



Children Act 1989

1989 CHAPTER 41

PART XI

SECRETARY OF STATE'S SUPERVISORY FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

83 Research and returns of information.

- (1) The Secretary of State may conduct, or assist other persons in conducting, research into any matter connected with—
 - (a) his functions, or the functions of local authorities, under the enactments mentioned in subsection (9);
 - [^{F1}(aa) the functions [^{F2}of—]
 - (i) the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel;
 - (ii) safeguarding partners (within the meaning given by section 16E(3) of the Children Act 2004) in relation to local authority areas in England;
 - (iii) child death review partners (within the meaning given by section 16Q(2) of the Children Act 2004) in relation to local authority areas in England;]
 - (b) the adoption of children; or
 - (c) the accommodation of children in a [^{F3}care home or independent hospital].
- (2) Any local authority may conduct, or assist other persons in conducting, research into any matter connected with—
 - (a) their functions under the enactments mentioned in subsection (9);
 - [^{F4}(aa)]
 - (b) the adoption of children; or
 - (c) the accommodation of children in a [^{F3}care home or independent hospital].
- (3) Every local authority shall, at such times and in such form as the Secretary of State may direct, transmit to him such particulars as he may require with respect to—
 - (a) the performance by the local authority of all or any of their functions—
 - (i) under the enactments mentioned in subsection (9); or

Changes to legislation: Children Act 1989, Section 83 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 08 March 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

- (ii) in connection with the accommodation of children in a [^{F3}care home or independent hospital]; and
 - (b) the children in relation to whom the authority have exercised those functions.;^{F5} ...
 - ^{F5}(c)
- (4) Every voluntary organisation shall, at such times and in such form as the Secretary of State may direct, transmit to him such particulars as he may require with respect to children accommodated by them or on their behalf.
- [^{F6}(4A) Particulars required to be transmitted under subsection (3) or (4) may include particulars relating to and identifying individual children.]
- (5) The Secretary of State may direct [^{F7}an officer of the family court] to transmit—
 - (a) to such person as may be specified in the direction; and
 - (b) at such times and in such form as he may direct,
 such particulars as he may require with respect to proceedings of the court which relate to children.
- (6) The Secretary of State shall in each year lay before Parliament a consolidated and classified abstract of the information transmitted to him under subsections (3) to (5).
- (7) The Secretary of State may institute research designed to provide information on which requests for information under this section may be based.
- (8) The Secretary of State shall keep under review the adequacy of the provision of child care training and for that purpose shall receive and consider any information from or representations made by—
 - (a) the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work;
 - (b) such representatives of local authorities as appear to him to be appropriate; or
 - (c) such other persons or organisations as appear to him to be appropriate, concerning the provision of such training.
- (9) The enactments are—
 - (a) this Act;
 - (b) the Children and Young Persons Acts 1933 to 1969;
 - (c) section 116 of the ^{MI}Mental Health Act 1983 (so far as it relates to children looked after by local authorities);
 - [^{F8}(ca) Part 1 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002;
 - (cb) the Children Act 2004;
 - (cc) the Children and Young Persons Act 2008.]
 - (d) ^{F9}

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 83(1)(aa) inserted (12.2.2009 for E. and 26.4.2010 for W.) by [Children and Young Persons Act 2008](#) (c. 23), [ss. 33\(2\), 44](#); [S.I. 2009/268](#), [art. 3\(1\)\(e\)](#); [S.I. 2010/1329](#), [art. 2\(n\)](#)
- F2** Words in s. 83(1)(aa) substituted (29.6.2018) by [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#) (c. 16), s. 70(2), [Sch. 2 para. 8\(2\)](#); [S.I. 2018/497](#), [reg. 3\(s\)](#) (with [reg. 11](#))
- F3** Words in s. 83(1)(c)(2)(c)(3)(a)(ii) substituted (1.4.2002) by [2000 c. 14](#), [ss. 116, 122](#), [Sch. 4 para. 14\(19\)](#); [S.I. 2001/4150](#), [art. 3\(3\)\(a\)](#) (subject to transitional provision in [art. 4](#) of the commencing [S.I.](#)

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and to the amendment of art. 3 by S.I. 2002/1493, **art. 6**; S.I. 2002/920, **art. 3(3)(b)** (with art. 3(4)-(10) (subject to transitional provisions in Schs. 1-3)

F4 S. 83(2)(aa) omitted (29.6.2018) by virtue of Children and Social Work Act 2017 (c. 16), s. 70(2), **Sch. 2 para. 8(3)**; S.I. 2018/497, reg. 3(s) (with reg. 11)

F5 S. 83(3)(c) and word omitted (29.6.2018) by virtue of Children and Social Work Act 2017 (c. 16), s. 70(2), **Sch. 2 para. 8(4)**; S.I. 2018/497, reg. 3(s) (with reg. 11)

F6 S. 83(4A) inserted (1.3.2005 for E. and 1.4.2006 for W.) by Children Act 2004 (c. 31), s. 54; S.I. 2005/394, **art. 2(1)(h)**; S.I. 2006/885, **art. 2(2)(e)**

F7 Words in s. 83(5) substituted (22.4.2014) by Crime and Courts Act 2013 (c. 22), s. 61(3), **Sch. 11 para. 108**; S.I. 2014/954, art. 2(e) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in S.I. 2014/956, arts. 3-11)

F8 S. 83(9)(ca)-(cc) inserted (12.2.2009 for E. and 26.4.2010 for W.) by Children and Young Persons Act 2008 (c. 23), ss. 33(5), 44; S.I. 2009/268, **art. 3(1)(e)**; S.I. 2010/1329, **art. 2(n)**

F9 S. 83(9)(d) repealed (5.10.2005) by The Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 (Consequential Provisions) Order 2005 (S.I. 2005/2078), art. 16, **Sch. 3**

Commencement Information

II S. 83 wholly in force at 14.10.1991 see s. 108(2)(3) and S.I. 1991/828, **art. 3(2)**

Marginal Citations

M1 1983 c. 20.

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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. 4(1A)(aa) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 21\(3\)](#)
- s. 4(1C) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 21\(4\)](#)
- s. 4ZA(2)(aa) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 22\(3\)](#)
- s. 4ZA(3A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 22\(4\)](#)
- s. 8(4)(k) inserted by [2021 c. 17 s. 52\(1\)](#)
- s. 31A(4A) inserted by [2014 c. 6 s. 15\(2\)\(b\)](#)