



# Adoption and Children Act 2002

## 2002 CHAPTER 38

### PART 1

#### ADOPTION

### CHAPTER 2

#### THE ADOPTION SERVICE

##### *The Adoption Service*

#### **[<sup>F1</sup>3ZA England - joint arrangements etc**

- (1) The Secretary of State may give directions requiring one or more local authorities in England to make arrangements for all or any of their functions within subsection (3) to be carried out on their behalf by—
  - (a) one of those authorities, or
  - (b) one or more other adoption agencies.
- (2) A direction under subsection (1) may, in particular—
  - (a) specify who is to carry out the functions, or
  - (b) require the local authority or authorities to determine who is to carry out the functions.
- (3) The functions mentioned in subsection (1) are functions in relation to—
  - (a) the recruitment of persons as prospective adopters;
  - (b) the assessment of prospective adopters' suitability to adopt a child;
  - (c) the approval of prospective adopters as suitable to adopt a child;
  - (d) decisions as to whether a particular child should be placed for adoption with a particular prospective adopter;
  - (e) the provision of adoption support services.

---

**Changes to legislation:** Adoption and Children Act 2002, Section 3ZA is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 July 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

---

- (4) The Secretary of State may give a direction requiring a local authority in England to terminate arrangements made in accordance with a direction under subsection (1).
- (5) A direction under this section may make different provision for different purposes.
- (6) The Secretary of State may by regulations amend subsection (3).]

---

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 3ZA inserted (7.3.2018) by [Education and Adoption Act 2016 \(c. 6\)](#), **ss. 15(2)**, 19(2); S.I. 2018/300, [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

Adoption and Children Act 2002, Section 3ZA is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 July 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))