512
BRISTOL	OLIVETTI ETV 3000
BURNLEY, PENDLE & ROSSENDALE	SBC 20MB SINGLE DRIVE HARD DISC
CALDERDALE	AMSTRAD PCW 9512
CAMBRIDGE	ELONEX PC 88C
CARDIFF	AMSTRAD PC 1640
CENTRAL BIRMINGHAM	AMSTRAD PCW 9512
CHELTENHAM & DISTRICT	OLIVETTI M24 & 20
CHESTER	BBC MASTER
COVENTRY	OLIVETTI ETV 300
DARLINGTON	AMSTRAD PC 1640 HD20
DURHAM	AMSTRAD PC 1640 HD20
EALING	SIRIUS 16, AMSTRAD 1512
EAST BIRMINGHAM	ERICSSON PC
EAST CUMBRIA	AMSTRAD PC 1512
EAST HERTFORDSHIRE	TANDON PCX 10MB 256K
EASTBOURNE	AMSTRAD PC 1640
EXETER	PANASONIC KX-700M
GREAT YARMOUTH & WAVENEY	HERMES 66
GREENWICH	AMSTRAD 1512 DD
GRIMSBY	APRICOT F1
HALTON	AMSTRAD PCW 9512
HAMPSTEAD	TANDON, ELONEX
HARINGEY	AMSTRAD PC 1512
HARROGATE	AMSTRAD PCW 8256
HARROW	AMSTRAD PC 1512 DD MONO
HASTINGS	APRICOT XEN-i 286/30
HEREFORDSHIRE	AMSTRAD 1512
HIGH WYCOMBE	COMPAQ
HUDDERSFIELD	ANITA PC XL 30
HULL	BBC
HUNTINGDON	WORKSTATION COMART
ISLE OF ANGLESEY	IBM, WALTERS
ISLE OF WIGHT	AMSTRAD PC 1640 DD
ISLINGTON	AMSTRAD 1640
KETTERING	AMSTRAD PC 1640 ECD
KIDDERMINSTER	CALTEXT
KINGSTON & ESHER	AMSTRAD PC 1640
LANCASTER	APRICOT
LIVERPOOL CENTRAL & SOUTHERN	AMSTRAD 1512
LIVERPOOL EASTERN	AMSTRAD PCW 8512
MANCHESTER (ALL)	COMMODORE 8096, APRICOT XENI 286/30

MEDWAY	IBM 30/286
MERTON & SUTTON	ZEBRA 6700
MILTON KEYNES	AMSTRAD PC 1640 DD
NEWCASTLE	APRICOT XEN-i 286/30
NEWHAM	IBM 30
NORTH BEDFORDSHIRE	QUBIE, AMSTRAD PCW 8512
NORTH DERBYSHIRE	AMSTRAD PC 1512
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE	AMSTRAD PC 2086/30
NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE	OLIVETTI M24
NORTH TYNESIDE	OLIVETTI ETV 350, ETV 500
NORTHUMBERLAND	AMSTRAD PC 1512 DD
NORWICH	AMSTRAD PCW 8512
NOTTINGHAM	OLIVETTI ETV 350
PARKSIDE	OLIVETTI ETV 300
PETERBOROUGH	AMSTRAD PCW 8256
PLYMOUTH	AMSTRAD PCW 8512
PONTEFRACT	TANDON (IBM COMPATIBLE) DM 14
PORTSMOUTH & SOUTH EAST HAMPSHIRE	APRICOT F2, AMSTRAD 9512
RIVERSIDE	AMSTRAD PC 1640
ROCHDALE & HEALTHWATCH	APRICOT XEN-5
ROTHERHAM	AMSTRAD 2086
SALFORD	BONDWELL 38
SALISBURY	AMSTRAD PCW 9512
SCUNTHORPE	AMSTRAD 2286/40
SHROPSHIRE	AMSTRAD PC 1640 SD
SOMERSET	AMSTRAD PC 1640
SOUTH BEDFORDSHIRE	APRICOT F2
SOUTH BIRMINGHAM	EPSON PC AX
SOUTH CUMBRIA	APPLE MACKINTOSH PLUS
SOUTH GWENT	BROTHER, AMSTRAD
SOUTH TYNESIDE	OLYMPIA ETX 1
SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE	AMSTRAD PCW 9512
SOUTH WEST DURHAM	OLIVETTI M24
SOUTH WEST HERTFORDSHIRE	TRIUMPH ADLER SE1005
SOUTHEND	COMPAQ 286 DESKPRO, 286 PORTABLE
ST HELENS & KNOWSLEY	AMSTRAD PC 1640
STOCKPORT	AMSTRAD PCW 9512
SUNDERLAND	APRICOT Qi 350ti-803865x
SWINDON	AMSTRAD PCW 9512, 1512
TAMESIDE & GLOSSOP	AMSTRAD PCW 9512
TOWER HAMLETS	APRICOT PC
WAKEFIELD	AMSTRAD PC 2286/40
WALSALL	SIRIUS, AMSTRAD PC 2086
WANDSWORTH	CALTEXT
WARRINGTON	IBM
WEST BERKSHIRE	BBC B, MASTER
WEST BIRMINGHAM	RANK XEROX (WP) 645
WEST LAMBETH	AMSTRAD 8512
WEST NORFOLK & WISBECH	AMSTRAD PC 2286/40
WEST SURREY/NORTH EAST HAMPSHIRE	FACIT 9620
WINCHESTER	EPSON PC PHILIPS MONITOR
WIRRAL	AMSTRAD (WORDPROCESSOR ONLY) PCW
WORCESTER & DISTRICT	AMSTRAD 1512
YORK	AMSTRAD PCW 9512
	AMSTRAD 1620

Appendix IIa

CHCS AND THEIR USE OF SOFTWARE

CHC

SOFTWARE USED

ABERCONWY**	LOCOSCRIPT
AIREDALE**	1ST WORD PLUS/INFOMASTER
AYLESBURY VALE**	WORDSTAR/SCREENTYPER
BARNET**	WORDPERFECT 5
BARNSLEY**	SUPERWRITER/SUPERCALC
BASSETLAW**	WP WITH SYSTEM
BATH	LOCOSCRIPT
BOLTON**	WANG
BRADFORD**	SUPERWRITER/NOTEBOOK
BRIGHTON**	LOCOSCRIPT 2/MAILMERGE/SPELCHK
BRISTOL**	OLIVETTI SWS
BURNLEY, PENDLE & ROSSENDALE**	WORDPERFECT/DBASE II PLUS/ LOTUS 123
CALDERDALE**	LOCOSCRIPT 2/LOCOFILE/ MINIOFFICE SPRINT/BBC TORCH/ WORDSTAR
CAMBRIDGE*	SPRINT/BBC TORCH/WORDSTAR/ SUPERFILE
CARDIFF**	ABILITY PLUS
CENTRAL BIRMINGHAM+	LOCOSCRIPT
CHELTENHAM & DISTRICT**	WORDSTAR
CHESTER**	WORDVIEW/WORDSTORE
COVENTRY+	OLIVETTI III
DARLINGTON+	WORDSTAR EXPRESS
DURHAM**	WORDSTAR 1512/WORDPERFECT 5
EALING**	WORDSTAR PRO/DBASE/SMART
EAST BIRMINGHAM**	Q&A (DATABASE)/WORDSTAR II
EAST CUMBRIA+	WORDSTAR PRO/MS DOS/GEM PRINT/ GEM DESK TOP
EAST HERTFORDSHIRE**	NEWWORD/SPELLCHECK/MAILMERGE
EASTBOURNE**	MICROSOFT WORDSTAR
GREAT YARMOUTH & WAVENEY+	MICROSOFT
GREENWICH**	WORDSTAR 2000/INFOMASTER
GRIMSBY**	SUPERWRITER/SUPERCALC/ SUPERPLANNER
HALTON**	LOCOSCRIPT/LOCOSPELL
HAMPSTEAD**	WORDPERFECT/WORDSTAR/ CARDBOX PLUS
HARINGEY**	WORDSTAR 1512/SUPERCALC 3
HARROGATE**	LOCOSCRIPT
HARROW+	CARDBOX PLUS/WORDSTAR
HASTINGS**	WORDSTAR
HEREFORDSHIRE+	WORDSTAR
HIGH WYCOMBE	WP
HUDDERSFIELD**	WORDPERFECT
HULL+	INTERWORD/INTERBASE/ INTERSHEET
HUNTINGDON+	WORDSTAR/SUPERCALC 3
ISLE OF ANGLESEY*	WORDSTAR IV/DBASE II/SUPERCALC

CHC

ISLE OF WIGHT  
ISLINGTON\*\*

KETTERING+

KIDDERMINSTER+  
KINGSTON & ESHER+  
LANCASTER\*\*  
LIVERPOOL CENTRAL & SOUTHERN\*\*  
LIVERPOOL EASTERN+  
MANCHESTER (ALL)+

MEDWAY\*\*  
MERTON & SUTTON\*\*  
MILTON KEYNES+  
NEWCASTLE+  
NEWHAM+

NORTH BEDFORDSHIRE\*\*  
NORTH DERBYSHIRE\*\*  
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE\*\*  
NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE\*\*  
NORTH TYNESIDE\*\*  
NORTHUMBERLAND\*\*

NOTTINGHAM+  
PETERBOROUGH\*\*  
PONTEFRACT\*\*

PORTSMOUTH & SE HAMPSHIRE+

RIVERSIDE\*\*  
ROCHDALE+  
ROTHERHAM\*\*  
SALFORD\*  
SALISBURY\*\*

SCUNTHORPE\*\*

SHROPSHIRE\*\*  
SOMERSET+  
SOUTH BEDFORSHIRE\*\*  
SOUTH BIRMINGHAM\*\*

SOUTH TYNESIDE\*\*  
SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE\*\*  
SOUTH WEST DURHAM+  
SOUTH WEST HERTFORDSHIRE\*\*  
SOUTHEND\*  
ST HELENS & KNOWSLEY+  
STOCKPORT\*\*

SOFTWARE USED

MS DOS/GEM/WORDSTAR  
WORDSTAR/LOTUS 123/STATGRAPHICS/  
TIMEWORKS DTP  
WORDSTAR EXPRESS/WORDPERFECT/  
DBASE IV  
WORDSTAR  
SMART  
SUPERWRITER/DELTA 4  
WORDSTAR 1512/DELTA 4/ABILITY  
LOCOSCRIPT  
WORDCRAFT/SILICON/WINDOWS 2/  
IMAGEMASTER/IBM DOS 4  
JET  
WORDSTAR  
MS WORD/SUPERCALC 4  
MULTIMATE ADV/DBASE II/CARDBOX  
SMART/LOCOSCRIPT 2/  
DBASE SPREADSHEET/MAILMERGE  
WORDSTAR/CARDBOX  
NEWWORD 2/SAGE RETRIEVE III  
SMART SUITE (3.1)  
ETV 350 & 500 DISC  
PC FOUR/WORDSTAR  
LOCOSCRIPT 2/DBASE II/  
CRACKER TURBO/STOP PRESS  
DEDICATED  
WORDSOFT  
SUPERWRITER/SUPERCALC/  
LOCOSCRIPT 2  
SAGE ACCOUNTANT/SAGE RETRIEVE/  
DBASE/WORDSTAR/ABILITY PLUS  
WORDPERFECT  
MICROSOFT WRITE/WORDPERFECT  
MS DOS  
LOCOSPELL  
WORDPERFECT 5/TIMEWORKS DTP/GEM/  
WINDOWS/INFOMASTER DB  
WORDSTAR 2000/VP PLANNER/  
XTREE/GEM  
123  
WORDSTAR 3  
MULTIMATE  
MACWRITE/MACPAINT/MULTIPLAN/  
FILEMAKER  
LOCOSCRIPT 2  
SMART  
SCREEN TYPIST  
SMART/DBASE IV/NORTON UTILITIES  
ABILITY  
MINI OFFICE/LOCOSCRIPT 2/DBASE 2  
WORDPERFECT 5/SUPERCALC 5/  
DBASE IV/DTP

CHCSOFTWARE USED

SUNDERLAND**	WORDSTAR/LOCOSCRIPT 2/CP/M BASIC AND LOGO/SAGE
SWINDON**	LOCOSCRIPT 2/SAGE RETRIEVE/ SAGE SPREADSHEET
TAMESIDE & GLOSSOP*	COMPSOFT DMS/SUPERCALC/ SUPERWRITER
TOWER HAMLETS+	SMART
WAKEFIELD**	SILICON OFFICE
WALSALL**	WORDSTAR
WARRINGTON+	INTERWORD
WEST BIRMINGHAM+	LOCOSCRIPT. 2
WEST LAMBETH**	WINDOWS/ALLDOS PAGEMAKER
WEST NORFOLK & WISBECH+	WP
WEST SURREY & NE HAMPSHIRE+	WORDSTAR 2000/TAS RELATIONAL DB
WINCHESTER+	LOCOSCRIPT
WIRRAL*	ABILITY PLUS
WORCESTER & DISTRICT	LOCOSCRIPT 2/LOCOSPELL/LOCOMAIL/ CP/M PLUS/LOCOMOTIVE SOFTWARE
YORK**	LOTUS SYMPHONY/CARDBOX PLUS/ DATATALK

KEY

\*\* = willing to form a network and give help/advice  
\* = willing to form a network  
+ = willing to help/advice



APPENDIX IIB

QUICK REFERENCE FOR CHCS USING COMMON TYPES OF SOFTWARE

WORDSTAR

AYLESBURY VALE  
CAMBRIDGE  
CHELTENHAM & DISTRICT  
DARLINGTON  
DURHAM  
EALING  
EAST BIRMINGHAM  
EAST CUMBRIA  
GREENWICH  
HAMPSTEAD  
HARINGEY  
HARROW  
HASTINGS  
HEREFORDSHIRE  
HUNTINGDON  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
ISLE OF WIGHT  
ISLINGTON  
KETTERING  
KIDDERMINSTER  
LIVERPOOL CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN  
MERTON & SUTTON  
NORTH BEDFORDSHIRE  
NORTH TYNESIDE  
PORTSMOUTH & S.E. HAMPSHIRE  
SCUNTHORPE  
SOMERSET  
SUNDERLAND  
WALSALL  
WEST LAMBETH  
WEST SURREY/N.E. HAMPSHIRE

LOCOSCRIPT

ABERCONWY	SWINDON
BATH	WEST BIRMINGHAM
BRIGHTON	WINCHESTER
CALDERDALE	WORCESTER & DISTRICT
CENTRAL BIRMINGHAM	
HALTON	
HARROGATE	
LIVERPOOL EASTERN	
NEWHAM	
NORTHUMBERLAND	
PONTEFRACT	
SOUTH TYNESIDE	
ST HELENS & KNOWSLEY	
SUNDERLAND	

WORDPERFECT

BARNET  
BURNLEY, PENDLE & ROSSENDALE  
DURHAM  
HAMPSTEAD  
HUDDERSFIELD  
KETTERING  
RIVERSIDE  
ROCHDALE  
SALISBURY  
STOCKPORT

DBASE

BURNLEY, PENDLE & ROSSENDALE  
EALING  
KETTERING  
NORTHUMBERLAND  
PORTSMOUTH & S.E.HAMPSHIRE  
SOUTH BEDFORDSHIRE  
SOUTH WEST HERFORDSHIRE  
ST HELENS & KNOWSLEY  
STOCKPORT

SUPERWRITER

BARNSLEY  
BRADFORD  
GRIMSBY  
LANCASTER  
PONTEFRACT  
TAMESIDE & GLOSSOP