



Department of Health & Social Care

DHSC Update to NHBST Public Board, 1 April 2025

- Budget – 2025/26 and 26/27 onwards

We are pleased to have concluded negotiations for the NHBST budget settlement for the coming financial year. It should put NHBST in a positive position to invest in organ donation as well as blood resilience.

NHBST has submitted bids for 26/27, 27/28 and 28/29 (revenue) and for 29/30 for capital, ahead of the June 11th Budget announcement. We will continue to work closely with NHBST on any follow up questions ahead of then.

- Implementation Steering Group for Organ Utilisation (ISOU)

Sub-groups: The Trust Engagement, Patient Engagement and Xenotransplantation sub-groups shared findings with the central Implementation Steering Group at the February meeting. Recommendations were welcomed and these will now be shared with Ministers before publication on the ISOU website.

Members of the xenotransplantation sub-group, alongside DHSC and NHBST colleagues, also met with the DHSC Chief Medical Advisor and Interim Permanent Secretary, Prof Chris Whitty in February to present findings from the group. As above, we will now present findings to Ministers and include the Chief Medical Advisor's steers.

- Infected Blood Inquiry

Government has committed to publish a further final update on the progress made on these recommendations by the first anniversary of the Infected Blood Inquiry Report publication in May.

- Amalgamation of NHS England and DHSC

Following this announcement, DHSC's Second Permanent Secretary, Tom Riordan has met with leaders of all Arm's Length Bodies twice, including NHBST, to provide updates. The department and NHSE are at an early stage in planning how the merger will progress.