

NHS Supply Chain National Advisory Board - Key Messages March 2026

Feedback and Escalations from the Regions

- Regions raised the need for an earlier planning cycle, clearer visibility of gross vs. net savings, and support to address significant variation in savings performance.
- There was an emphasis on the need for a bolder commercial approach, focusing on a small number of high-impact programmes.
- The savings methodology will be shared more widely, and priority programmes remain Cardiology, Orthopaedics, and the NHS Core List, with strong clinical input required.

Key Updates

- The national bone cement supply issue continues to be actively managed, with alternative clinically assured products now secured to support trauma and elective care.
- The Stryker cyber attack caused major global disruption, but systems and manufacturing have largely been restored, with ordering now operating through NHS Supply Chain for coordinated oversight.
- Communications and collaboration across organisations were highlighted as strong, and a lessons-learned output will be shared once complete.
- Continued emphasis on strong clinical engagement, ensuring the supply chain focuses on clinically critical devices and reducing unwarranted variation through Phase One of the NHS Core List.
- NHS Supply Chain's Business Plan sets out a clear vision built around four programmes: Supply Chain Modernisation, Trading Transformation, Commercial Transformation, and People and Culture.
- Progress continues on simplifying pricing and processes, improving data accuracy, cleaning the catalogue, and deploying new pricing dashboards.