

# AWARD® 6 delivers increased efficiencies to strategic procurements for NHS Commercial Solutions

**NHS Commercial Solutions rolls out major AWARD® upgrade – delivering advanced evaluation capabilities across their strategic procurements. As the first organisation to transition to the new platform, NHS Commercial Solutions was closely supported by Commerce Decisions throughout the process.**



## AWARD® 6

NHS Commercial Solutions is benefitting from increased efficiencies in its procurement processes following a successful transition to AWARD® 6; the major new upgrade released by Commerce Decisions.

**NHS Commercial Solutions** Formed in 2007 and originally known as the South East Coast Collaborative Procurement Hub, NHS Commercial Solutions delivers procurement and commercial services across the NHS and wider public sector.

Working with three other procurement hubs\*, they support more than 160 NHS member organisations made up of Clinical Commissioning Groups, Mental Health, Community, Acute, Foundation and Ambulance Trusts.

Typical projects supported by the hubs include Adult Community Services, Immunisation Programmes, GP Services, Total Cardiology and Orthopaedic Solutions.

## NHS Commercial Solutions and AWARD®

Since 2009, AWARD® has formed an integral part of NHS Commercial Solutions' procurement service offering.

As an organisation, NHS Commercial Solutions has a history of implementing new and innovative technologies to ensure the provision of a modern,

compliant service to its members.

Their use of AWARD® has increased over the years to support a wide variety of project types, ranging in complexity and configuration.

## Transition to AWARD® 6

The NHS Commercial Solutions' team were keen to implement the new AWARD® version on an active project. The decision was made to run with a Dental Services project that was being run on behalf of a key Care Commissioning Group.

\*The organisation belongs to a group of four procurement hubs known as the NHS Collaborative Procurement Partnership. The group comprises North of England Commercial Procurement Collaborative (NOECPC), East of England NHS Collaborative Procurement Hub (EOECPH) and NHS London Procurement Partnership (LPP).



**“We found AWARD® 6 to be very intuitive and easy to use – this allowed evaluators and other key stakeholders to become proficient in using the system with minimal training. It quickly became apparent that AWARD® 6 performed above and beyond our expectations.”**

**Jonathan Curnock, e-Enablement Manager, NHS Commercial Solutions**

From the outset, the Commerce Decisions’ support team was in regular contact with the NHS Commercial Solutions’ project team; initially to train them in using the new system and then subsequently in providing a responsive, proactive service to help resolve any queries. Confidence in the capability of AWARD® 6 increased quickly; so much so that several new projects were configured and run on the new AWARD® 6 platform before completion of the initial pilot Dental Services procurement.

Arguably the most significant upgrade in AWARD®’s history, this latest release is built on a new platform that will take the

solution into the future, enabling Commerce Decisions to respond swiftly to the increasing and changing demands and requirements of the procurement market. AWARD® 6 delivers significant improvements to the overall user experience, with new and improved features. One of the most common enhancement requests from clients was for the provision of deeper integration capability with eSourcing suites and back office systems. AWARD®’s Application Program Interface (API) will enable a robust data exchange and information flow between solutions.

As Commerce Decisions works to transition customers onto AWARD® 6, new features will continue to be added, improving and enhancing existing functionality. As ever, Commerce Decisions will continue to solicit and listen to client feedback, ensuring that AWARD® continues to deliver over and above client requirements and expectations.

**“The Commerce Decisions’ support team were extremely helpful, and highly responsive, making the transition swift and successful.”**

**Jonathan Curnock, e-Enablement Manager, NHS Commercial**

## **AWARD® Delivers**

**Intuitively delivers best practice procurement.**

Guides users through all stages of the evaluation set up, ensuring compliance with organisational processes. Delivers a flexible solution tailored to local requirements.

## **AWARD® Enables**

**Facilitates collaboration and drives effective moderation meetings.**

Clear evaluation tools for Moderators ensure access to the right information, assuring efficient, rigorous and robust contribution.

## **AWARD® Supports**

**Powerful comparative analytical tools, dashboards and reporting.**

AWARD® provides both internal and external stakeholders with a wealth of data to support decisions, view project progress and analyse outcomes; on-screen or straight to Microsoft® Word or Excel®.

Quick reporting tools ensure your projects are configured correctly and progress is monitored efficiently.

