In the financial year to 31 March 2018, compared with the previous year

- there was an 11% increase in the number of deceased donors to 1,574, the highest number ever in the UK
- the number of donors after brain death increased by 15% to 955, while the number of donors after circulatory death increased by 6% to 619
- the number of living donors increased by 1% to 1,051, accounting for 40% of the total number of organ donors
- the total number of patients whose lives were saved or improved by an organ transplant increased by 7% to 5,090

The total number of patients registered for a transplant has fallen slightly (by 5%), so that:

- there were 6,044 patients waiting for a transplant at the end of March 2018, with a further 3,404 temporarily suspended from transplant lists
- 411 patients died while on the active list waiting for their transplant and a further 755 were removed from the transplant list. The removals were mostly as a result of deteriorating health and ineligibility for transplant and many of these patients would have died shortly afterwards.

Some of the other key messages from this report are that, compared with last year, there has been:

- an increase of 7% in the total number of kidney transplants
- an increase of 3% in the total number of pancreas transplants
- an increase of 8% in the total number of liver transplants
- no change in the total number of heart transplants
- an increase of 20% in the total number of lung or heart-lung transplants
- an increase in the overall referral rate of potential donors from 88% to 92% and the proportion of approaches where a Specialist Nurse - Organ donation was present, from 86% to 90%
- an increase in the overall consent/authorisation rate for organ donation from 63% to 66%
- an increase in the number of opt-in registrations on the ODR, from 23.6 to 24.9 million at the end of March 2018. There were 517,124 opt-out registrants