



ADOPTION LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND ADOPTION CHARTER

This chapter highlights the Adoption Legal Framework that informs the work of the Adoption Service.

See Hertfordshire County Council's Adoption Page to access the Adoption Charter [LINK](#)

This chapter was reviewed and updated in February 2021.

1. STATUTES

- Adoption Act 1976 (as amended)
- Children Act 1989 (as amended)
- Disability Discrimination Act 1995
- Human Rights Act 1998 with particular reference to Article 8
- Adoption (Inter-country Aspects) Act 1999
- Adoption and Children Act 2002 (as amended)
- Care Standards Act 2000
- Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003

2. STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

- The Adopted Children and Adoption Contact Registers Regulations 2005
- The Adoption Agencies Regulations 2005 (as amended)
- The Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Commencement No. 10 Transitional and Savings Provisions) Order 2005
- Adoption National Minimum Standards (2011)
- Adoption Agency and Independent Review of Determinations Regulatory (2011)
- Adoption Statutory Guidance ADA 2002 (2011)
- Adoption Statutory Guidance ADA 2002 (2005)
- The Adoption and Children (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2005
- The Adoption Information and Intermediary Services (Pre-Commencement Adoptions) Regulations 2005 (as amended)

- The Adoption Support Agencies (England) and Adoption Agencies (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2005
- The Adoption Support Agencies (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2010
- The Adoption Support Services Regulations 2005 (as amended)
- The Adoptions with a Foreign Element Regulations 2005
- The Care Standards Act 2000 (Commencement No. 9 (England) and Transitional and Savings Provisions) (Amendment) Order 2005
- The Disclosure of Adoption Information (Post-Commencement Adoptions) Regulations 2005
- The Electronic Commerce Directive (Adoption and Children Act 2002) Regulations 2005
- The Family Procedure (Adoption) Rules 2005
- The Independent Review of Determinations (Adoption and Fostering) Regulations 2009
- The Local Authority Adoption Service (England) Regulations 2003
- The Local Authority Adoption Service (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2005
- The Restriction on the Preparation of Adoption Reports Regulations 2005 (as amended)
- The Special Guardianship Regulations 2005
- The Suitability of Adopters Regulations 2005
- The Voluntary Adoption Agencies (Amendment) Regulations 2005
- The Voluntary Adoption Agencies and the Adoption Agencies (Miscellaneous Amendment) Regulations 2003
- The Equality Act (Sexual Orientation) Regulations 2007
- Adoption Agencies (Panel and Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2012 (with effect from 1 September 2012)
- Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations 2010 (as amended)
- The Adoption (Recognition of Overseas Adoptions) Order 2013
- The Adoption and Children Act Register Regulations 2014 (as amended)
- The Adoption and Children Act Register (Search and Inspection) Regulations 2017
- The Special Restrictions on Adoptions from Abroad (Ethiopia) Order 2018

3. STANDARDS

- Adoption National Minimum Standards 2014

4. STATUTORY GUIDANCE

- Statutory Guidance on Adoption 2013
- Annex C: Further Information on Adoptions with a Foreign Element 2013