22/06/2022

Dear members of the HTA,

The Church and Society Commission (CASC) of the Church of Ireland wishes to respond to the HTA Consultation on Revisions to Code of Practice F, part two.

Regarding the intro to Appendix 4, CASC would wish to suggest this addition to paragraph 103;

 “Hospitals should provide information and education on the procedures involved in discussing consent, to those providing pastoral care, to be delivered by the SN’s. There should also be written information available to the family’s clergy, or other pastoral carers, if not present at the time of consent discussion.”

 We propose this addition In the light of the significant change in the law regarding consent for organ donation and as in Northern Ireland there is a greater likelihood of families turning to the Church and their clergy, in a situation such as this, then as hospital chaplains are seen as being independent of the process and are likely to be asked practical questions as well as providing pastoral care should be as fully involved in the training given to hospital staff and have a professional relationship with the specialist nurses. There should also be written information available for family clergy, who may or may not have been involved at the time but will certainly be providing ongoing pastoral care.

CASC is an advisory group, serving the Standing Committee of the General Synod, and engages with legislatures and governments on a variety of issues, including legislation. The mission of CASC is to provide oversight and direction for the Church of Ireland’s work, in respect to social theology in action. CASC’s views only become representative of the Church of Ireland after being approved by its General Synod.

Yours Sincerely,

Rev Dr Rory Corbett

Most Rev Michael Jackson, the Archbishop of Dublin (Acting Chair)

Church and Society Commission

Church of Ireland