



Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

2014 anaw 4

PART 6

LOOKED AFTER AND ACCOMMODATED CHILDREN

Contact and visits

97 Duty of local authority to ensure visits to, and contact with, looked after children and other children

- (1) This section applies to—
 - (a) a child looked after by a local authority;
 - (b) a child who was looked after by a local authority but who has ceased to be looked after by the authority as a result of circumstances specified in regulations;
 - (c) a child who falls within a category specified in regulations.
- (2) Regulations specifying a category for the purpose of subsection (1)(c) must also specify the local authority which must discharge the duties imposed by or under this section in relation to a child who falls within the specified category.
- (3) The local authority must—
 - (a) ensure that a child to whom this section applies is visited by a representative of the authority (“a representative”);
 - (b) arrange for appropriate advice and other support to be available to a child to whom this section applies.
- (4) The duties imposed by subsection (3)—
 - (a) are to be discharged in accordance with any regulations made for the purposes of this section;

Changes to legislation: Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, Section 97 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (b) are subject to any requirement imposed by or under an enactment applicable to the place in which the child to whom this section applies is accommodated.
- (5) Regulations under this section may, for the purposes of subsection (4)(a), make provision about—
- (a) the frequency of visits;
 - (b) circumstances in which a child to whom this section applies must be visited by a representative;
 - (c) the functions of a representative.
- (6) In choosing a representative, a local authority must satisfy itself that the person chosen has the necessary skills and experience to perform the functions of a representative.

Commencement Information

II S. 97 in force at 6.4.2016 by [S.I. 2016/412](#), [art. 2](#) (with [art. 4](#), [Schs. 1, 2](#))

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 162(4)(ga) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 30\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 163(4A) inserted by [2014 c. 23 s. 75\(10\)](#) (Effect inserting (4) not applied at s. 163 as it appears to relate to s. 194 in view of the title of the section as cited i.e. "ordinary residence". In s. 194 another (4), identically worded, is inserted on the same date by S.I. 2016/413, regs. 2(1), 316(a))