



Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007

2007 asp 4

PART 1

ADOPTION

CHAPTER 1

THE ADOPTION SERVICE

The adoption service

1 Duty of local authority to provide adoption service

- (1) Each local authority must—
 - (a) to the extent that it already provides an adoption service in its area, continue to do so, and
 - (b) to the extent that it does not provide such a service in its area, provide such a service there.
- (2) In this Act, “adoption service” means services designed to meet the needs, in relation to adoption, of persons mentioned in subsection (3).
- (3) Those persons are—
 - (a) children who may be adopted
 - (b) persons who have been adopted,
 - (c) parents and guardians of children mentioned in paragraph (a),
 - (d) natural parents of persons who have been adopted,
 - (e) persons who, before the placing of a child for adoption or the adoption of a child, treated the child as their child,
 - (f) siblings (whether of the whole-blood or half-blood), natural grandparents and former guardians of—
 - (i) children mentioned in paragraph (a), or

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (ii) persons mentioned in paragraph (b),
 - (g) persons who may adopt a child,
 - (h) persons who have adopted a child,
 - (i) in relation to persons mentioned in paragraph (g) or (h), children of, or children treated as children of, such persons, and
 - (j) any other persons who are—
 - (i) affected by the placing, or proposed placing, of a child for adoption, or
 - (ii) affected by an adoption.
- (4) An adoption service includes, in particular, services consisting of or including—
- (a) arrangements for assessing children who may be adopted,
 - (b) arrangements for assessing prospective adopters,
 - (c) arrangements for placing children for adoption,
 - (d) the provision of information about adoption to any of the persons mentioned in subsection (3), and
 - (e) adoption support services.
- (5) In this Act, “adoption support services” means services consisting of or including the provision of—
- (a) counselling to any of the persons mentioned in subsection (3),
 - (b) guidance about adoption to such persons,
 - (c) any other assistance in relation to the adoption process that the local authority providing an adoption service in a particular case considers appropriate in the circumstances of that case.