

Key Messages North Regional Advisory Forum – June 2026

NHS Supply Chain Update

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- The establishment of a Customer Design Board, with regional representation, demonstrates a collaborative approach to shaping future services.
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- Detailed programme planning is expected to be completed by Autumn 2026.

Regional Update

- NHS Supply Chain delivered £178.8m of annual savings nationally and £51.3m across the North region during 2025/26.
- Looking ahead, £26.6m of annualised savings opportunities have already been identified across the North region for 2026/27.
- Members welcomed the focus on understanding regional variation to help share best practice and identify further improvement opportunities.

Future User Experience – Centrally Led Buying

The workshop generated valuable insights on how procurement can continue to evolve and deliver greater value across the NHS.

Building a Clear and Collaborative Operating Model

- There was strong support for defining clear roles and responsibilities across trusts, centres and procurement functions.
 - Members emphasised that success will be driven by collaboration, shared objectives and local flexibility.
 - **Creating Early Value and Building Confidence**
 - Opportunities were identified to secure early benefits through aggregation of suitable categories and greater alignment across organisations.
 - Improved data and market intelligence were highlighted as key enablers of more proactive and informed decision-making.
 - **Evolving the Procurement Function**
 - Procurement continues to mature beyond a traditional savings focus, with increasing emphasis on:
 - Contract management
 - Supplier performance
 - Compliance
 - Strategic market management
- Supporting Successful Change**
- Members highlighted the importance of clear communication, stakeholder engagement and phased implementation to support successful adoption of future models.