

NHSBT Board Meeting – 25 January 2022

Written update from Northern Ireland

Introduction of an Opt-out System for Organ Donation

The draft Organ and Tissue Donation (Deemed Consent) Bill passed the Committee Stage of the legislative process on 16 December 2021. The remaining Assembly Consideration Stages are expected to take place in the near future.

Subject to the Bill successfully passing the remaining Consideration Stages, it is expected that the Bill will be enacted in March 2022. This will be followed by a 12-month implementation period, which will include a public awareness campaign, with the aim of the system going live in April 2023.

Work is continuing with the Human Tissue Authority to amend the existing version of Code F Part Two of the Code of Practice to include NI in deemed consent provisions.

The NI Organ Donation Promotion Manager is continuing to work closely with NHSBT colleagues to develop the public awareness campaign for the proposed change in legislation.