



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

**NHSBT BOARD
UPDATE FROM THE WELSH GOVERNMENT
November 2018**

1. Organ donation position - Wales

NHS Blood and Transplant have since 1 January 2016 undertaken an analysis of the effect of the Welsh Legislation on consent/authorisation rates. They have collected cumulative data on consent rates in Wales and compared them to those in England. They report on a quarterly basis using the accumulating data to formally test whether there is a significant difference between the two underlying consent rates.

The latest data Quarter 11, shows that:

- The sequential plot for DBD consent rates has demonstrated, for the first time, **a significant increase in the DBD consent rates in Wales (88.2%) when compared to England (73.3%).**
- The plotted points for the last two quarters indicate DCD consent rates in Wales have improved. DCD consent rate in Wales 68% compared to England 59.8%

NHSBT will continue to monitor quarterly both DBD and DCD consent rates to ensure the improvement in the DBD consent rate in Wales is sustained and complete the assessment of the DCD consent rate.

They will also undertake a multivariable analysis to determine whether the observed increase in DBD consent rates in Wales is a result of the introduction of deemed consent once other factors known to influence consent rates have been accounted for.

Good performance in Wales continues. In the year to October 2018:

- 41 per cent of the Welsh population have recorded a decision to be a donor and 6 per cent have registered an 'opt out' decision.
- Combined consent rate is 80 per cent. DBD 80 percent and DCD 80.4 percent
- 31.5 donors pmp.

2. Legislation in other parts of the UK

The Scottish Parliament's Health and Sport Committee is currently scrutinising the Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill. Dr Frank Atherton, Chief Medical Officer for Wales, gave evidence to the Committee on 20 November sharing the experience of implementing deemed consent in Wales. Following the meeting, the Committee asked for more information on the Welsh engagement strategy, regional variation in donation rates across Wales and the cross border flow of organs. Dr Katja Empson, the Regional Clinical Lead in Organ Donation also attended and provided the clinical/operational experience of implementing opt out in Wales.

We also continue to provide assistance to colleagues in the Department of Health and Social Care in relation to the draft Bill currently before Parliament.

3. Communications and awareness

The efforts to increase public awareness, provide information and to measure the public's understanding of the deemed consent law are continuing. The next phase of the Omnibus survey will be published in January.

We ran two bursts of TV and radio advertising using the second phase of adverts (3 x 20 second ads) – two weeks from 3 Sept, launched at the start of Organ Donation Week. Then another two weeks at the start of November. The final burst will start on 1 January

On Friday 16 November, we published a short video of Mr Mike Stephens, Renal Transplant surgeon informing the viewer about the six transplants undertaken by Mike and the team all within 30 hrs. This coincided with the publication of the statistical significant increase in DBD consent in Wales compared to England.

You are able to view the video here:

<https://www.facebook.com/OrganDonationWales/videos/440124406392334/>

The video has had about 12,000 views so far.

We also reached over 22,000 views with another social post:

<https://www.facebook.com/OrganDonationWales/videos/2183364028571448/>

4. BAME fund

The Welsh Government was represented on the panel for the recent sift for the NHSBT Community Investment Scheme. There were three successful bids covering Wales (as part of England and Wales bids). Two were in the over £2,500 category and one in the up to £2,499 group.