

## NHS Supply Chain National Advisory Board - Key Messages December 2024

### Key points

#### Feedback and Escalations from the Regions

- The financial challenge remains the most significant priority across all the regions. Focus needs to be on what can be done differently to realise a greater return.
- Gorse Point and the service issues being experienced remain a key issue in the North.
- Herts and West Essex learning was shared on VBP, this should be shared with other regions.
- There is a need to understand what reward schemes are available. Acknowledgement that these do impact pricing clarity and should be removed in the longer term.
- Savings are required from NHS Supply to satisfy in-year savings targets.
- Focus on Clinical Procurement Specialists received positive feedback.

#### NHSE Update

- CCS have provided £7million of funding over 3 years for learning and development for the Commercial NHS community, work is now underway to understand what the training needs are.
- Visibility of £16bn spend across the NHS through the framework programme. A Category 3 year roadmap is now being developed; this will highlight which hosts a framework should sit with.
- There is currently work underway to review if Procurement of AI tools is a clinical service and will need to be certified by MHRA. Robust routes to markets through framework providers are required.
- Sustainability engagement for scope 3 emissions will begin in January.
- Nic Fox has joined the CCF board as the accountable lead for the NHS SSRM project, he is engaged with NHS Supply Chain and DHSC on their programme to ensure a joined-up approach.
- Modern slavery consultation is underway for 12 weeks, this is available on Atamis.

#### National Clinical Advisory Forum Update

- Presented at the Regional Advisory Forums - feedback on clinical engagement in procurement and some of the challenges where trusts and ICSs don't have access to this CPS resource. Key that we collectively help to support this.
- Development and implementation of the category and framework clinical quality assessment and assurance vision and dashboard was discussed. This will ensure that all products we buy on behalf of the NHS will be safe, effective, and meet patient needs and experience.
- Co-design of the clinical and quality of care strategy - three ambitions. Development of clinical partnerships across NHS Supply Chain and the NHS, supporting the NHS to reduce health inequalities and population health management and quality of products, medical devices and equipment.

#### Advisory Board- Ways of Working and Terms of Reference (ToR) Review

The current ToR for both the National Advisory Board and Regional Advisory Forums require revision. The Board discussed new ways of working, roles and responsibilities of members, information flow and how compliance and governance can be increased to ensure the Board can effectively support and help address the challenges faced by its members.

#### Trading Transformation

There is a need for NHS Supply Chain to review how it operates to ensure that it effectively services the needs of the NHS. To support this, the proposal to modernise the organisations IT and Supply Chain infrastructure has been submitted to NHSE and work is underway to standardise commercial practices. In addition, a key focus for next year will be to review how the organisation trades, focus will be on the simplification of pricing to make it easier to see and execute opportunities.