

Introduction

The terms and conditions of service set out in this handbook apply in full to all staff directly employed by NHS organisations, except very senior managers and staff within the remit of the Doctors' and Dentists' Review Body. NHS organisations include health and social care organisations in Northern Ireland. References to the NHS throughout this document should be read as including these organisations where appropriate.

This handbook is published on the NHS Employers website. It is amended whenever new agreements are reached in the NHS Staff Council. Amendments to the handbook are published in numbered pay and conditions circulars which set out details of the changes, including the effective date(s) of changes to pay and conditions. The title page shows the number of the latest amendment and the number of the circular which announced it. Footnotes refer to the pay circular which contained the last amendment to each section.

Some sections and annexes only apply to specific countries and these are indicated in brackets after the relevant section and annex title.

This handbook is not published in hard copy, but you can download it in full as a PDF document.