

## Key Messages Midlands Regional Advisory Forum – November 2025

### National Savings Methodology

- NHSE will share details of the national savings methodology.
- Local identification of cost-saving product alternatives should be escalated through the agreed process.

### Improving Responsiveness and Performance

- An action plan is in place to enhance responsiveness.
- A centralised team will provide better oversight and coordination, with impact expected from January.
- Progress will be reviewed at the next meeting.

### Meeting Structure and Cadence

- Feedback highlighted the need for predictable scheduling, consistent rhythm, and appropriate formats (online vs face-to-face).
- Decisions on future meeting structure will be made at the national level, considering all feedback.

### Modernisation of NHS Supply Chain

- Drivers for change include outdated infrastructure, simplification for customers, and standardisation.
- Proposals under review include engagement models and funding for modernising supply chain operations within trusts.
- Emphasis on consistency and leveraging collective buying power.

### Buying Principles

- Discussion focused on timelines for implementation and ensuring commercial benefits for the NHS.
- Strategic, coordinated communication across the system is essential.
- Previous successes in coordinated approaches were noted.

### NHS Core List

- Phase one launch planned for January 2026 as a strategic priority.
- Governance will follow a 'comply or explain' model.
- Proof-of-concept available soon; communication plans in development.
- Clarity needed on pilot items to avoid duplication.

### Alignment with Financial Planning

- Importance of aligning the core list, savings methodology, and trust plans for 2026/27 was highlighted.