

SCOTTISH DONATION AND TRANSPLANT GROUP (SDTG)

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NHS Blood and Transplant

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The UK wide Organ Donation and Transplantation Strategy 'Organ Donation and Transplantation 2030: Meeting the Need' was formally launched on 1st June 2021 following final sign off from the Department of Health and Social Care and all UK National Health Departments. The Strategy sets out the vision and focus for Organ Donation and Transplantation for the next 10 years, the ambition is to make the UK a world leading Organ Donation and Transplantation system. This is the first UK strategy to combine deceased and living organ donation, defining the vision of how the next step change in donation and transplantation numbers can be achieved.

The Annual UK Transplant Activity Report for 2020/21 has been published and shows that despite the global Covid-19 pandemic, levels were sustained at 75% of normal deceased donation activity and around 80% of normal transplant activity, Across the UK in 20/21 there were 1180 deceased organ donors, a 25% fall on 2019/20. These donors supported 3391 life saving and improving organ transplants for patients across the UK. Sadly in 2020/21 474 patients died while on the active list waiting for their transplant compared with 377 in the previous year, an increase of 26%.

Organ Utilisation is a key part of the 'Meeting the Need' Organ Donation and Transplantation Strategy and as part of this work NHSBT will be providing the secretariat for the Organ Utilisation Group (OUG). The OUG was established by the Department of Health and Social Care to make recommendations on ways to improve organ utilisation. The OUG held its first meeting on 1 July and agreed a range of activities to ensure that stakeholders are given the opportunity to contribute to the work of the group and receive updates about progress. This will include working groups, workshops, and an online call for evidence.

Corporately NHS Blood and Transplant is seeing some changes at Senior Leadership level with the announcement from NHSBT Chair Millie Banerjee that she intends to step down from her position with effect from 6th August 2021. Millie Banerjee has made her decision based upon the dual needs to concentrate her focus upon her role as the Chair of the South West London Integrated Care System (ICS) and a desire to spend more time supporting her elderly mother. NHSBT has confirmed that former Chair John Pattullo has agreed to reprise his role by accepting a 6-month appointment as Interim Chair while a permanent replacement is sought.