

A red, heart-shaped balloon with a string, held by a hand on the left side of the image. The balloon has a realistic shape with some indentations at the top.

ORGAN DONATION WEEK 2020

**DR PAUL HAYDEN: CLINICAL LEAD FOR ORGAN
DONATION**

**DR GILL FARGHER: CHAIR OF THE ORGAN AND TISSUE
DONATION COMMITTEE**

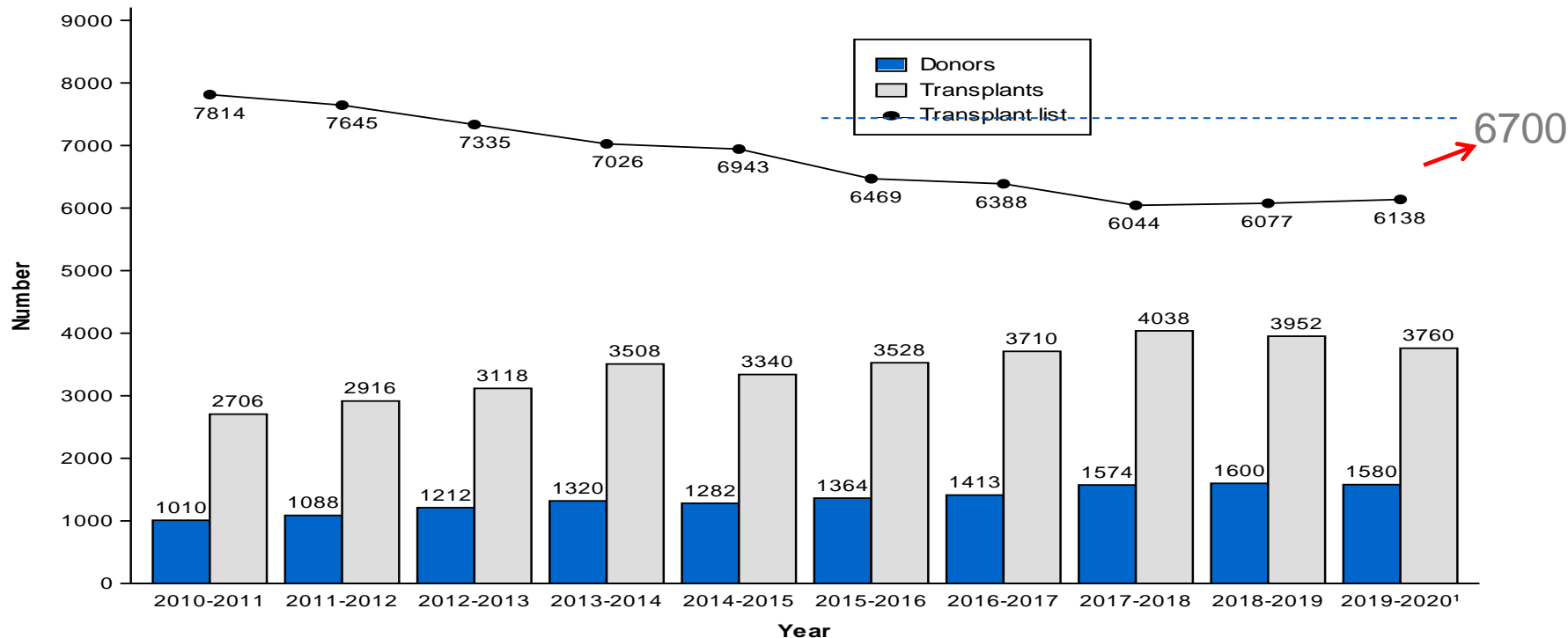
A hand on the bottom right side of the image, holding a small white object, possibly a seed or a small flower, against a background of pink blossoms.

Overview

- National organ donation summary 2019-20
- Local data from Medway NHS Foundation Trust
- The law change (“Max & Keira’s Law”)

National Organ Donation Summary 2019-20

Number of deceased donors and transplants in the UK, 1 April 2010 - 31 March 2020,
and patients on the active transplant list at 31 March



¹ Waiting list as at 29 February 2020

National Organ Donation Summary 2019-20

- The COVID pandemic caused a significant reduction in organ donation from February 2020-April 2020
- Deceased Organ donation ↓ **1%** (1580) compared with 2018-19
- Living organ donation ↓ **4%** (1001)
- Corneal donations ↓ **6%**
- The numbers of patients on the organ donor waiting list has increased by **1%** (now 6138)
- **Unfortunately latest data shows this has increased to 6700 (similar to 2015 waiting list)**
- **Last year, it is estimated that 2500 transplant opportunities were missed due to families saying “no” to donating their relative’s organs**

Medway NHS Foundation Trust data 2019-20

8 organ donors proceeding to organ donation
(same as 2018-19)

16 patients received organ transplants
(15 in 2018-19)

25 Tissue donation referrals with **13** tissue donations
(21 referrals and 9 donations in 2018-19)



The law around organ donation in England has changed

Organ donation remains your choice
visit [organdonation.nhs.uk](https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk)

The Law change ("Max & Keira's Law")



- Change of law from an “**opt-in**” to “**opt-out**” process. Where a clear decision has not been registered, “***deemed consent***” applies
- Large scale publicity programme planned but halted due to COVID
- Law came into effect on **May 20 2020**

What does the Law change mean?

- Everyone in the UK *should* register their decision regarding organ donation and tell their loved ones

<https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk/register-your-decision/register-your-details/>

- If a decision has *not* been registered, the person ***will be considered*** for organ donation ***provided someone close to them can be asked for their opinion***
- The law does NOT apply to:
 - Anyone <18
 - Anyone without mental capacity to make a decision
 - Anyone who has lived in England <12 months prior to their death
 - People who are not living in England voluntarily (eg foreign soldiers stationed in the UK)

Summary

- COVID has led to a significant rise in the numbers of patients in need of an organ transplant
- **The law changed in England on 20th May 2020** and all adults are now considered as having agreed to donate their own organs when they die *unless* they opt out, have told their family they don't want to donate, or are in one of the excluded groups
- **Everyone still has a choice** whether they want to be an organ donor and families will still be involved before organ donation goes ahead
- Whatever your decision, it is **important to discuss your choice** with your family and closest friends to ensure your choice is honoured

Questions?