

Key Messages South Regional Advisory Forum – November 2025

- NHS Supply Chain continues to deliver strong in-year savings nationally and regionally, with a healthy pipeline of opportunities progressing well.
- Work is underway to refine regional forums, including the creation of a Supplier Management Forum and a new portal to improve collaboration, visibility and action tracking.
- The NHS Supply Chain Modernisation Programme has been approved, with detailed design commencing in 2026; discussions highlighted the need for funded or part-funded customer participation to ensure sustainable engagement.
- Trading Transformation and new Buying Principles aim to modernise processes, strengthen consistency and support patient-focused procurement across the system.
- The NHS Core List will launch its first phase in January, standardising purchasing for around 70 products and improving value, resilience and alignment.
- A clear, concise value proposition is needed for trusts to counter misleading price comparisons; NHS Supply Chain will provide both the full version and a shorter elevator-pitch format.
- Winter planning has been enhanced with stronger resilience measures, including improved supply chain mapping, new escalation processes and updated stock policies.
- A new Chair is required for the Forum, with members encouraged to nominate candidates, ideally with financial expertise.