

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1987 No. 2203

The Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987

PART II

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADOPTION

The Adoption Service

The Adoption Service

3.—(1) [^{F1}It shall be the duty of—

(aa) an [^{F2}HSC trust] in relation to its area;

^{F3}(bb)

to establish and maintain] a service designed to meet the needs, in relation to adoption, of—

- (a) children who have been or may be adopted;
- (b) parents and guardians of such children; and
- (c) persons who have adopted or may adopt a child,

and for that purpose [^{F1} to provide] the requisite facilities, or secure that they are provided by [^{F4}appropriate voluntary organisations].

(2) The facilities to be provided as part of the service maintained under paragraph (1) include—

- (a) temporary board and lodging where needed by pregnant women, mothers or children;
- (b) arrangements for assessing children and prospective adopters, and placing children for adoption;
- (c) counselling for persons with problems relating to adoption.

[^{F5}(2A) In this Part references to adoption are to the adoption of children, wherever they may be habitually resident, effected under the law of any country or territory, whether within or outside the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.]

(3) The service maintained^{F6} . . . under paragraph (1) may be collectively referred to as “the Adoption Service”, and ^{F7}... [^{F1} an [^{F2}HSC trust]] or [^{F8}an appropriate voluntary organisation] may be referred to as an adoption agency.

F1 1994 NI 2

F2 Words in Order substituted (1.4.2009) by [Health and Social Care \(Reform\) Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2009 \(c. 1\), ss. 32, 34\(3\), Sch. 6 para. 1\(1\)\(d\)](#) (with Sch. 6 para. 1(3)); S.R. 2009/114, [art. 2](#)

F3 [Art. 3\(1\)\(bb\)](#) omitted (1.4.2022) by virtue of [Health and Social Care Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2022 \(c. 3\), s. 8\(1\)\(b\), Sch. 1 para. 104\(2\)](#); S.R. 2022/102, [art. 2\(b\)](#)

Changes to legislation: *The Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987, Cross Heading: The Adoption Service is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 07 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*

- F4** Words in art. 3(1) substituted (29.10.2010) by Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 (S.I. 2003/431 (N.I. 9)), arts. 1(3), 50(1), Sch. 4; S.R. 2010/288, **art. 3**, Sch. 1
- F5** 2001 c. 11 (NI)
- F6** 1994 NI 2
- F7** Words in art. 3(3) omitted (1.4.2022) by virtue of Health and Social Care Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (c. 3), s. 8(1)(b), **Sch. 1 para. 104(3)**; S.R. 2022/102, art. 2(b)
- F8** Words in art. 3(3) substituted (29.10.2010) by Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 (S.I. 2003/431 (N.I. 9)), arts. 1(3), 50(1), Sch. 4; S.R. 2010/288, **art. 3**, Sch. 1

Changes to legislation:

The Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987, Cross Heading: The Adoption Service is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 07 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

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

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

- s. 6(2) words inserted by [S.I. 2019/1514 reg. 29\(4\)](#)
- art. 60(1A) inserted by [2022 c. 18 \(N.I.\) Sch. 4 para. 6\(a\)](#)