NHS Supply Chain National Advisory Board - Key Messages
December 2025

Feedback and Escalations from the Regions

- There is clear agreement on joint responsibility for delivering savings, with recognition that performance varies across ICSs and regions. Further regional work will explore how best practice can be shared to maximise opportunities.

- Customer experience, responsiveness, and pricing discrepancies will remain key priorities in January 2026, with continued efforts aimed at driving improvements in responsiveness.

- There is strong regional support for the NHS Supply Chain Modernisation Programme, alongside acknowledgement of short-term issues that need to be addressed.

- Phase one of the NHS Core List will act as a proof of concept, with future savings planning (including 2026/27) expected to align closely to it.

Key Updates

- There are significant inconsistencies in how savings are reported across trusts and within NHS Supply Chain, driven by variable adoption of the national savings methodology and fragmented procurement reporting processes.

- The Modernisation Programme will include structured user engagement, notably through a Customer Design Authority and the potential secondment of customers into NHS Supply Chain.

- The Design Authority will need members with sufficient seniority, influence and regional reach, and clear role criteria will be developed. Regional Advisory Forum members will be invited to nominate colleagues once the role profile is finalised and shared.

- The Trading Transformation Programme is focused on simplifying pricing, improving system connectivity and delivering a single, transparent pricing model within an integrated system. Key milestones are targeted for the end of the financial year.

- Clear catalogue synchronisation rules and assurance on local supply stability will be required to support NHS adoption.

- The Commercial Transformation Programme (CTP) is intended to simplify and standardise procurement, improve compliance and enable teams to focus on strategic priorities.