NHS HANDBOOK

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The National Association of Health Authorities

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Introduction

The first NHS Handbook was published in 1980 to provide a readable and easily understood guide for health authority members as to the nature, organisation and structure of the services provided by the NHS. Since that time it has been regularly updated to take into account the fundamental changes that have taken place in the NHS in recent years.

The 1987 edition introduces a number of new subjects which are relevant to today's NHS such as general management, security and quality assurance. In addition we have included some general information about the NHS which we hope will widen the appeal of the Handbook to anyone with an interest in the Service including members of the general public.

As always we continue to welcome the views of our readers including any comments on existing articles and suggestions for new ones.

We are most grateful to those who have contributed articles and to others who have been consulted and offered constructive comments. Do let us know what you think. We want to make the Handbook as useful as possible.

P A Hunt
Director
September 1987

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