Further Information

Further information on Organ Donation can be accessed by contacting the Southern Trust Specialist Nurse for Organ Donation Edel Livingstone.

Email: edel.livingstone@nhsbt.nhs.uk

Or contact the Organ Donation Services Office
Tel: 0300 123 120-8

www.organdonation.nhs.uk

Registering as an Organ Donor

You can join the NHS Organ Donor Register online on www.organdonation.nhs.uk or alternatively by calling the Donor Line on 0300 123 23 23
**Give the gift of life**
Transplants are one of the most miraculous achievements of modern medicine. But they depend entirely on the generosity of donors and their families who are willing to make this life-saving gift to others.

One donor can save the life of several people and greatly enhance the life of many more from tissue donation. Corneal transplantation helps to restore the sight of more than 2500 blind and partially sighted people every year in the United Kingdom.

At present there are more than 10,000 people in the UK who need a transplant and every year around 1,000 people will die waiting.

The generosity of donors and their families enables over 3,000 people in the UK every year to take on a new lease of life.

Doctors and nurses are committed to doing everything possible to save life and organ donation only takes place after a patient has died.

**What is organ/tissue donation?**
Organ Donation is the gift of an organ to help someone else who needs a transplant. Last year almost three thousand people received a life saving transplant.

Organs that can be donated after death include the heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, pancreas and small bowel. Tissue such as corneas and heart valves can also be used to help others.

Tissue donation is the gift of tissue such as corneas and heart valves to help others. Each year thousands of people have their sight restored by donated corneas. Heart valves are used to help children born with heart defects. Most people can donate tissue. Unlike organs, it may be possible to donate tissue up to 24 hours after a person has died.

**Additional Information**
Many relatives say that they have found comfort in knowing that the loss of their loved one has given someone else the chance to live.

You are more likely to need a transplant than become a donor.

The removal of organs and tissues is carried out with the same care and respect as any other operation.

To decide whether or not you wish to give life to someone else after you have died is something very personal and it is important that everyone makes their own decision.

Even if you carry a donor card you should also join the NHS Organ Donor Register and discuss your decision with those closest to you so they know your wishes.

**Quotes from transplant recipients and donor families**
“My transplant has given me my life back. I have seen my children grow up and was able to get back to work. I owe all this to a 19 year old man who wanted to give someone he had never met the gift of life.”  
*Heart Transplant Recipient*

“I find a lot of comfort in knowing that if my son was not to have a full life, then at least another child will have a chance.”  
*Mother of donor aged 6*

“I cannot thank the donors and their relatives enough. Their gifts have given me back my sight and transformed my life.”  
*Corneal Recipient*

“It helped my grieving a lot to know that some part of him had gone to help someone else.”  
*Wife of a donor*

“I’ve been given a new lease of life. I am able to do things I never dreamt I would be able to do again. I am so grateful for the chance that the donor and his family gave me.”  
*Father of two, liver recipient*