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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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To All Regional General Managers
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15 August 1989

Dear Colleague,

1990/91 RESOURCE ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING GUIDELINES

You will have received yesterday, by courier, a copy of circular HC(89)24 - Health Service Resource Assumptions and Planning Guidelines for 1990/91.

For your information, I now attach a copy of the Press release that covered the issue of the circular.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Robert Creighton, Room G16 Richmond House (ext 5624).

Yours sincerely,

Lynda Lockyer

RL1 (Planning)

This letter and enclosure will be cancelled and deleted from the current communications index in August 1990.

PRESS RELEASE

89/357

14 August 1989

HEALTH AUTHORITITES GIVEN PLANNING GUIDELINES
FOR NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR

The Department Of Health today published guidance on the development of health services next year. The guidelines set out directions for health authorities to take in drawing up their plans for 1990/91. This is a routine annual exercise to enable health authorities to plan services for n

These are the first planning guidelines to be published under the new structure for the central management of the NHS. They have been approved by the NHS Policy Board, chaired by Secretary of State, Kenneth Clarke, and are being issued to the NHS by the NHS Management Executive, under its Chief Executive, Duncan Nichol.

Roger Freeman, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health said "Inevitably, much attention is focused on the Government's proposals for reforming the NHS in the 1990s. But meanwhile, the NHS must continue to provide a high level of service to patients. These guidelines will help to ensure that health authorities continue to improve services, in line with the Government's aims, during 1990/91".

In conjunction with the planning guidelines the Department has issued revenue and capital resource assumptions for 1990/91

These offer Regional Health Authorities initial guidance on likely increases in exchequer funding in the next financial year. Figures for this year are based on estimated movements in populations and do not include other sources of revenue such as income generation and cost improvement programmes which will also be available to improve services. Actual allocations, which are announced after the settlement of the Public Expenditure Survey in the autumn, have in recent years been more advantageous than the relatively conservative assumptions issued at this early stage.

[END].PA

Action Required: