



# 75 YEARS OF NHS PROCUREMENT



5 July  
1948

The National Health Service (NHS) is created.

1948

'Hospital Management Committees' were advised to hire Supplies Officers.

1960

A group of high-profile Supplies Officers forms the 'National Association of Hospitals Supplies Officers' (NAHSO), an association dedicated to publicising the importance of purchasing and supply in healthcare.

1964

Committee on Hospital Supplies Organisation (The Hunt Committee) is established.

1966

Hunt report recommends that most purchasing is done at national level or by new "area" supplies units.

1974

McKinsey Grey Book. NHS bodies integrated. Regional and Area Health Authorities mandated to have a Supplies Officer on Senior Management Teams.

1991

Audit Commission Report results in new national entity called 'NHS Supplies Authority' which establishes six regional operating divisions.

2009

A new commercial operating model for the NHS and Department of Health recommends the creation of Commercial Support Units (CSUs).

2006

10 Collaborative Procurement Hubs are also created which include North of England Commercial Procurement Collaborative, the London Procurement Partnership (LPP), NHS Commercial Solutions, and East of England.

2006

As part of SCEP, NHS Supply Chain is formed from the NHS Logistics Authority and parts of the NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency (PASA).

2004

The Supply Chain Excellence Programme (SCEP) is launched by DHSC to deliver a new operating model across NHS Procurement and Supply Chain.

2000

NHS Supplies Authority is replaced by the NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency (PASA) and NHS Logistics Authority as a result of the 'Review of NHS Procurement' by Cabinet Office.

1998

The NAHSO is rebranded to become the Health Care Supply Association (HCSA) and forms an affiliation with Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS).

1996

NHS Supplies Authority replaces operating divisions with three national divisions: Wholesaling, Purchasing and Customer Service.

May  
2012

Publication of first set of NHS Commercial & Procurement Standards.

Aug  
2013

'Better Procurement, Better Value, Better Care' by DHSC sets out a Procurement Development Programme for the NHS.

2015

Formation of the Government Commercial Function (GCF).

Feb  
2016

Lord Patrick Carter's report: 'Productivity in NHS hospitals' results in the delivery of the Model Hospital Portal and outlines how large savings can be made by the NHS, giving birth to PPIB, the first national product price benchmarking solution.

Aug  
2019

Launch of the NHS Spend Comparison Service – an online tool for NHS procurement teams to compare price and spend data.

2019

Launch of Procurement Target Operating Model (PTOM) programme by NHS England to support ICS procurement maturity.

March  
2020

The NHS procurement community mobilises to support the establishment of 8 Nightingale Hospitals during COVID-19.

21 July  
2022

A single e-commerce system is launched and rolled out across the NHS and health family to bring commercial activities of the health service together in one place.

8 July  
2022

NHS England launches the NHS Central Commercial Function, to help unlock significant commercial opportunities for the NHS.

April  
2022

NHS fully adopts the Government's Commercial Continuous Improvement Assessment Framework (CCIAF) accreditation process in line with wider public sector.

Sept  
2021

NHS England launches a roadmap to help suppliers align with NHS net zero ambitions by 2030.

Dec  
2020

Cabinet Office publish the Boardman Review into government procurement activity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Oct  
2020

The NHS becomes the world's first health service to commit to reaching carbon net zero.

Oct  
2020

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II recognises in a letter the 'vital work' of HCSA Members as the President's Award is given to the 'whole NHS procurement and supplier community' for supporting the national COVID response.

