Summary of Donor and Transplant Activity
In the financial year to 31 March 2022, compared with the previous year

• there was an 18% increase in the number of deceased donors to 1,397
• the number of donors after brain death increased by 2% to 785, while the number of donors after circulatory death increased by 48% to 612 (after usual criteria for DCD donation were reinstated following the first wave of the pandemic)
• the number of living donors increased by 102% to 909, accounting for 39% of the total number of organ donors
• the total number of patients whose lives were potentially saved or improved by an organ transplant increased by 27% to 4,324 (as services started to increase to normal levels)

The total number of patients registered for a transplant has increased (by 47%), so that:

• there were 6,269 patients waiting for a transplant at the end of March 2022, with a further 3,990 temporarily suspended from transplant lists
• 429 patients died while on the active list waiting for their transplant compared with 525 in the previous year, a decrease of 18%. A further 644 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 33% in the total number of kidney transplants
• an increase of 54% in the total number of transplants involving a pancreas
• an increase of 11% in the total number of liver transplants
• an increase of 11% in the total number of heart transplants
• an increase of 20% in the total number of lung or heart-lung transplants
• an increase of 125% in the total number of intestinal transplants
• An increase of 27% in the total number of corneas retrieved to NHSBT Eye Banks and an increase of 33% in the total number of corneal transplants
• The overall referral rate of potential donors has increased from 84% to 93%, the proportion of approaches where a Specialist Nurse - Organ Donation was present has remained the same at 93%
• a decrease in the overall consent/authorisation rate for organ donation from 69% to 66%
• an increase in the number of opt-in registrations on the ODR, from 26.7 to 27.7 million at the end of March 2022. There were 2.3 million opt-out registrants