**Daithi’s Law**

**Six year old Daithi from Northern Ireland is a patient at the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle awaiting a Heart Transplant on the waiting list.**

**Young Daithi and his family have campaigned tirelessly to bring opt-out legislation into law (not currently so in Northern Ireland). This has been hindered by the political deadlock and the local assembly in Stormont not sitting for the last twelve months.**

**Last week it was proposed that Stormont would elect a speaker and sit for just one day to finally pass Daithi’s law but the politicians ere unable to put aside their political differences for just one day and so the attempt failed.**

**This week Westminster has stepped in and Daithi’s law was passed in the houses of parliament. In early summer Northern Ireland will be on a par with all other regions of the Untied Kingdom with opt-out legislation.**

**Daithi’s law isn’t just legislation. It’s a matter of Life or Death to those waiting for lifesaving Transplants. We need to do everything possible, as soon as possible, in every way to support organ donation to the same extent as the other nations in Great Britain. There has been a very positive response to this news from the Transplant community after the despair of last week. We realise this will not be law until the summer but, for who are on the waiting list or, in hospital gravelly ill it is very uplifting to see this happening. The gift of life is possibly the greatest gift of all.**

**J. Kee**

**23 February 2023**