



Adoption and Children Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 38

PART 1

ADOPTION

CHAPTER 5

THE REGISTERS

Adoption Contact Register

80 Adoption Contact Register

- (1) The Registrar General must continue to maintain at the General Register Office in accordance with regulations a register in two Parts to be called the Adoption Contact Register.
- (2) Part 1 of the register is to contain the prescribed information about adopted persons who have given the prescribed notice expressing their wishes as to making contact with their relatives.
- (3) The Registrar General may only make an entry in Part 1 of the register for an adopted person—
 - (a) a record of whose birth is kept by the Registrar General,
 - (b) who has attained the age of 18 years, and
 - (c) who the Registrar General is satisfied has such information as is necessary to enable him to obtain a certified copy of the record of his birth.
- (4) Part 2 of the register is to contain the prescribed information about persons who have given the prescribed notice expressing their wishes, as relatives of adopted persons, as to making contact with those persons.
- (5) The Registrar General may only make an entry in Part 2 of the register for a person—

Changes to legislation: Adoption and Children Act 2002, Cross Heading: Adoption Contact Register is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 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

- (a) who has attained the age of 18 years, and
 - (b) who the Registrar General is satisfied is a relative of an adopted person and has such information as is necessary to enable him to obtain a certified copy of the record of the adopted person's birth.
- (6) Regulations may provide for—
- (a) the disclosure of information contained in one Part of the register to persons for whom there is an entry in the other Part,
 - (b) the payment of prescribed fees in respect of the making or alteration of entries in the register and the disclosure of information contained in the register.

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 80(1)(3)(5) in force at 30.12.2005 by [S.I. 2005/2213](#), [art. 2\(e\)](#) (with savings and transitional provisions in [S.I. 2005/2897](#), arts. 3-16)
- I2** S. 80(2)(4)(6) in force at 7.12.2004 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2004/3203](#), [art. 2\(1\)\(m\)\(vi\)](#)
- I3** S. 80(2)(4)(6) in force at 30.12.2005 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2005/2213](#), [art. 2\(e\)](#) (with savings and transitional provisions in [S.I. 2005/2897](#), arts. 3-16)

81 Adoption Contact Register: supplementary

- (1) The Adoption Contact Register is not to be open to public inspection or search.
- (2) In section 80, “relative”, in relation to an adopted person, means any person who (but for his adoption) would be related to him by blood (including half-blood) [^{F1}, marriage or civil partnership].
- (3) The Registrar General must not give any information entered in the register to any person except in accordance with subsection (6)(a) of that section or regulations made by virtue of section 64(4)(b).
- (4) In section 80, “regulations” means regulations made by the Registrar General with the approval of [^{F2}the Secretary of State], and “prescribed” means prescribed by such regulations.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 81(2) substituted (30.12.2005) by [Civil Partnership Act 2004 \(c. 33\)](#), [ss. 79\(9\)](#), 263(2); [S.I. 2005/3175](#), [art. 2\(9\)](#)
- F2** Words in s. 81(4) substituted (3.4.2008) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Registration\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/678\)](#), [art. 1\(2\)](#), [Sch. 2 para. 12\(c\)](#) (with art. 4)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 81(4): transfer of functions (3.4.2008) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Registration\) Order 2008 \(S.I. 2008/678\)](#), [art. 1\(2\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 12\(c\)](#) (with art. 4)

Commencement Information

- I4** S. 81(1)-(3) in force at 30.12.2005 by [S.I. 2005/2213](#), [art. 2\(e\)](#) (with savings and transitional provisions in [S.I. 2005/2897](#), arts. 3-16)
- I5** S. 81(4) in force at 7.12.2004 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2004/3203](#), [art. 2\(1\)\(m\)\(vi\)](#)

Changes to legislation: Adoption and Children Act 2002, Cross Heading: Adoption Contact Register is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 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](#)

- 16** S. 81(4) in force at 30.12.2005 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2005/2213](#), **art. 2(e)** (with savings and transitional provisions in [S.I. 2005/2897](#), arts. 3-16)

Changes to legislation:

Adoption and Children Act 2002, Cross Heading: Adoption Contact Register is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

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. 4A inserted by [2014 c. 6 s. 5](#)
- s. 141(7) inserted by [2010 c. 26 Sch. 3 para. 13](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 3 Pt. 2 repealed (4.9.2013) without ever being in force by [2013 c. 22](#), s. 17(4) ; S.I. 2013/2200 art. 2(a))