NHSBT Board Meeting – 26 March 2020 Written update from DHSC (England)

The Department of Health and Social Care aimed to move to a deemed consent system of organ and tissue donation in England from 20 May 2020.

The 20 May implementation date was publicly announced on 25 February when the Government laid in Parliament secondary legislation, setting out the organs and tissues to be excluded from deemed consent and subject to Parliamentary approval. The Human Tissue Authority's (HTA) Codes of Practice for healthcare professionals were also laid in Parliament on 25 February and are subject to negative resolution.

Ministers have confirmed that despite the challenges presented by covid-19, they still want the 20th of May to remain the implementation date for the opt-out. The Department will be working with NHSBT to agree on the minimum requirements approach, to enable the 20 of May to go ahead.