

Health and Social Care Committee
Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill
HT(Ind)19 - Nicholas Betts-Green

Sir,

I wish to register my objection to your plan to take organs for re-use without the donors' specific consent.

To 'assume it has been given' or 'would have been given if asked' is morally wrong. [And probably illegal].

E.g. I am passing your house. I see in the garden a plant lying on the ground, apparently discarded. I pick it up and take it away. I justify this by saying "Well, the owner probably doesn't want it, so he won't mind me taking it and putting it to good use." Legally this is theft.

A person's body automatically becomes part of that person's estate at the moment of death. The body is OWNED by the next of kin. You cannot steal from it at will. One hopes that if the deceased has not given permission for organ removal, then the next of kin might do so, and your problem is solved.

But please, have the decency to seek permission first before you loot for organs.

My best wishes for a successful 2013.

Nicholas Betts-Green

5 Jan 2013