INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Scope

The following Communications services should be considered in the Design Brief:

- Assistance call systems including:
  - emergency call;
  - patient nurse call;
  - staff assistance call;
  - building services and equipment monitoring;
  - communications cabling systems;
  - data communications;
  - duress alarm systems (refer to Security section);
  - Emergency Warning and Intercom Systems (EWIS);
  - intercom systems;
  - MATV signal distribution system;
  - microwave systems;
  - pocket paging;
  - public address;
  - radio;
  - radio frequency screening;
  - voice communications;
  - video systems.

General

Communications services should in addition to their technical and functional requirements not interfere with the delivery of healthcare services, nor cause disturbance to patients.

Design

Communications generally make a minimal demand on building design and planning, however the size and placement of communication and data equipment rooms can impact on layout and budget, especially if under provided for in the initial planning stages. The design of equipment enclosures will be governed by client, equipment manufacturer and supply authority requirements.

Other early design issues to consider may include the placement of antenna and masts for relay, and the provision for access to these.