

## Key Messages Midlands Regional Advisory Forum – March 2026

### NHS Supply Chain Update

- NHS Supply Chain priorities remain as Modernisation, Commercial Transformation and Trading Transformation.
- New communication forums are being introduced to strengthen partner engagement.
- Recent supply disruptions are being actively managed, with work underway to stabilise and maintain continuity of supply.
- The group emphasised the need to look at supplier monopoly in categories, especially regarding ongoing bone cement disruption.

### Regional Update

- National FY25/26 savings: £107.1m YTD (3.2%), incl. £31.1m in Q3.
- Midlands region savings: £22.6m YTD (4%), £6.3m in Q3 (3.3%).
- Joint savings work plan: £11.8m annualised opportunities, incl. £1.6m at go live; £4.6m still to explore; £4.87m pending decision.
- Strong focus on best practice sharing to maximise regional value.

### Vision, Mission and Identity

- NHS Supply Chain is launching a new vision, mission, and visual identity centred on:
- Smarter, simpler, more connected care
- Greater collaboration and simplification across the system
- Improved connectivity for partners and stakeholders

### Future User Experience

A session explored how the group can influence the future user experience for NHS commercial teams.

- **Balanced Governance:** National teams set strategy, standards, and frameworks; local systems tailor delivery to clinical and operational realities.
- **Smart Standardisation:** Consistent core specifications and governance, without stifling local innovation or adaptation.
- **Data-Led Decision Making:** A unified national data picture is essential to understand variation, identify best practice, and drive improvement.
- **Clear, Trusted Structures:** Improved clarity in roles, decision-making, and communication to build trust with providers and suppliers.
- **Focused Delivery:** Prioritisation of fewer, high-impact programmes with measurable outcomes and full end-to-end support.