

**NHSBT Board Meeting – 28 November 2019**  
**Written update from Northern Ireland**

The Department of Health in Northern Ireland continues to work to implement its policy statement, *Promoting Human Organ Donation and Transplantation in Northern Ireland*, which was launched in December 2018 and provides guidance on the Department's statutory duty to promote organ donation and transplantation.

The shadow Organ Donation Steering Group, which was established to implement the policy has now met three times and work has focussed on identifying promotional opportunities and in making arrangements to establish a charity subgroup. To date, a wide range of charities have confirmed their willingness to participate and further possible members have been approached.

The recruitment of a NI Regional Organ Donation Promotion Manager is imminent; it is anticipated that the successful candidate will be in post in February / March, depending on the length of notice that is required to be given to their current employer.

An analysis of the activity during the recent Organ Donation Week showed a tenfold increase in hits to the the NI Organ Donation website and an almost doubling of new registrants on the Organ Donor Register compared to the previous week. This is a very pleasing result and one that we hope to build on in the future when the Regional Organ Donation Promotion Manager is appointed.

Officials continue to engage with the other countries and NHSBT to consider any implications for Northern Ireland.