NHS Supply Chain National Advisory Board - Key Messages
July 2025

Feedback and Escalations from the Regions

- Ongoing focus across all NHS regions to ensure local engagement unlocks national benefits.
- Continued discussion on whether Regional Advisory Forums should align with NHS England's seven regions.
- Emphasis placed on demonstrating the local impact of national procurement outcomes and ensuring value-based procurement is adopted at scale, not just piloted.
- Concerns raised about infrastructure changes leading to potential fragmentation. The group agreed that this period of reform presents an opportunity to reshape services and improve alignment between local and national systems

National Clinical Advisory Forum Update

The National Clinical Advisory Forum is strengthening clinical engagement across procurement, with key themes including:

- Clinical value of Inventory Management Systems (IMS)
- Use of digital technologies like wearables and point-of-care diagnostics
- Transitioning from pilot projects to widespread adoption of value-based procurement
- There is a call to share best-practice case studies and implementation guides to accelerate system-wide adoption.

Trading Transformation and Buying Principles

NHS Supply Chain drive forward its Trading Transformation Programme, aiming to:

- Simplify pricing structures, streamline procurement processes and improve system integration.

Buying Principles have been updated to focus on:

- Prioritising clinically approved and sustainable products
- Aggregated buying across the NHS to maximise value
- Agile, modernised contracting processes.

Service Review and Improvement

Following feedback from ICS leads, a Service Review session took place in June to improve how NHS Supply Chain supports trusts and ICSs. Key areas of focus include:

- Clearer communication and role definition
- Improved commercial transparency and visibility
- Stronger operational collaboration, particularly with logistics leads
- A follow-up session in July will finalise an action plan based on themes raised.